

How to Report an Illicit Discharge

Citizens can report an illicit discharge and/or illegal dumping to the City storm drain by sending an email to citmid@middletoncity.com.

Why do We Need to Identify and Report Illicit Discharges?

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program was created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act (CWA) and helps address water pollution by regulating sources of pollution to waters of the United States. This permit program is now administered by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality as Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES). The City of Middleton is a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permitted under Phase II of the IPDES program. In order to comply with our permit, the City must establish regulations prohibiting illicit discharges into the MS4 and provide sufficient means to monitor and enforce local discharge regulations.

What Types of Things Are Not Allowed?

In addition to obvious pollutants such as oils, antifreeze and chemicals, many normal household activities can cause an illicit discharge. Dumping yard waste, draining chlorinated swimming pool water and household waste water from washing machines, dishwashers or water softening devices into ditches, storm drains and canals are also classified as illicit discharges. Even sweeping grass clippings into a storm drain is an illicit discharge. The City's ditches and storm drain pipes eventually make their way to one of the surrounding water bodies (i.e. Mill Slough, Willow Creek, and Boise River). Even if there is no direct connection to a ditch or pipe, contaminants discharged on the ground can make their way through the groundwater and contaminate the receiving water bodies. A more complete list of illicit discharges can be found in the City's Stormwater Management Program document posted to this web site.