

Illicit Discharge

What is an illicit discharge?

The following definition is taken from the Environmental Protection Agency.

An illicit discharge is defined as any discharge to the municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water, except for discharges allowed under an NPDES permit or waters used for firefighting operations. These non-stormwater discharges occur due to illegal connections to the storm drain system from commercial establishments. As a result of these illicit connections, contaminated wastewater enters into storm drains or directly into local water ways without receiving treatment from a wastewater treatment plant. Illicit connections may be intentional or unknown to the business owner. These connections are often due to the floor drains connected to the storm drainage system. Additional sources of illicit discharges are failing septic systems, illegal dumping practices, and the improper disposal of sewage from recreational practices such as boating or camping.

The following link will take you to the municipal code for the City of Pleasanton and will give you a more in-depth perspective of the Illicit discharge protocol. (Title 9 chapter 9.14) deals with storm water management.

<http://66.113.195.234/CA/Pleasanton/>

Illicit discharges also can be generated by persons using antiquated methods for tasks such as cleaning pool filters, cleaning paint brushes, cars, washing and other common activities.