

REPORT AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE BY CALLING 911

Although our local waterway may have a pollution source that's obvious to you, the Borough may not know about it, so please report it!

One of the largest sources of water pollution is the illegal discharge of pollutants into the Borough's storm drain system. (You'll see storm drains along the street and in parking lots — they are usually square openings covered by a metal grate.) Any discharge to this system other than stormwater is considered "illicit."

Pollutants that enter the stormwater conveyance system are NOT treated! They are discharged directly to our oceans, bays, lakes, and streams. When these pollutants reach a body of water, they degrade the quality of the water and may cause beach closures, restrictions on fish and shellfish harvesting, drinking water restrictions, and loss of aquatic life and wildlife. Pollutants typically found in illicit discharges include pathogens, nutrients, raw sewage, toxic chemicals, heavy metals, oil, and grease, and soap suds.

Illicit discharges can happen directly or indirectly and may or may not be intentional. Some examples include a sanitary sewer pipe that is connected to the storm drain system or the intentional dumping of oil, grease, paint, solvents or automobile fluids into storm drains. If you witness something suspicious flowing into a storm drain or coming out of a stormwater outfall and into a body of water when there has been no recent rain or snow event, please report it by calling 911. Be sure to provide an address of the suspected illicit discharge.

Illicit Discharges Include the Following:



Intentional dumping of oil, grease, paint, solvents, or automobile fluids into a storm drain.



Sediment from a construction site flowing into a storm drain.



An outfall that is sending water into a storm drain or stream when there has been no rain in the last 72 hours.