

Illicit Discharges

Illicit Discharge Reporting during normal business hours (Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm) citizens reporting incidents that have occurred within the city limits can also report the incident directly to the Public Works department (831-758-7233).

After hours, emergency problems should be reported through 911, where operators will assess the severity of the incident and determine if emergency response (fire, hazmat, etc.) is needed. When contacted the City's on-call staff will investigate to determine the level of response that is required and has authority to call in as many additional staff that they deem necessary to address the problem. If after hours messages are left on the City's Public Works voicemail, staff follow-up with the caller during the next business day.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

People have been dumping all sorts of waste materials into the gutter and street, eventually ending up in the city storm drain system:

DO NOT DUMP ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- OIL
- GREASE
- PAINT
- PESTICIDES
- LANDSCAPING LEAVES/GRASSES
- GREY WATER DISCHARGES, (Soapy Water)
- ANIMAL WASTE
- GARBAGE
- CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS (UNSET CONCRETE, TILE WASH DOWNS, ROOFING WASH DOWNS, DIRT, GRAVEL) ETC.
- SANITARY SEWER

WHY?

Materials in the storm drain system are carried to the Salinas River or other water sheds causing water pollution. Solid materials clog the drain system and cause flooding during the rainy season. Depositing such materials into the city storm drains or sewers is:

Against the Law

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you see someone putting waste material into a catch basin or gutter:

- Tell him or her why that is not a good idea
- Be Sure to notify Maintenance Services with the following observations.
Location, Date, Time, Circumstances
- Name of person (if you know it)
- Identifying information, such as license plate number, company, name or vehicle, or other helpful information

Water Quality

The City of Salinas has made a strong commitment to protect and manage the City's natural resources. Within the Public Works Department seeks to minimize the negative effects of development and pollution, while maximizing environmental protection and conservation. Protecting and preserving the quality of the City's surface waters is a key focus area.

The top causes of water quality impairment include siltation, nutrients, bacteria, metals, and oxygen- depleting substances. Polluted stormwater runoff, including runoff from urban/suburban areas and construction sites is a leading source of this impairment. To address this problem, EPA established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program as part of the Clean Water Act to regulate stormwater discharges.

In the City of Salinas, the stormwater management program is a joint effort of the City's Public Works Department and the City's Planning and Development Department at the City's Permit Center. The City's Phase 1 Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the City to have a stormwater management program (SWMP).

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The City has an ongoing program to detect and remove illicit discharges and illegal connections, including spills into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).

The City's Illicit Discharge and Detection Elimination (IDDE) program is managed by the Wastewater Division of the City's Public Works Department. Maintenance staff and construction site inspectors also play an important role identifying illicit discharge problems and responding to clean-up requests. However, Staff from multiple City Departments will play a role in locating, identifying and reporting

potential illicit discharges.