



NPDES Stormwater Phase II MS4 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The Stormwater Management Program required under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit consist of mandatory components to help reduce Pointless Personal Pollution. One of the required components of a MS4 permit is establishing a program to identify and eliminate illicit discharges to the MS4 and generating awareness by educating staff and citizens.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) "Master Drainage System"

- Includes road drainage, catch basins, channels, detention ponds, swales, ditches, pipes, etc.
- Owned by local governments, WCDs, special districts
- Ultimately discharges to surface waters (lakes, rivers, bays, ocean, wetlands)

Illicit Discharges Are...

Any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater.

Common Signs of Discharges

- Staining from paints or solvents on outfalls pipes, inlets and grates, and around pond bank
- Turbidity, oil/gas sheen, foam and/or suds
- Abandoned oil and gas containers, barrels, and paint cans
- Discoloration of water or vegetation
- Floatables and debris
- Pungent odors or other smells

Help protect water quality in your everyday life by adopting environmentally responsible practices (including but not limited to):

- Washing vehicles on grass instead of concrete that discharges to storm drains
- Properly disposing of hazardous materials (oils, paints, solvents, grease, etc.)

Types of Illicit Discharges

Eliminate pointless personal pollution by practicing the proper handling wastes like house hold chemicals. Keep grass clippings and vehicle wash water out of the streets and highways. Regulate use of pesticides and herbicides. Remember, all water to storm drains make their way to your surrounding waterbodies.

Illegal Dumping

Discharge of pollutants or non-stormwater materials into the storm sewer system



Illicit Connection

An improper physical connection to the stormwater system which can include non-permitted connection(s) to the MS4.



Construction-Related Discharges

These are discharges into the MS4 or right-of-way from adjacent construction projects.



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

2600 Blair Stone Road MS# 3585
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400



NPDES Stormwater Program

866-336-6312 (toll free) or 850-245-7522

NPDES.Stormwater@dep.state.fl.us
www.dep.state.fl.us/water/stormwater/npdes