

STORMWATER ILLICIT DISCHARGES

Stormwater is defined as surface runoff free of any contaminants introduced to that water as a result of human activity such as industrial, commercial, or construction activity.

Both Pinellas County and the City of Safety Harbor have very stringent ordinances that prohibit any **discharge to the storm sewer system other than one entirely composed of stormwater**. Violation of this ordinance can result in fines of up to \$500 per day. If extreme damage has resulted, Pinellas County can levy fines of up to \$5,000 per day under the Environmental Enforcement Act.

Authorized exceptions are

- Flows from firefighting
 - * Waterline flushing and other contributions from potable water sources
 - * Landscape irrigation and lawn watering
 - * Irrigation water
 - * Diverted stream flows
 - * Rising groundwaters
 - * Direct infiltration of groundwater to the separate storm sewer system
 - * Uncontaminated pumped groundwater
 - * Foundation and footing drains
 - * Water from crawl space pumps
 - * Uncontaminated air conditioning condensation
 - * Springs
 - * Individual Residential car washing
 - * Filter backwash from residential swimming pools
 - * Flows from riparian habitat and wetlands

If you suspect someone has illicitly discharged contaminants such as chemicals, construction materials, paint, petroleum products or yard waste to the Storm Sewer or canal, please contact the Safety Harbor Public Works Office at 727-724-1550.

You can also leave a message on Pinellas County's Stormwater Watchline at 727-464-5060.

In case of emergency (such as a large gasoline chemical spill), please contact the Sheriff's Department or your local Fire Department at 911.