

What is an Illicit Discharge?

An illicit discharge is defined as “any discharge into a municipal storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.” A municipal storm sewer includes pipes, drains, catch basins, ditches, and ponds.

Some of the pollutants that are considered to be illicit discharges are:

- Car wash wastewater
- Gas, anti-freeze, & motor oil
- Grass clippings & yard waste
- Household cleaners & solvents
- Paints
- Pesticides
- Soap (including bio-degradable soap)
- Pet waste
- Trash / debris
- Weed & moss killers



Sometimes these pollutants are carried through the storm drainage system by rain, wind, or improper disposal and enter into our streams and Liberty Bay. This can result in serious water quality problems and can impact the health of humans, wildlife, fish, and other aquatic organisms. Illicit discharges are prohibited by the Poulsbo Municipal Code and fines and penalties may be assessed for violations.

There are simple steps that can be taken to help keep our waterways clean.....

YOU CAN HELP !

6 Easy Ways You Can Help Prevent Illicit Discharges To Our Streams & Liberty Bay

1 Used motor oil, antifreeze, and batteries can be recycled (*motor oil must be uncontaminated*).



Take them to the Poulsbo Recycle Center or find other

facilities at:

www.kitsapgov.com/sw/recycle.asp

Clean up any spills immediately—kitty litter or sawdust will absorb the spill. Be sure to sweep these up as well & dispose of them in the garbage.

2 Wash your car on the grass so that the **water, detergent, and dirt** will be filtered by the soil. Better yet, take your car to a commercial car wash, where the dirty water goes into the sanitary sewer and is sent to the wastewater treatment plant.



3 **Yard care** activities can impact our waterways when fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides enter the storm drain system. Even grass clippings or other yard debris can cause harmful algae blooms in streams or the bay. Be cautious with application amounts, overspray onto hard surfaces, and overwatering which can cause runoff into the storm drain. Sweep or pick up all grass clippings and other yard debris and compost it or dispose of it properly.



4 Many household products, including **cleansers, pesticides, weed killers, paints, paint thinners, and solvents** can be taken to the Kitsap County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Facility. Empty containers of household chemical products should be disposed of according to label directions.



Latex paint (water-based) can go into regular garbage if the paint is dry or the can is empty. Paint brushes used with latex paint can be rinsed in the sink.

Oil-based paints and stains are hazardous waste and must not be put in the garbage unless the can is empty. For more information about household hazardous waste disposal, go to:

www.kitsapgov.com/sw/recycle.asp

5 In your yard at home or when walking your pet, use a bag or a scooper to promptly clean up your **pet's waste**. To keep animal waste from harming the health of humans and our waterways, properly dispose of the waste by picking it up, bagging it, and placing it into the garbage.



6 When **pressure washing or cleaning outdoor surfaces**, do not let runoff containing any cleaning agent enter the storm drain. For **roof cleaning**, disconnect the downspouts and let the water soak into the ground unless you are cleaning with clear water only. For cleaning using clear water only (without any cleaning agents), let the water soak into the ground or filter the wash water before it enters a drain and dispose of the debris properly. Cleaning water from **vehicles and equipment** must never be discharged to a storm drain - even if you are not using chemicals or soaps.



Remember...

- What we do on land affects the quality of our waterways
- Many small sources of pollution add up to cause big water quality problems
- Natural things such as soil, leaves, grass clippings, and pet waste can cause water pollution
- Waste dumped into storm drains goes into our streams and Liberty Bay without treatment
- Automobiles and other vehicles cause water pollution as well as air pollution

*Everyone
can
make
a difference !*

Puget Sound 
Starts Here.org

REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING OR SUSPICIOUS DISCHARGES:

**Water Pollution Hotline
(360) 337-5777**



RECYCLE USED MOTOR OIL, ANTIFREEZE, & BATTERIES AT:

Poulsbo Recycle Center
21868 NW Viking Way, Poulsbo
360-779-1044

RECYCLE USED MOTOR OIL, ANTIFREEZE, & BATTERIES, and DISCARD HOUSEHOLD CLEANSERS, PESTICIDES, WEED KILLERS, PAINTS, & SOLVENTS AT:

Kitsap County Household Hazardous
Waste (HHW) Collection Facility
5551 SW Imperial Way, Port Orchard
360-337-5777

www.kitsapgov.com/sw/recycle.asp



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CITY
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POULSBO



**THE DRAIN
IS JUST FOR RAIN.....**

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Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination
Poulsbo Municipal Code 13.18
Ordinance 2009-03