

# Prevent Pollution in Your Neighborhood

## What Should I Look For?

In general, any substance that is not rain water allowed to flow into the stormwater system is known as an illicit discharge. It is unlawful to dispose of, dump, spill, or discharge any substance other than stormwater into the stormwater drainage system.

*The stormwater drainage system includes all streets, ditches, sidewalks, curbs & gutters.*

## Where Would Illegal Discharges Be Found?

If it has not rained in at least three days and there is water flowing to a storm drain or from an outfall pipe, chances are that the water is from an illegal source.

## Hazards of Residential Pollutants

Illicit discharges can contribute high levels of pollutants to waterbodies. Pollutants commonly found in illicit discharges include raw sewage (viruses and bacteria), chemicals, dirt, oil and grease, solvents and nutrients. Pollutant levels from these illicit discharges have been shown in EPA studies to be high enough to significantly degrade water quality, close beaches, and threaten aquatic life, wildlife, and human health.



## Reporting Discharges

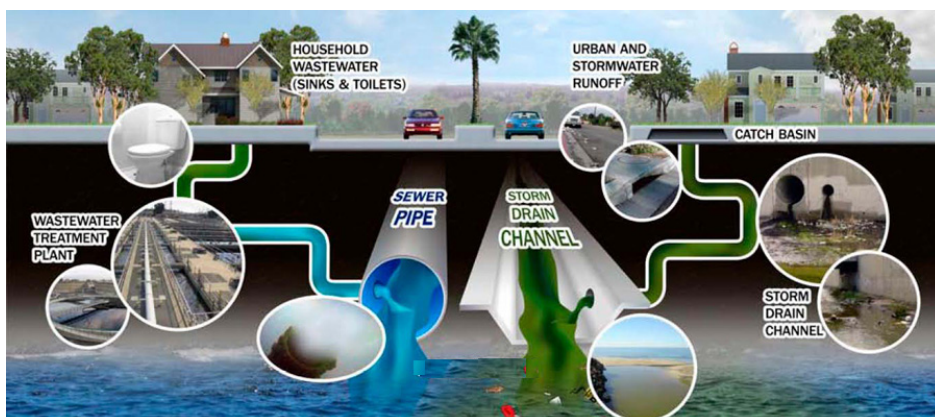
Do you notice:

- liquid flow during dry weather
- an unusual odor
- any color
- floating substances (soap suds, oil sheens)
- excessive vegetation

If so, please report it by calling the Norfolk Cares IMPACT Center at 757-664-6510 or email [healthyneighborhoods@norfolk.gov](mailto:healthyneighborhoods@norfolk.gov)

## BE PART OF THE POLLUTION SOLUTION!

Section 41.1-4 of the Norfolk code prohibits any person from placing or depositing anything other than rain water into the stormwater system. A violation of this code is a Class I misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of \$2500/day.



**The City of Norfolk Storm Water system is separate from the Sewer System. Storm Drains do not lead to wastewater treatment plants. They lead directly to the nearest stream or waterbody.**

# Follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) to keep pollutants from entering the storm drain

To report an illicit discharge call 757-664-6510

	Illicit Discharge	Best Management Practice (BMP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grass Clippings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn mower discharge towards the yard when cutting</li> <li>• Clean curblines after cutting</li> <li>• Mulch, compost or bag for waste management pickup</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep leaves out of the curblines</li> <li>• Compost, mulch or bag for waste management pickup</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pet waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoop the Poop!</li> <li>• Make sure yard is clean prior to rain events</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscaping irrigation overflow</li> <li>• Outdoor material storage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce or eliminate fertilizer use</li> <li>• Keep all fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides covered</li> <li>• Store off of concrete and away from storm drains</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle washing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not allow wash water to run into storm drains</li> <li>• Wash in grassy area; use low-pressure water nozzle</li> <li>• Use a regulated commercial facility</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle Fueling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain with your vehicle while fueling</li> <li>• If a spill occurs, notify attendant and make sure it is cleaned up</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle maintenance (gas, oil, radiator flushing)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fix auto leaks promptly</li> <li>• Clean up spills immediately using absorbents</li> <li>• Dispose of used materials at 1176 Pineridge Rd.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chlorinated pool discharges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discharge into sanitary sewer system or grassy area</li> <li>• Backflush filters into yard</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewage &amp; septic tank overflow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain septic systems</li> <li>• Wipe grease from plates, pots &amp; pans; eliminate use of the garbage disposal</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter/Cigarette butts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use properly functioning waste receptacles</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint rinse water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean brushes in a sink that discharges to a sanitary sewer system</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rug cleaning waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispose of waste water into the sanitary sewer system</li> </ul>