

## What Can You Do ?

.....

By Practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater systems. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Don't forget to report a suspected Illicit Discharges to your local municipality office.

- ◆ Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams
- ◆ Use fertilizers sparingly, sweep up driveways, sidewalks and gutters.
- ◆ Use least toxic pesticides
- ◆ Dispose of household hazardous waste, paints, used auto fluids and batteries at designated collection or recycling locations
- ◆ Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
- ◆ Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
- ◆ Pick up after your pet
- ◆ Pick up trash in your area and dispose of properly so it doesn't enter a storm drain
- ◆ Contact the North Cornwall Township Office 717-273-9200, to report a suspected illicit discharge.

## Where can you find more information ?

Go to the following websites:

[www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)

[www2.epa.gov/learn-issues/learn-about-water](http://www2.epa.gov/learn-issues/learn-about-water)

[www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-pennsylvania](http://www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-pennsylvania)

[www.portal.state.pa.us](http://www.portal.state.pa.us)

Type in Keyword: Stormwater

[www.portal.state.pa.us](http://www.portal.state.pa.us)

Type in Keyword: MS4

[www.chesapeakebay.net/](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/)

*Only Rain Down The Drain!*

North Cornwall  
Township



## Identifying & Reporting Illicit Discharges



**320 South 18th Street**

**Lebanon, PA 17042**

**717-273-9200**

**[www.nctown.org](http://www.nctown.org)**

This brochure created by

Steckbeck Engineering & Surveying, Inc.



## What is an Illicit Discharge?



An illicit discharge is “any discharge to an MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) that is not composed entirely of stormwater...” Illicit discharges are considered “illicit” because MS4s are not designed to accept, process, or discharge such non-stormwater wastes.

In certain locations MS4s are directly connected to a waterbody and do not receive any type of treatment before being discharged to the receiving water bodies. Since this water is untreated, it is vital that only stormwater be discharged from MS4s.

There are a few exceptions. To learn what they are, contact your local municipality or Conservation District.

Paints, septic system discharges, grey-water (i.e. washing machines), grease, waste oil, etc., are examples of illicit discharges.

Under the federal NPDES Phase I and II regulations and many State Nutrient Management Strategies, **every community** must have a program to:

1. identify, address, and prevent illicit discharges;
2. identify the location of all storm sewer system outfalls;
3. create ordinances that prohibit illicit discharges into the storm sewer system and implement enforcement procedures;
4. educate public employees, businesses and the general public to hazards associated with illicit discharges.

Sources of illicit discharges may include:

- Sanitary wastewater
- Effluent from septic tanks
- Car wash wastewater (water from individual residential car washing is okay)
- Improper oil disposal
- Pet Waste
- Radiator flushing disposal
- Laundry wastewaters
- Pesticides & Fertilizers
- Spills from roadway accidents
- Improper disposal of auto and household toxic fluid



## Why Should You Care?



Illicit discharge into stormwater systems produce negative impacts by carrying pollutants to surface waters, the same surface waters we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.

Illicit Discharges along with polluted stormwater runoff are the greatest threat to clean water.



**Be the Solution...**  
**to Storm Drain Pollution**