

# SD1

Managing Northern Kentucky's  
Wastewater and Storm Water



## Why should you care?

Contaminated storm water runoff is considered one of the most significant sources of water pollution in the nation. Illicit discharges pollute the waterways we use for drinking water and recreation, threatening public health and harming the environment.



## How to report an illicit discharge

If you detect an illicit discharge, please contact SD1 at 859-578-7450. You should include the following information in your report:

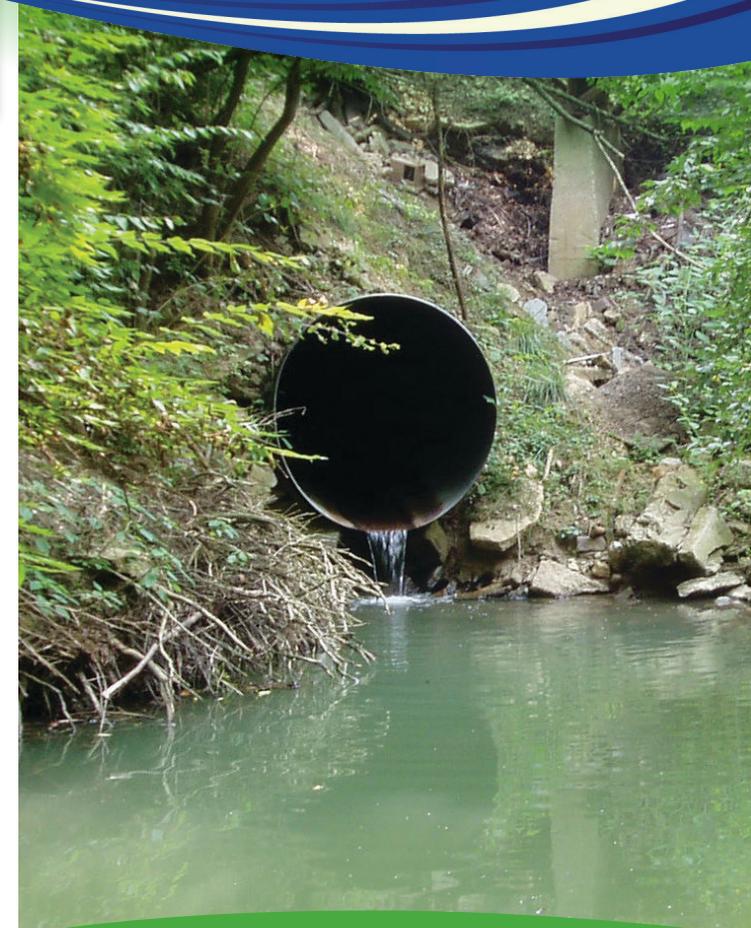
- ▶ What does the discharge look like?
- ▶ Where is the discharge?
- ▶ Who caused the discharge?
- ▶ When did the discharge occur or when did you notice it?



## What can you do to help?

- ▶ Report illicit discharges.
- ▶ Clean areas where illegal dumping has occurred and prevent future dumping by posting signage or restrictions in the area.
- ▶ Mark storm drains to educate others not to dump. Contact [info@sd1.org](mailto:info@sd1.org) to request a storm drain marking kit.
- ▶ Use environmentally safe soaps and cleaning products when washing vehicles.
- ▶ Wash cars on your lawn or at a commercial car wash rather than cleaning them on the driveway.
- ▶ Make sure all interior plumbing lines are properly connected to a sanitary system.
- ▶ Dispose of swimming pool discharge through a sanitary sewer line or dechlorinate before discharging into a local waterway or storm drain.
- ▶ Maintain septic systems and repair them immediately if damaged.

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## Identifying & Eliminating Illicit Discharges

How you can prevent  
storm water pollution

## What is an illicit discharge?

An illicit discharge is when anything other than storm water drains directly into the storm sewer system. Illicit discharges are considered “illicit” because anything that goes through the storm sewer system is sent directly to a river or stream and is not treated for pollutants. Illicit discharges can result from:

- ▶ A direct connection from the sanitary sewer to the storm sewer
- ▶ Cracked wastewater pipes that infiltrate into the storm sewer
- ▶ Chemical spills that drain into storm water inlets
- ▶ Illegal disposal of paint, oil or other substances into storm drains

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations require communities to develop and administer plans to detect and eliminate illicit discharges. About 30 local governments have delegated that responsibility to SD1, which implements programs and practices to control pollution in storm water runoff.

## What are signs of illicit discharges?

- ▶ Water flowing from storm water pipes during dry weather
- ▶ Color in waterways during both wet and dry weather
- ▶ Distinct odors that can be caused by sewage, chemicals, organic breakdown and more
- ▶ Water cloudiness during both wet and dry weather
- ▶ Floatables in waterways, such as sewage, oil sheen and suds



## What are common sources of illicit discharges?

- ▶ Sanitary wastewater (sewage)
- ▶ Failing septic systems
- ▶ Commercial car wash discharges
- ▶ Improper oil and household chemical disposal
- ▶ Swimming pool discharges
- ▶ Laundry wastewater
- ▶ Illegal dumping
- ▶ Chemical spills

