

Illicit Discharge Warning Signs



Dry Weather Flow may be observed after prolonged periods without rain but the stormwater system has flow or drainage structure has signs of staining.



Suds often enter storm water systems as a result of improperly connected car washes or washing machines. Suds can also be the result of improper vehicle washing practices.



Oil/Gas is recognized as a sheen on the water. Natural sheens may be differentiated from an oil/gas sheen by breaking up the sheen with a stick. Natural sheens will remain separated and have sharp edges while oil/gas sheens will re-attach and form a solid sheet. Oil/gas can enter water bodies via storm water runoff (spills at gas station, oil leaks on pavement, etc.) and illegal dumping.



Sanitary Sewage may be present if there is black staining inside the drainage pipe; visible evidence of sanitary waste (such as toilet paper); or opaque or gray water. Sewage may originate from septic tank overflow pipes or improperly disposed waste from travel trailers.