

# Illicit Discharge

## Keep it Clean: Detecting and Reporting Illicit Discharges

### What is an illicit discharge?

An illicit discharge is anything other than stormwater (rain water or snow) that enters storm drains. This includes unwanted liquids (i.e. cooking grease, paints, pesticides, etc.) and other pollutants carried by rainwater.

### How is an illicit discharge harmful?

Illicit discharges contaminate water sources and impact residents' overall quality of life. Illicit discharges can be associated with trash accumulation in waterways, algal blooms, fish kills by toxic substances, and the spread of disease. To keep viruses, waste, and unhealthy bacteria out of water sources, it is important to limit illicit discharges in communities. Vegetation can help absorb pollutants in the soil and in water. Plant more plants to protect our waterways.

### How do I prevent an illicit discharge?



Only rain goes down the drain. Never pour unwanted liquids down storm drains.



Always remember to pick up your pet's waste.



Store soaps and auto fluids in containers with lids to prevent spills.



Put trash in it's place. Litter, even from overfilled trash bins, can be washed or blown into water ways.



Wash your car on or near areas that drain into vegetation and not into storm drains.



Keep leaves and yard debris away from storm drains or areas where they may be washed away.



# Illicit Discharge

## Keep it Clean: Detecting and Reporting Illicit Discharge

How do I report an illicit discharge?

To report an illicit discharge contact your regional Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) permit holder, as listed below. Include your name and contact number, the date, the nearest address, a description of the dumped waste, and photos.

This helps your locality to eliminate and prevent future illicit discharges. It is best to report illicit discharges immediately after noticing them.

Who do I contact to report an illicit discharge?

### Hanover County

Call 804-365-6181 or

Email

[publicworks@hanover.gov](mailto:publicworks@hanover.gov)



### Town of Ashland

Email

[publicworks@ashlandva.gov](mailto:publicworks@ashlandva.gov)



### Henrico County

Call 804-501-7319 or

Visit

[www.build.henrico.us](http://www.build.henrico.us)



### City of Richmond

Call 311 or

Visit [www.rva311.com](http://www.rva311.com)



### Virginia Department of Transportation

Call 1-800-FOR-ROAD

Email [MS4@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:MS4@VDOT.Virginia.gov)



### Chesterfield County

Call 804-717-6161



This project, Task # 48 was funded in part by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program led by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality through Grant #NA20NOS4190207 of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, or any of its subagencies.