

# OVERVIEW

- **What is an illicit discharge?**

An illicit discharge is the release of pollutants or non-stormwater materials to the stormwater system. The result is untreated discharges that contribute high levels of pollutants including heavy metals, toxins, oil and grease, solvents, nutrients, viruses, and bacteria to receiving waters.



- **What is Apex doing about illicit discharges?**

In 2008, Apex adopted an ordinance to establish an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program including a provision for assessing civil penalties on violators. Town staff investigate reported illicit connections and improper discharges to the Town's stormwater system. Examples of such investigations include someone dumping paint or yard debris into a storm drain or creek.

- **What can I do?**

You can do your part by keeping all non-stormwater materials away from and out of all curb inlets, grates, and water bodies in Town. You can also contact Public Works at **249-3427** to report illicit discharges.

# 249-3427

## CALL TO REPORT AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE!

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## 249-3427

[WWW.APEXNC.ORG](http://WWW.APEXNC.ORG)

# Town of Apex



# Illicit DISCHARGE

Public Works & Utilities Department  
Environmental Programs Division

105 Upchurch Street

Apex, NC 27502

(919) 249-3427

# TWO SYSTEMS

The stormwater system is often confused with the sanitary sewer system. In Apex, these are two distinctly separate systems. In fact, the stormwater system is known as the Municipally Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).



Flows to the sanitary sewer system (e.g. flushing toilets, shower drains, kitchen sink drains, etc.) are treated at the Apex Water Reclamation Facility on Highway 55.

Flows to the stormwater system (through curb drains on the edge of the street, stormwater yard inlets, etc.) usually go to the nearest creek, stream, or lake and do not receive treatment at a plant.



# REPORTING

## • How do I report an illicit discharge?

To report an illicit discharge in Town, please call Public Works at [249-3427](tel:249-3427). Many environmental problems can be improved and resolved as a result of these investigations. You can make a difference by calling!

## • What do I say when I call?

Please have the following information ready when you make the call:

1. Your name and contact information (if you would like staff to follow up with you).
2. Location of the incident.
3. Date and time you witnessed the incident.
4. General description of activity and materials involved.

## • What happens after I call?

Once an illicit discharge is reported, the information is logged into our database. An Environmental Programs staff member will investigate and follow standard operating procedures. Per the IDDE ordinance, a civil penalty may be issued to the violator based on the severity of the incident.



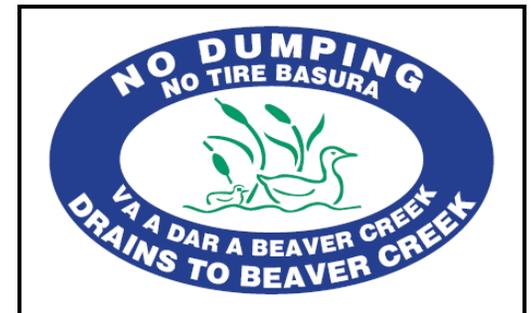
# 249-3427

# STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM

The Town of Apex Storm Drain Marking Program is a great hands-on opportunity for volunteers to help educate their community about the importance of stormwater pollution prevention.



The program allows volunteers to adhere watershed specific markers on storm drains to remind citizens that stormwater runoff can wash pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, litter, oil and other automotive fluids, sediment, and household chemicals in to our valuable creeks, rivers, and lakes.



The Town will provide you and/or your group with all storm drain marking supplies, safety equipment, and instructions. Call Public Works to schedule a storm drain marking event!