

# Illicit Discharge is Illegal Dumping



## Keep out of drains and ditches:

Oil, paint, grease, chemicals, pool water, grass clippings, fertilizer, pesticides, leaves and other yard debris, water softener salt, trash, scrap metal, mop bucket/carpet cleaning water, or construction debris/concrete wastewater.

Irresponsible dumping goes directly to our lakes, streams, and wetlands unfiltered. This causes damage, increases maintenance, and puts a burden of clean-up on public tax dollars.



## What goes into drains:

Rain and snowmelt.

*"Only rain down the drain"*

**Accountability is a community effort.**

To anonymously report an illicit discharge, call (651) 747-2750 or email [wbt@whitebeartownship.org](mailto:wbt@whitebeartownship.org)

## Detecting illicit discharge:

- Residues, stains, odors, or unusual damage around stormdrains.
- Sediment running off of a construction site.
- Fowl smells or unnatural colors gathered around storm outputs.
- Water flowing in roadside ditches or into stormdrains when it hasn't rained.
- Pipes or hoses directed into stormdrains or ditches.
- Piles of debris or trash in ditches, ponds, lakes, or wetlands.
- Spotting someone in the act. Kindly inform them that the drain leads to a waterbody. Many times people just aren't aware.

**How do I know if I see an illicit discharge?**



Chattham County

See reverse for responsible disposal and reporting.

## Responsible disposal:

Contact Ramsey County Recycling & Waste for questions or more info.

Substance	Disposal
Oil, grease, and automotive liquids	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection
Paint and paint thinners	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection
Pet waste	Trash or sanitary sewer
Grass clippings, leaves, yard debris	Yard waste collection site or yard waste hauler service
Cleaning chemicals	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection
Needles/syringes	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection
Medicine	Medicine collection sites (i.e. police depts) - contact county
Water softener salt	Small amounts (single tank): Trash Large amount: Hauler service
Road salt/de-icer	Road salt/de-icer into trash or sweep-up and reuse
Pool/hot tub water	Chlorination stopped 1 week prior to discharge. Municipal sewer or to upland soil surface
Pool/hot tub chemicals and filters	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection
Mop bucket and carpet cleaning water	Municipal sewer, filtered debris into trash
Building materials, cement, and construction/demolition waste	Contact trash hauler or seek a disposal company. Small amounts of wallboard/drywall/sheetrock in trash
Hardware: knobs, nails, bolts, etc.	Trash or scrap metal recycling facility
Scrap metal	Scrap metal recycling facility
Sawdust	Small amounts into trash or backyard compost (untreated)
Furniture and appliances	Bulky waste hauler service, search for individual appliance disposal options and contractors

*Informal/homemade connections to the stormdrain system or ditches are also illicit discharges.*

## Reporting an illicit discharge:

- 1. Photograph.** Document the substance that's been dumped into a ditch, pond, or water conveyance system with a photo. (I.e. grass clippings, paint, automotive fluids, construction site run-off, cleaning substances, etc.). If a photo isn't possible, note the substance or what you expect the substance to be.
- 2. Think like a detective.** Document the specific location with a street, cross street, or cardinal directions of the ditch or stormdrain. Note the day and time as well as vehicle type or license plate.
- 3. Call** the White Bear Township Public Works at (651) 747-2750 to report the infringement. If you're not sure if it's illegal dumping but suspect it, staff will investigate to determine the nature of the problem and pursue remediation and clean-up as necessary.
- 4. Celebrate your success!** Clean water is everyone's business and responsibility. Reporting may seem difficult or intimidating, but can be anonymous and is the responsible thing to do for the community, water quality, and wildlife.