

What is Falcon Heights' role in illicit discharge, detection and elimination?

City crews annually inspect the stormwater system to check for illicit discharges or other problems.

The Falcon Heights Stormwater Management Plan includes best management practices for maintaining water quality. An illicit discharge detection and elimination program is required.

Falcon Heights has an Illicit Discharge Ordinance 09-05. This gives the city authority to regulate pollutants entering the City's storm drainage system by any user.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!



We all have an important part to play in keeping our waterways clean.

Who should I contact about illicit dumping or suspicious discharges?

If you suspect or see an illicit discharge, please contact **Falcon Heights City Hall at 651-792-7600**. Staff will investigate the situation and determine whether or not a violation occurred. If a violation did occur, the city will take actions to ensure the violation does not happen again.

Information Needed to Report Illicit Discharges:

Call 651-792-7600

1. What happened
2. Where it happened (Address, nearest intersection, etc.)
3. Date and Time of event
4. Your name and contact information (The City will protect your confidentiality)

***Please remember!
Keep it clean!***



City of Falcon Heights

Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination



The City of Falcon Heights

2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Falcon Heights, MN 55113-5594

Dumping into storm drains is not just wrong - it's illegal!

It's illegal to dump or discharge waste or pollution in storm drains. A common misconception about storm sewers is that they go to a waste water treatment plant. This is not the case.

Storm sewers transport stormwater (rain and melting snow) to the nearest river, lake, stream or wetland. Anything that enters a storm drain will go directly to the nearest body of water without treatment and may cause serious environmental damage.

What is an illicit discharge?

An illicit discharge is "any discharge into a stormwater system, river, stream or water body that is not composed entirely of stormwater". Illicit discharges may be the result of:

- Dumping gas, motor oil, paints, household cleaners, concrete waste water or restaurant cooking oil into the system
- Allowing fertilizer, grass, leaves, herbicides, pesticides or pet waste to wash into the sewer
- Installing pipes that bypass sanitary connections or septic drain fields that produce a direct discharge into open lakes or streams



What are some of the hazards that are associated with illicit discharge?

- Pollutants in illicit discharges include viruses and bacteria from raw sewage or pet waste, heavy metals, toxics and nutrients.
- Bacteria and oil can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards and close beaches.
- Nutrients from grass, leaves and soil contribute to the overgrowth of algae which can impact aquatic life.
- EPA studies show that pollutant levels from even small illicit discharges have been shown to be high enough to significantly degrade water quality and threaten aquatic, wildlife and human health.

What isn't an illicit discharge?

Below are some examples considered not to be an illicit discharge:

- Irrigation Water, Residential and Charity car washing, flows from fire fighting

What can you do to help?

- ✓ Be alert! Report any suspicious discharges.
- ✓ *Recycle Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) at a Ramsey County HHW Site.
- ✓ Solvents and Paint Thinners
- ✓ Oil, antifreeze, batteries, CFL bulbs
- ✓ Clean up hazardous spills immediately.
- ✓ Do not blow leaves, grass clippings and mulch into the street. Sweep them up if they do land there.
- ✓ Pick up litter and trash near storm drains.
- ✓ Bring paint to paint stores for proper disposal. Small amounts of paint can be dried and placed in the trash.
- ✓ Clean up your pet waste and dispose of it in the trash.
- ✓ Vegetate bare areas to reduce soil erosion.

*For Ramsey County HHW locations, visit RamseyRecycles.com or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

