



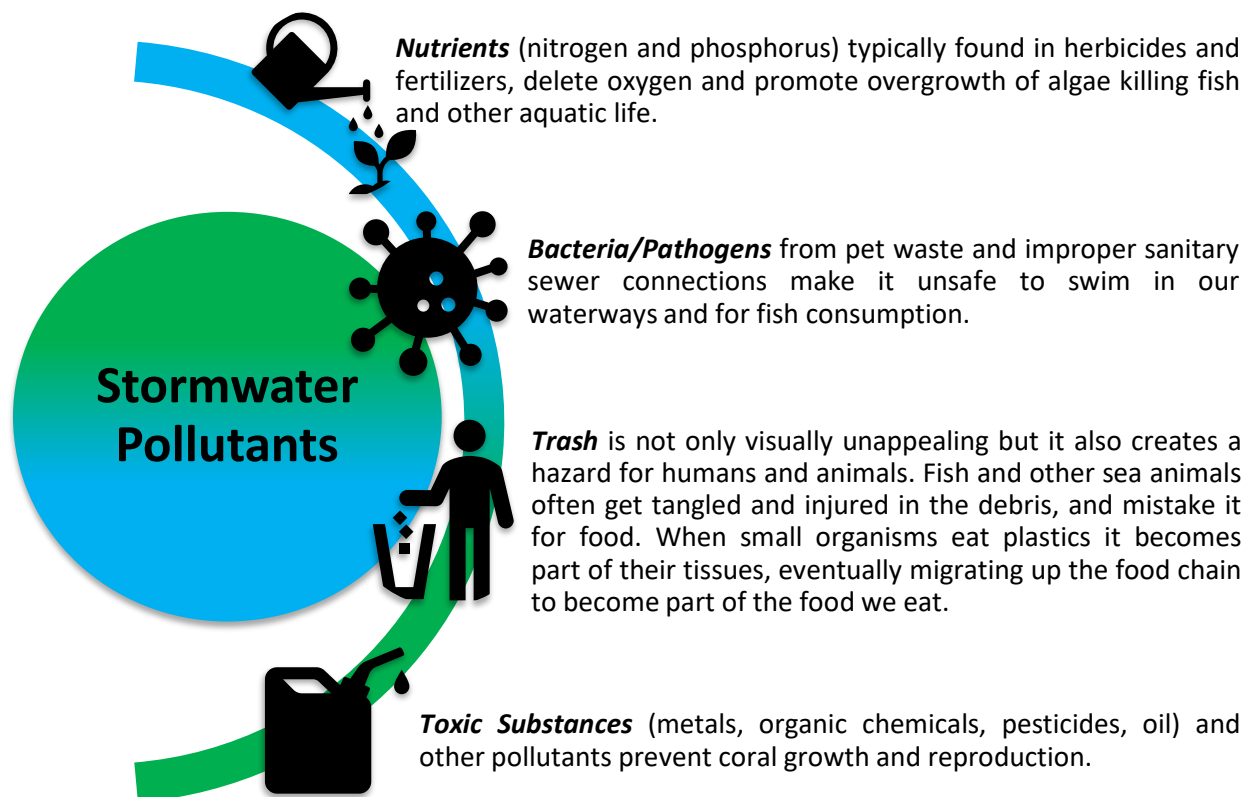
Illicit Storm Water Discharges- How it Impacts our Streams, Harbor, and Ocean, and How to Prevent it

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Hawaii Community Development Authority

When it rains, water flows over rooftops, sidewalks, streets, other paved areas, bare soils, lawns, and other vegetated areas picking up pollutants before draining into the storm drain system. Water that does not soak into the ground is considered stormwater runoff.

An illicit discharge is considered any discharge to a storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater, such as oil and other vehicle related fluids, concrete or paint wash out, pesticides and fertilizers, cooking grease, hazardous waste, pet waste, and trash. These pollutants find their way into the storm drain system in several ways, both unintentional and intentional. In some instances, companies or residents did not have good housekeeping practices that expose pollutants to rainwater, some have waste pipe connected to the storm drain system, and others may wash/spray down their paved areas to a storm drain inlet or use the storm drain inlets to dispose of various types of waste.



Some non-storm water discharges are allowable such as water from firefighting activities, discharges from potable water sources, rising ground waters or springs, and air conditioning condensate.

Things you can do to Prevent Pollutant Discharges

Our responsibility for the environment extends to many of the activities we do on a day-to-day basis. The following Good Housekeeping Practices prevent pollutant sources from comingling with rainwater.

For Residents

Around the House and Garden

- ◆ Cover any bare soil with vegetative cover or mulch.
- ◆ Promptly remove and dispose of all yard waste.
- ◆ Pick up after your pet. Use a bag and gloves to pick up your pet's waste.
- ◆ **Use herbicides and fertilizers sparingly** and sweep up any materials spilled.
- ◆ Store fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides in a sealed container.

Home Improvement

- ◆ Cover any construction materials with tarps.
- ◆ Keep construction debris away from sidewalks, streets, gutters, and the storm drain.
- ◆ **Sweep or scoop up** concrete washout, concrete dust, or mud; do not wash down the driveway, street, gutter, or storm drain.
- ◆ Store paints, solvents, and other chemicals in the original container and under covered areas.
- ◆ Wash paint brushes out in the sink. When you are done with your paint, allow it to dry and then dispose of in the trash.

Car Maintenance

- ◆ Use a commercial car wash facility. If you choose to wash your own car:
 - ◆ Wash in the designated car wash area or grass.
 - ◆ Use a hose with a nozzle to reduce water usage.
 - ◆ Use minimal **Eco-friendly Soap** (Non-toxic, free of phosphates, fragrances, chlorine, and petroleum-based ingredients) with a bucket of water.
 - ◆ Dump the soapy water into a sink, toilet, or on grass.
- ◆ If you are changing oil from home:
 - ◆ Check that the drain oil pan has no holes.
 - ◆ If an oil spill occurs, use **dry clean-up methods** by using sawdust, kitty litter, or commercial oil-absorbent product on it. Sweep and repeat. For all other spills, check manufacture instructions for cleaning practices. Keep the common driveway free of chemicals and other pollutants.
 - ◆ Motor oil and oil filters can be disposed of in the regular trash receptacle.
 - ◆ Store automotive chemicals in a seal container away from rainwater.

For Commercial Auto Care and Car Washing Businesses

1. **Know here the water discharges to.** Keep pollutants and non-storm water runoff out of the storm drains. Businesses may need to be retrofitted to prevent polluted water and/or pollutants from entering the storm drain system, such as connecting to the sanitary sewer or installing a sump or berm.

2. **Use Best Management Practices (BMPs)** to prevent the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system.

- ◆ Prepare for leaks and spills by keeping an ample supply of absorbent material on site and near sources of chemicals and maintenance areas for quick deployment.
- ◆ Keep workspaces clean and organized.
- ◆ Properly store and handle solid wastes.
- ◆ Have all washing activities done in areas designed to collect and hold the wash and rinse water and effluent generated. Recycle, collect, or treat wash water effluent prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
 - ◆ If washing/cleaning must occur onsite, consider washing inside the building or on an impervious surface to control the targeted pollutants by directing them to the sanitary sewer.
 - ◆ If washing must occur onsite and outdoors:
 - ◆ Use designated paved wash areas. This area must be covered or bermed to collect the wash water and graded to direct the wash water to a treatment or disposal facility.
 - ◆ Do not conduct oil changes and other engine maintenance in the designated washing area. Perform these activities in a place designated for oil change and maintenance activities.
 - ◆ Cover the wash area when not in use to prevent contact with rain water.
 - ◆ Wash in an area where water can stay onsite and evaporate, if possible.
 - ◆ Use a wash bucket to limit the amount of wash water.
- ◆ Have a designated area for vehicle maintenance.
 - ◆ Keep storm or rainwater away from outside operations through berming and appropriate drainage routing.
 - ◆ Cover the work area to limit exposure to rain.
- ◆ Have a designated area for vehicle maintenance, preferably in a paint booth.
 - ◆ Cover or enclose painting operations properly to avoid drift.
 - ◆ Use a ground cloth to collect drips and residue properly.
 - ◆ Wipe up spills with rags and other absorbent material immediately.
 - ◆ Develop paint handling procedures for proper use, storage, and disposal.
 - ◆ Clean parking lot regularly using dry cleaning methods (e.g., sweeping, vacuuming).

For more information, refer to the City and County of Honolulu’s “Storm Water Best Management Practice Manual for Industrial and Commercial Facilities” on the <https://www.honolulu.gov/>

3. **Properly dispose of chemicals and other materials** according to the Federal regulations, State Regulations, and City ordinances.

- ◆ Visit <https://www.honolulu.gov/opala/quick-links/hhw.html> for a list of hazardous waste disposal companies.

4. **Know where and what the Spill Response Plan says.** Any business which stores and/or uses hazardous materials should have a spill response plan. A spill response plan is a facility

specific plan that explains how to respond to a spill if it occurs. The spill response plan should be understood by all employees and available as a reference.

- See Emergency Contacts for agencies to contact in the event of a spill entering the storm drain or MS4.

Emergency Contact Information

If a non-storm water discharge enters a storm drain or the MS4:

1. Immediate threat to human health or the Environment
 - State of Hawaii, Department of Health (DOH), Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response Office (808) 586-4249 or (808) 247-2191 (after hours)
 - Call 911
2. Any oil spill into a water body or adjoining shoreline
 - National Response Center (NRC) 1-800-424-8802 (24 hours)
3. Any spills into the storm drain
 - Department of Facility Maintenance Storm Water Quality Branch (DFM-SWQ) (808) 768-3242
4. Any spills into the Kakaako Community Development District (KCDD)
 - Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) (808) 594-0300

Please take a moment to take our survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QPDF8CP>. The answers are used to develop outreach materials.