



# Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

## Introduction

An illicit discharge occurs any time something other than storm water enters a storm drain, with the exception of water from fire fighting equipment or a facility that is under NPDES permit. Examples of an illicit discharge can include toxic pollutants, pest control chemicals, lawn care chemicals and pet waste.

## Why is this bad?

Illicit discharges are a problem because unlike waste water which will be processed at a wastewater treatment facility before it is moved back into the normal waterways, stormwater does not go to a treatment facility and instead will move back into the waterways filled with the unwanted additives. All stormwater from Swatara Township flows to the Susquehanna River and eventually reaches the Chesapeake Bay.

The wastewater and sewage that drain from inside your house are treated and cleaned before they enter local waterways, but the storm drains in the street outside your home flow directly to waterways without any treatment. It is therefore very important that no one be allowed to dump waste of any kind onto the street surfaces, drainage pipes, and ditches, or into storm drains - they are only for rainwater. If you see someone dumping anything onto street surfaces, into storm drains, or into any other device built to contain rainfall or runoff, please report it immediately by calling Swatara Township at 717-564-2551.

## How to help

Follow directions on all products that you use, whether you're using chemicals to control pests, kill weeds, or fertilize your lawn, always follow the directions on the package. It will not only help you to save money by not over using the chemical but it will also prevent excess from entering into the stormwater system.

**Erosion and Sedimentation Complaints:** Pertains to observed excessive erosion and sedimentation from active construction sites.

**Illicit Discharge Complaints:** Pertains to observed illegal dumping into the stormwater system and/or streams. Anything entering the stormwater system that is not stormwater is considered an illicit discharge.

Fill in the appropriate information and a Swatara Township employee will investigate all reports received and take any and all appropriate enforcement actions necessary to rectify the discharge.

To report an Emergency HazMat spill, call 9-1-1. Do not use this form to report an emergency

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Occurrence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Was a commercial vehicle involved:  Yes  No

If so, what was the company name or license plate number on the vehicle if available: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_