

STORM WATER ILLICIT DISCHARGE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Great Miami River is a prominent feature and tremendous natural resource for our City ...historically; it is why the City of Franklin even exists and it continues to sustain us by providing a high-yielding aquifer used as our drinking water source. The Great Miami is also where the City's storm water runoff (rain that does not soak into the ground) ends up...whether by creek, open channel, or storm sewer system...when it rains in Franklin, storm water runoff flows into the Great Miami River. Therefore, keeping the storm water runoff as clean as possible is important to protect this vital natural resource. In the spirit of protection, the City, in cooperation with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, has adopted an "Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Control" Ordinance. The ordinance prohibits the discharge of pollutants into the City's storm sewers, creeks and Great Miami River, and prohibits sanitary service connections into the storm sewer system. Here is some information that you as a resident should be aware of:

Illicit Discharge Defined: Is any discharge that is not composed entirely of storm water.

Common Illicit Discharge Pollutants: Motor oil, anti-freeze, cooking oil or greases, cleaning chemicals, paints, varnishes, pesticides, fertilizers, sewage, excessive grass clippings, animal waste, and general litter (trash).

What You Shouldn't Do: Discharge, or cause to be discharged, any illicit discharge into the City's storm sewer system or creeks, in other words, to play it safe, do not dump any chemicals, waste, or trash into a storm sewer inlet, drainage channel, or creek. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.

Also, you should not have an illegal connection (such as a sanitary sewer) connected into the storm sewer system.

What Can Happen If *You* Violate the Ordinance: If the City becomes aware of a violation, it will first serve a Notice of Violation/Correction Order to the person or property owner that is in violation. This will provide an opportunity for corrective action to be taken by the person or property owner without any penalties. However, if the Correction Order is not complied with in the time allotted, penalties may result in the form of fines.

What You Should Do If You Witness a Violation: If you think you have witnessed an illicit discharge, or are aware of one taking place (or that has previously taken place), please report it to the City of Franklin Public Works Department at 937-746-5001 so the matter can be looked into.

Please contact the City of Franklin Public Works Department at the above number if you have any questions regarding this Ordinance. Again, the goal of this ordinance is to protect the City's creeks and the Great Miami River for the benefit of the entire community....so please do your part. **Thank You!**