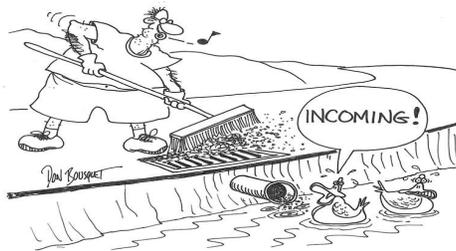


## WHAT ARE ILLICIT DISCHARGES?

Put simply, an illicit discharge is the discharge of any pollutant into the stormwater drain, pipe or ditch. These pollutants can include runoff from lawn chemicals; paint; oil; trash being disposed of inappropriately; and pet wastes to name just a few examples! If allowed to enter storm drains, these pollutants go directly to our rivers & streams impacting our natural resources.



Richland County's Land Development Ordinance specifically defines and addresses **I**llicit **D**ischarge **D**etection & **E**limination as well as includes provisions for enforcement and civil penalties.

The Richland County Code of Ordinances is available for review at [www.richlandonline.com](http://www.richlandonline.com).

*Contact  
Richland County  
at*



*or the  
Stormwater Hotline  
(803) 576-3599  
Report Discharges!*



# *IDDE*

*Illicit Discharge  
Detection &  
Elimination*

*Richland County  
Department of Public Works  
Stormwater Management*

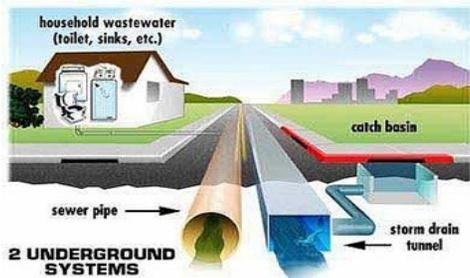


*400 Powell Road  
Columbia, SC 29203  
(803) 576-3599  
(803) 576-2493 (Fax)*

[http://richlandonline.com/  
departments/publicworks](http://richlandonline.com/departments/publicworks)

## WHERE DOES THE WATER GO?

Many people mistakenly think that all stormwater goes to a treatment plant. This is **NOT** the case! The stormwater system and the sanitary sewer system are separate systems. In fact, regulations require Richland County to find and eliminate any places where storm drains are connected to its sewer system.



Wastewater; from toilets, sinks, and shower drains, is collected in sewer lines and sent for treatment at one of the area's wastewater treatment plants before that water is released into our streams, rivers or lakes. **On the other hand, water that goes into curb inlets, storm drains or ditches goes straight into the nearest lake, river or stream without any treatment!** It is important to remember that only rain water should go to those drains!

## REPORTING ILLICIT DISCHARGES

**WHERE?** Richland County is responsible for stormwater management in all unincorporated areas of the county as well as Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes.

**HOW?** To report an illicit discharge in any of these areas, please call the Department of Public Works Stormwater Management at (803) 576-2468 or Richland County On-Call at (803) 929-6000. If it is after hours and an emergency situation arises, please call SCDHEC Emergency Response at (803) 253-6488 or (888) 481-0125. When you call you will need to provide the following: location of the incident, date & time you saw the incident, what type of materials were discharged, and/or other necessary information.

**WHEN?** After you report the incident, it will be logged as a complaint in our database. We will then investigate, follow-up and initiate enforcement action as necessary to remedy the situation.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Dispose of all garbage and trash appropriately.
- Dispose of all household chemicals and hazardous materials properly.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch.
- Compost or mulch yard waste.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Use recycling facilities such as GOFER, for used oil disposal. For more information visit <http://www.scgofer.com>.
- Redirect gutter downspouts to vegetated areas.
- Wash cars and other vehicles on your lawn rather than the street or sidewalk.
- Don't fill natural or man-made ditches on your property.
- Don't wash yard debris into curb inlets.
- Don't over fertilize your lawn.
- **REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGES!**

