Spotting Illicit Discharge Activities

Wastewater from inside residences and businesses is carried through the sanitary sewer system to a treatment facility where it is cleaned before being returned to the natural environment. Water and snow melt entering the storm sewer system is carried untreated to wetlands, streams, ponds, lakes and rivers. Unauthorized discharge of waste and contaminants pollutes these water sources and can kill or damage plants, animals, marine life and harm humans.

Citizens and businesses are encouraged to be aware of potential illicit activities, and report any actions that may seem suspicious to the Town of Leesburg Police Department by phoning 703-771-4500 or calling the Department of Public Works at 703-771-2790. Below are some general guidelines for recognizing potential illicit discharge into the storm sewer system.

Prohibited Discharges:

- Industrial process water
- Commercial car wash wastewater
- Sanitary sewer flows
- Wash-down of loading areas
- Wastewater treatment plant effluent
- Dumping of liquid waste
- Chlorinated pool water





Indications of Illicit Discharge:

- Unusual color or cloudiness
- Strong odor
- Oil sheen
- Algae
- Floating debris
- Dead animals or vegetation



For information on the stormwater management program, please the Department of Public Works at 703-771-2790 or e-mail publicworks@leesburgva.gov. You may also visit our website at www.leesburgva.gov



- Washing paint buckets or brushes into streets
- Pouring wastewater from mop buckets into streets or drains
- Allowing trash or debris from dumpsters or trash cans to spill into streets or storm drains
- Disposing of automotive fluids into storm drains or sewers
- Washing debris or dirt from construction vehicles into streets or storm drains
- Using a hose to clean sidewalks, streets or driveways of grass clippings, leaves or debris
- Pet waste left on public property
- Allowing sediment and soil from land clearing activities to be swept into streets or storm drains
- Leaving mulch or dirt piles uncovered and allowing material to wash into storm sewers

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