

## WHAT IS AN “ILLICIT DISCHARGE?”

Illicit discharge is any release of unlawful non-stormwater substances into the storm drain system. This includes anything from household wastewater and chemicals to oil and debris. Such discharges can enter the storm drain through direct connections like pipes or ditches, or indirectly through runoff from various surfaces.

## EXAMPLES OF ILLICIT DISCHARGE

- Septic Tank Seepage / Illegal Sanitary Connections
- Car wash Wastewater
- Grass Clippings
- Cooking Grease / Household Waste
- Pesticides and Fertilizers
- Home Improvement Waste (e.g. concrete, paint)
- Laundry Wastewater / Detergent
- Improper Waste Oil Disposal / Auto Fluids Flushing
- Improper Disposal of Commercial and Industrial Hazardous Waste
- Pool / Spa Discharge
- Pet Waste

## THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY

- Do Not Put Grass Clippings, Leaves and Other Yard Waste Into Storm Drains, Swales, or Ditches.
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals in an approved manner.
- Pick up after your pet and dispose of properly
- Repair vehicle leaks; cover spilled fluids with kitty litter then sweep into household waste.
- Wash Your Vehicle Over a Grassy Area to Prevent Detergents from Running off into Storm Drains.
- Contact the city by filing a report on the website or contact our office at (615) 371-0060 or [Engineering@brentwoodtn.gov](mailto:Engineering@brentwoodtn.gov)

Keep an eye out for inappropriate (“illicit”) amounts of discharge from stormwater pipes, especially during dry weather. This could be a sign that there is a problem, and should be reported to the City of Brentwood.



# ILLICIT DISCHARGE

## CITY OF BRENTWOOD

## STORMWATER POLLUTION

Polluted stormwater degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands and other waterways. Nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen can promote the overgrowth of algae and deplete oxygen. Toxic fluids from automobiles and careless application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers threaten water quality and can kill fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria from animal wastes and improper sanitary sewer connections to storm sewer systems can make lakes and waterways unsafe for wading, swimming, and fish consumption. Eroded soil is a pollutant as well. It clouds the waterway and destroys the habitats of fish and plants.