

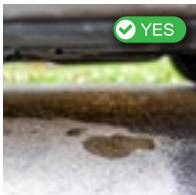
In order to manage stormwater runoff pollution, Charles County implemented the **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program** in 2001. Stormwater runoff is a result of a rain or snow event flowing over impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. This **stormwater runoff** conveys pollutants associated with vehicle maintenance, pet waste, lawn care, and litter into the storm drain system leading directly to our local waterways. When materials like used oil, trash juice from dumpsters, chemicals, or other hazardous materials are discharged, intentionally or unintentionally, into the storm water sewer system, this is considered an **illicit discharge**. Charles County is charged with the responsibility to discover, document, and eliminate these sources of stormwater pollution.



Help Charles County Prevent Stormwater Pollution



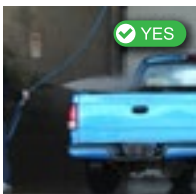
Keep garbage can and dumpster lids **closed**, and the area free of debris. Ensure that the dumpster is in proper working condition (i.e., no leaks, or seal damage).



Immediately clean up any oil, chemical, or non-stormwater spill using **dry methods** like kitty litter. Properly dispose of the cleanup material after absorbance.



Label liquid storage containers and place on spill pallets to catch any leaks or spills. Store containers **inside** or under cover to prevent exposure to stormwater.



Ensure vehicles are cleaned in a **wash bay** that either recycles used water or drains to a sanitary sewage system. Do not allow wash water to enter a storm drain or the environment.



To report a concern about pollutants or possible illegal dumping into the storm drain system, contact the Department of Planning & Growth Management: 301-646-0692

- **Properly store** potentially hazardous materials, such as grease, paints, detergents, antifreeze, or heavy metals, in appropriate, labeled containers.
- **Ensure** all outdoor containers have lids and are kept closed when not in use.
- **Cover** outdoor work areas and piles of loose materials (i.e., sand, salt) to prevent contaminated runoff from reaching storm drains.
- **Move** any activities which have the potential for pollution indoors.



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Pollution Prevention Practices is a publication of the Charles County Watershed Protection & Restoration Program. For additional information, visit online or contact us by phone or email.

301-645-0692 • PGM@CharlesCountyMD.gov

www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed



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