

Killeen Guide for... Preventing Illicit Discharge

What is Illicit Discharge?

Illicit discharges are any discharges or seepages of contaminated stormwater or ground water. Stormwater run-off is a major source of surface water pollution as it can pick up contaminants on the ground.

These can include oil, gas, paint, pet waste, grass clipping, and carwash water to name a few.



Discharge into Water

Preventing Runoff Pollution

You can help prevent runoff pollution by:

- ◆ Fixing auto leaks quickly
- ◆ Properly recycling used motor oil
- ◆ Not fertilizing before it rains
- ◆ Putting trash & recyclable items in its proper place



Oil Spill on the Street

Stormwater can pick up debris, dirt, chemicals, and other pollutants. Those pollutants then move into the storm sewer system or directly into a lake, stream, river, or wetland.

Anything that enters a storm sewer system is then discharged untreated into the water for swimming, washing, and drinking.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE

INTRODUCED INTO THE 'MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4SEC.32—24(A): "NO PERSON SHALL INTRODUCE OR CAUSE TO BE)" ANY DISCHARGE THAT IS NOT COMPOSED ENTIRELY

You can reach us by clicking on the QR Code or by emailing:

Stormwater@killeentexas.gov



The Effects of Pollution

- ◆ Sediments can cloud the water and destroy aquatic habitats. This makes it difficult or even impossible for aquatic plants to grow.
- ◆ Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms that sink to the bottom & decompose when they die. This removes oxygen from the water, killing fish and other aquatic organisms that cannot exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- ◆ Bacteria and other pathogens washed into swimming areas create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.
- ◆ Debris (plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, & cigarette butts) washed into water bodies can injure or kill ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- ◆ Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, & auto fluids can poison aquatic life. This makes land animals & people sick or die from eating contaminated fish & shellfish or ingesting polluted water.
- ◆ Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources which also affects human health and increases drinking water treatment costs.



Polluted Stormwater

If You Don't Drink It, Don't Dump It

6 STEPS TO CLEAN WATER

- ◆ Never dump anything down a storm drain or gutter
- ◆ Maintain your septic system properly
- ◆ Don't top off gas when you fill up your tank
- ◆ Dispose of pet waste in a trash can
- ◆ Practice good car care: wash your car at a car wash
- ◆ Don't dump travel waste on the ground or in a storm drain

You Can Help Keep Killeen a Beautiful City!

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