

Illicit Discharge – It’s a Crime

Illicit discharges are any discharges that eventually enters a City Storm Drain or a Public Water that are not just stormwater. Examples include oil, yard waste or chemicals, and paint.

Unlike what goes down the drain in your house, stormwater flows to our lakes and streams without going through a wastewater treatment plant. **What goes in a storm drain eventually ends up in a lake or stream!**

It’s not just bad for the environment; it’s a crime. Anyone responsible for an illicit discharge may be guilty of a misdemeanor and it can be very expensive to clean-up!

Please be responsible. Don’t dispose of wastes into a storm drain or leave grass or fertilizer in the curb and gutter or sidewalk to wash away with the next rain. And if you witness a suspected illicit discharge or water that is foaming or has a funny color or smell, report it.

Remember... “Only Rain in the Drain”



If you have concerns, please contact the City of Buffalo at 763-682-1181 to report your concern.