

What exactly is an "Illicit Discharge" ?



An illicit discharge is any discharge to the storm drain system that is not composed entirely of rain water or groundwater.

Examples include: dumping of motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, industrial waste, chlorinated pool water, restaurant wastes, or any other non-storm water waste into a storm water system. An illicit connection is the discharge of pollutants or non-storm water materials into a storm drain system via a pipe or other direct connection. Sources of illicit connections may include sanitary sewer taps, wash water for laundromats or carwashes, and other similar sources. Despite the small cost of treating the wastewater, some companies won't take this step, and instead discharge directly to the storm drain or sewer system without pretreatment.

How Do I Spot an Illicit Discharge or Connection?

- Look for makeshift pipes or hoses that lead to a storm drain or body of water.
- Watch for stains, unusual odors, structural damage to streets or gutters, and abnormal vegetative growth in nearby lakes and streams.
- If you would like to report someone dumping into or having an illegal connection to the storm drain system **CONTACT Nassau County's Illicit Discharge Hotline : (516) 571-6863**

