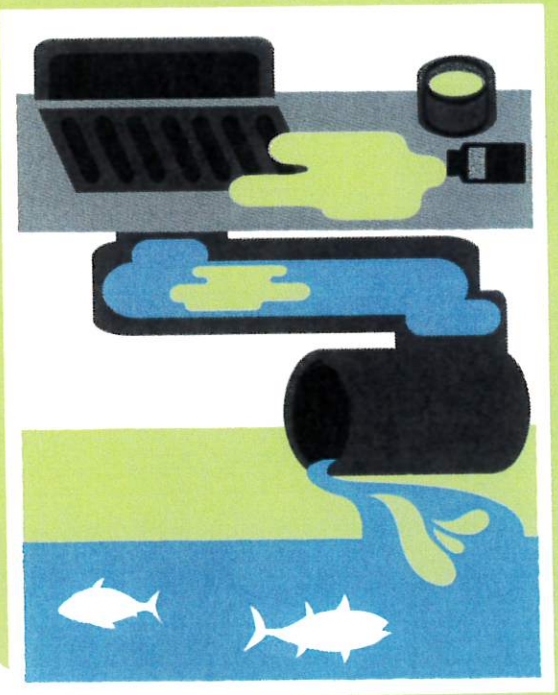
What is an Illicit Discharge?



An illicit discharge is a **substance other than stormwater** that is released to a storm drain, swale, storm sewer, or other **system that moves, but does not treat, stormwater before it is directed into a stream, lake, or river**.



These substances are considered "illicit", or **banned**, because **they are hazardous to the health and safety of our water resources**.

Some example sources of illicit discharges include:

- Sanitary wastewater (e.g. water from sinks, laundry, toilets, etc.)
- Effluent from septic tanks
- Spills from roadway accidents
- Improper disposal of auto and household hazardous wastes

Identifying Illicit Discharges

Illicit Discharges might enter the stormwater system through **direct connection** or **indirect connection**.

Direct connections occur when wastewater pipes are mistakenly or deliberately connected to storm sewers.

Indirect connections occur when **cracked sanitary sewers leak** into storm sewers or when **spills flow** or **pollutants are dumped** into drains or waterways.

Illicit discharges are most noticeable during dry weather. A storm drain or a stormwater pipe with an **unusual odor**, **suds**, an **oil sheen**, or **flowing water during dry weather** might be an illicit discharge.

Contact McDonald Borough at (724) 926-8711 if you think you have identified an illicit discharge!



Learn more at www.respectourwaters.org/illicit-discharge-swwt

RESPECT OUR WATERS

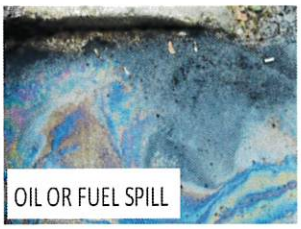
McDonald Joint Client

MS4 Illicit Discharge Complaint Form

What is an Illicit Discharge?

An Illicit Discharge is defined by the federal regulations as any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) that is not entirely made of up stormwater except for fire-fighting activities. Examples of illicit discharges are sanitary wastewater, effluent from septic tanks, car wash wastewaters with cleaning agents, improper oil disposal, improper commercial waste disposal, radiator flushing disposal, laundry wastewaters, spills from roadway accidents, improper disposal of auto and household toxics.













It is important that no one dumps waste of any kind as described above onto the streets, drainage pipes, or any storm drain – as they are utilized for stormwater only. If you see someone dumping waste of any kind into the streams, streets, or storm drains within the Borough, please report it immediately by completing this form and sending it to the following email address: manager@mcdonaldboro.com and/ or mcdonaldsewage@mcdonaldboro.com or by calling (724) 926-8711 (Borough) or (724) 926-0133 (Authority).

Reporter Information

☐ **Anonymous** – Please check if you would like to remain anonymous. If so, please add your number or email below so we can call you with questions regarding the discharge.

Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Contact Email Address: _____@_____.com

Date: _____ Time of Discharge Observed: _____ ☐AM ☐PM

Continue to Page 2 →

Location Information

Address of Observed Discharge: _____

_____

Closest Street/Landmark: _____

Description of Observed Discharge – please explain what you saw and the suspected responsible party (business name, vehicle – license plate# or vehicle description, specific person, etc.)

Please clarify what kind of discharge was observed:

☐Dumping ☐Oil/solvents/chemicals ☐Sewage ☐Wash water, suds, etc.

☐Other: _____

Odor

☐None ☐Sewage ☐Rotten Eggs/Natural Gas ☐Gasoline ☐Oil

☐Other: _____

Clairty

☐Clear ☐Opaque ☐Cloudy ☐Grey ☐Sheen

Color

☐Red ☐Yellow ☐Brown ☐Green ☐Grey ☐White

☐Other: _____

Solids or Floatables

☐Garbage ☐Sewage ☐Tissue ☐Suds ☐Scum

☐Other: _____

Additonal Comments/Concerns:

KLH ENGINEERS, INC.

Inspector Information – TO BE FILLED OUT BY INSPECTOR ONLY

Inspector Name(s): _____

Date of Initial Investigation: _____

Time of Inspection: _____ ☐AM ☐PM

Notes

☐No Investigation Made	Reason:
☐Referred to different department/agency:	Department/Agency:
☐Investigated: No Action Necessary	
☐Investigated: Requires Action	Description of actions taken:
Date case closed:	
Additional Comments/Notes:	

KLH ENGINEERS, INC