



Water Quality Program ILLICIT DISCHARGES PROGRAM



Reporting tips:

For your safety, stay clear of any suspected illicit discharge or polluted flow. Do not touch it or try to clean it up. To ensure your safety and maintain evidence, only trained personnel should take samples. Your first response should be to call the CDOT Illicit Discharge Hotline. CDOT maintenance employees should follow the directions of the maintenance supervisor and the authorities who will respond to the scene.

Note the location/mile marker of the problem, the quantity and nature (color/odor) of the substance, if the discharge is flowing into a waterway, any information on suspicious activities, and the vehicle license number or names of people potentially involved in the spill or dumping.

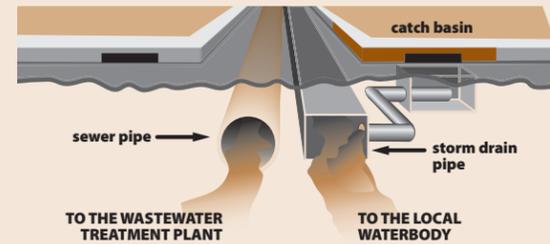
For more information:

Contact

Rick Willard
Environmental Programs
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

303-757-9343
Richard.Willard@dot.state.co.us

CDOT's stormwater program website: www.cdoth2o.com
CDOT MS4 Helpline: 303-918-7535
CDOT Illicit Discharge Hotline: 303-512-4H2O (4426)



Stormwater runoff enters the storm drain system, which is different from the wastewater system. Stormwater runoff drains to waterways untreated.

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like roads and sidewalks prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.



Why is stormwater runoff a problem?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into CDOT's storm drain system or directly into a stream, river, lake, wetland, or reservoir. Anything that enters CDOT's storm drain system is discharged untreated into the waterways we use for fishing, swimming, and providing drinking water.

CDOT has a permit from the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE) to discharge stormwater from our storm drain system. The permit states that only stormwater (and a few other allowable discharges like landscape irrigation overflow) can be discharged from CDOT's storm drain system. Pollutants, such as dirt; fertilizers; pesticides; and oil and grease, antifreeze; and other automotive fluids are strictly prohibited from being disposed of in CDOT's storm drain system.

As part of the permit, CDOT has several different programs to prevent pollutants from entering the storm drain system. The programs are:

- Construction sites program
- New development and redevelopment program
- **Illicit discharges program**
- Industrial facilities program
- Public education and involvement program
- Pollution prevention and good housekeeping program
- Wet weather monitoring program





Allowable discharges into CDOT's storm drain system include the following:

- Landscape irrigation
- Diverted stream flows
- Rising ground waters
- *Uncontaminated* ground water infiltration to separate storm sewers
- *Uncontaminated* pumped ground water
- Discharges from potable water sources
- Foundation drains
- Air conditioning condensation
- Irrigation water
- Springs
- Water from crawl space pumps
- Footing drains
- Lawn watering
- Individual residential car washing
- Individual residential swimming pool and hot tub discharges
- Individual residential street washing
- Water-line flushing
- Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands
- Flows from emergency fire fighting activities
- Water incidental to street sweeping (including associated side walks and medians) and that is *not* associated with construction

Illicit discharges program

Through their permit with CDPHE, CDOT has a legal responsibility to control pollutants from being discharged into the storm drain system. The purpose of the Illicit Discharges Program is to identify and eliminate any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater (unless authorized by a separate permit from CDPHE). Illicit discharges are also known as illegal discharges and CDOT employees and citizens can help prevent these discharges from polluting stormwater. Common illicit discharges to CDOT's storm drain system include sewage from accidental cross connections; septage from improperly maintained septic systems; washwater flows from street cleaning; oil, fuel, antifreeze, grease, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and grass clippings dumped into CDOT's storm drain inlets.

CDOT's Illicit Discharges Program consists of the following activities:

- *Prevention of illicit discharges and improper disposal.* This includes the prohibition of illicit discharges into CDOT's storm drain system and employee education.
- *Ongoing field screening.* This includes developing a storm drain system map and inventorying all outfalls in CDOT's storm drain system.
- *Investigation of suspected illicit discharges.* CDOT has a hotline (303-512-4H2O) to call if anyone (CDOT employees and citizens) suspects an illicit discharge and CDOT has procedures in place to respond to all suspected illicit discharges.
- *Procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills.* CDOT maintenance staff are educated on the proper procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills.



Identify illicit discharges

Warning signs of illicit discharges include visual clues in the stormwater, such as discoloration, presence of surface scum, oil sheen or turbidity, or a pungent odor from or near

the drain or inlet. Other clues include the presence of stains, oils, or debris adjacent to CDOT roads and inlets.

Evidence of illicit discharges also can be seen from observing outfalls that collect runoff from storm drains and drain into a waterway. When the outfall is discharging a flow during dry weather, there could be a problem. If any of these warning signs exist, please call the CDOT Illicit Discharge Hotline at 303-512-4H2O.

CDOT needs your help to prevent pollutants from being dumped or spilled into its storm drain system. CDOT employees and citizens can report pollution or questionable discharges to highway storm drains or waterways:

CDOT Illicit Discharge Hotline:
303-512-4426 (303-512-4H2O)

CDOT Water Quality Program Website: www.cdoth2o.com

CDPHE Emergency Spill Reporting: 1-877- 518-5608

CDOT Water Quality Program Manager:
Rick Willard 303-757-9343

CDOT employees and citizens can report spills on CDOT highways:

For hazardous spills, or if not known:

CO State Patrol, 24 Hour Dispatch: 303-239-4501

National Response Center: 800-424-8802

For non-hazardous spills:

CDOT Regional Maintenance Superintendent
or CO State Patrol (above)

Regional Maintenance Superintendents

R1 (Sec. 5) 303-757-7649, (Sec. 9) 303-512-5730

R2 719-546-5419

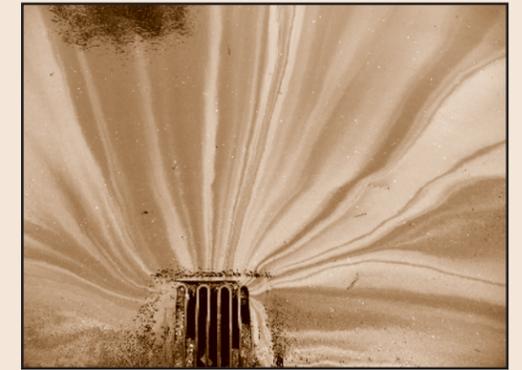
R3 (Sec. 1) 970-824-5104, (Sec. 2) 970-248-7360

R4 970-353-1232

R5 (Sec. 3) 970-385-1650, (Sec. 7) 719-589-3616

R6 303-757-9514

What to report



Oil, gas, etc. entering a storm drain.



Soap suds exiting a storm drain system pipe.



Chemical spilled on a highway.



Sediment from an unknown source entering a stream.