

Illicit discharge - What is it?

Illicit discharges are generally any discharges into a storm drain system that are not composed entirely of stormwater, and are restricted by Federal, State, and local laws. Examples of illicit discharge include water from swimming pools, vehicle cleaning, or the runoff from washing down a driveway or spill. Illicit discharges are a problem because unlike wastewater that flows to a wastewater treatment plant, stormwater generally flows to waterways without any additional treatment. Illicit discharges often include pathogens, nutrients, surfactants, and various toxic pollutants.

Sanitary vs. storm sewers - Know the difference?

The sanitary sewer is the system of underground pipes that carries sewage from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens, and other plumbing components to a septic system or wastewater treatment plant where waste is filtered, treated, and discharged.

The storm sewer is a system designed to carry rainfall runoff and other drainage. It is not designed to carry sewage or accept hazardous wastes. Water put into a storm sewer drain does not get treated before it reenters the environment.

Questions? Contact us.

Town Administrator

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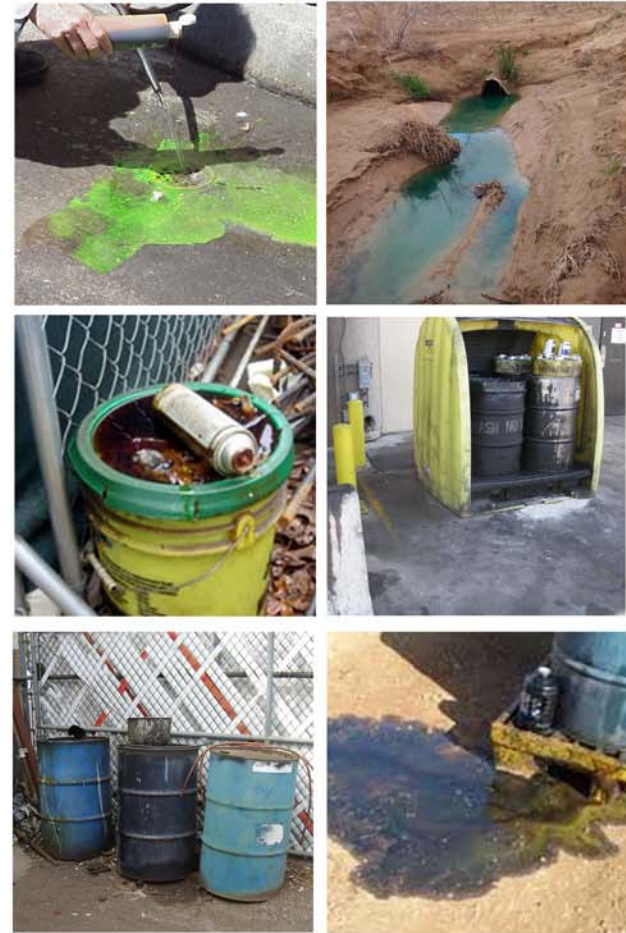
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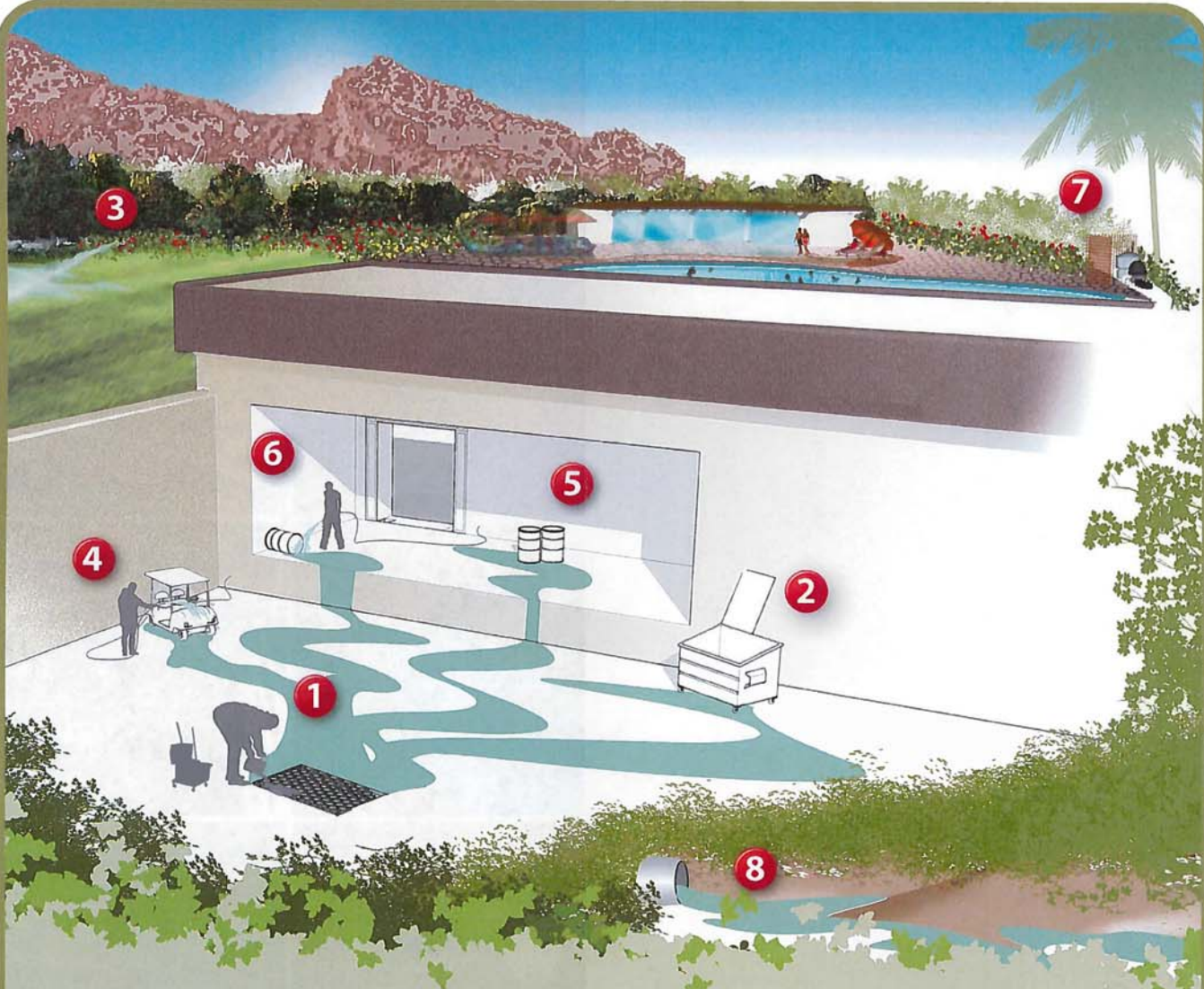
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Town of Carefree

Stormwater Pollution Prevention: Informational Guide



*We all share the responsibility to keep
pollutants out of our Town's stormwater
collection system to help keep our
waterways clean and healthy.*



- 1** Dump mop buckets into a sanitary sewer or septic line, not onto the ground. Dispose of paint cans properly; do not dump paint into any sewer.
- 2** Keep dumpster lids closed. Open dumpsters collect rainwater, which runs out the bottoms. Rains then carry pollutants and trash out of these dumpsters.
- 3** Use caution when watering and caring for lawns. Overwatered lawns can carry fertilizers or pesticides into the storm sewer.
- 4** Monitor vehicle washing closely so that the water does not enter the storm sewer.

- 5** Store stockpiled materials off of the ground, such as on pallets.
- 6** Handle spills carefully in loading docks and outdoor storage areas. Rains collect these spills and deposit this pollution in our washes.
- 7** Maintain pool backwash on site; do not allow pool water to escape onto the street or into a wash.
- 8** Avoid polluting stormwater by following these guidelines. Contaminated stormwater threatens public health, injures wildlife, and damages ecosystems here and downstream.

What can you do to prevent stormwater pollution?

- Cover outdoor material stockpiles
- Dispose of used paint buckets and leftover paint properly
- Clean up spills immediately
- Take waste oil to a facility designated to handle waste oil
- Train employees on these best management practices

Washes, ditches, storm sewers, and waterways form the network that makes up our stormwater collection system.

When it rains, the town's rainwater flows into this system. Along with this stormwater, anything dumped into the storm drain network or picked up by flowing stormwaters also makes its way into the system, polluting our waterways and eventually making its way to nearby washes and waterways.

