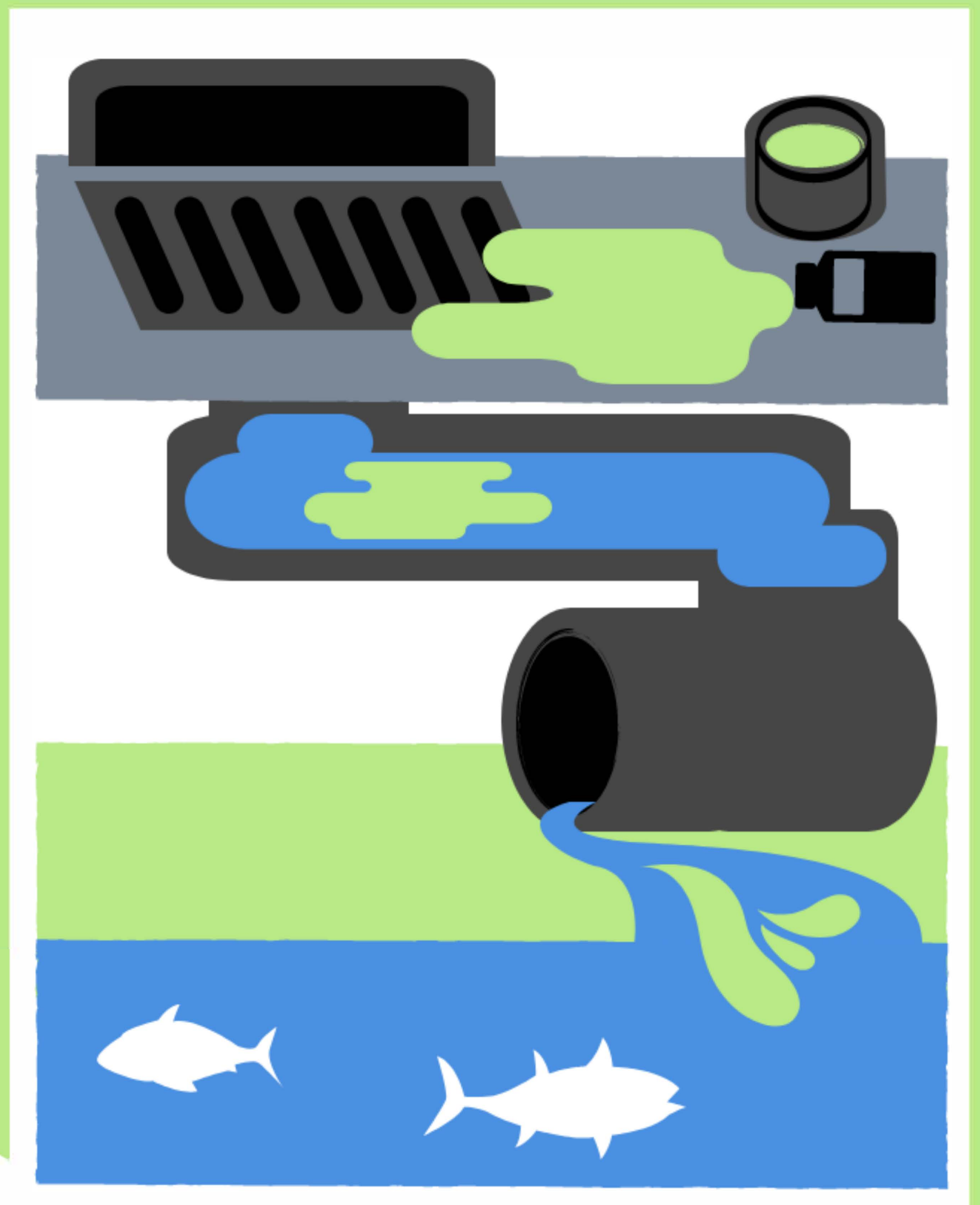


What is an Illicit Discharge?

An illicit discharge is a **substance other than stormwater** that is released to a storm drain, swale, storm sewer, or other **system that moves, but does not treat, stormwater** before it is **directed into a stream, lake, or river.**



These substances are considered “illicit”, or **banned**, because **they are hazardous to the health and safety of our water resources.**

Some example sources of illicit discharges include:

- Sanitary wastewater (e.g. water from sinks, laundry, toilets, etc.)
- Effluent from septic tanks
- Spills from roadway accidents
- Improper disposal of auto and household hazardous wastes



Identifying Illicit Discharges

Illicit Discharges might enter the stormwater system through **direct connection** or **indirect connection**.

Direct connections occur when wastewater pipes are mistakenly or deliberately connected to storm sewers.

Indirect connections occur when **cracked sanitary sewers leak** into storm sewers or when **spills flow** or **pollutants are dumped** into drains or waterways.

Illicit discharges are most noticeable during dry weather. A storm drain or a stormwater pipe with an **unusual odor, suds, an oil sheen, or flowing water during dry weather** might be an illicit discharge.

Contact the West Mifflin Sanitary Sewer Municipal Authority at (412) 466-6070 if you think you have identified an illicit discharge!

Properly Dispose of Hazardous Waste

Visit your county's website

to find information about local hazardous waste drop off programs

Learn more at www.respectourwaters.org/illicit-discharge-swwt



RESPECT OUR WATERS