

## Benefits

Adopting a pollution prevention plan can yield environmental and economic benefits in your community. Benefits include cleaner air and water, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, less toxic waste, less garbage going to landfills, and better stewardship of natural resources. A pollution prevention plan can also reduce workplace exposure to hazardous materials, which can affect worker's health and productivity. Pollution prevention's economic benefits include greater business efficiency, increased competitiveness, and reduced costs for regulatory monitoring and compliance. By reducing waste, pollution prevention can also reduce or eliminate long term liability, clean-up, storage, and disposal costs. Finally, by preventing pollution, there is a greater likelihood that a company will be in compliance with local, state, and federal statutes.

## Limitations

To make pollution prevention effective, the City of Sebastian will provide clear guidance to business owners. Although a new pollution prevention program may require initial investments of time and money, keep in mind that preventing pollution is more cost-effective than remediation.

## Effectiveness

Businesses applying pollution prevention can reduce their pollution discharges and lower their operational costs. For example, vehicle washing can produce chemical, dirt and grease-contaminated runoff that flows untreated into waterways.

## Costs

Costs to implement a pollution prevention program vary according to the types of business and the extent of the pollution plan. A new program may face significant costs in education training and infrastructure investments.

## It's the Law

In October, 2000, the Environmental Protective Agency (EPA), authorized the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to implement the NPDES storm water permitting program in the State of Florida (in all areas except for Indian Country lands). DEP's authority to administer the NPDES program is set forth in Section 403.0885, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The Nationwide Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water program regulates point source discharges of storm water into



surface waters of the State of Florida from certain municipal, industrial and any construction activities. As the NPDES storm water permitting authority, DEP is responsible for promulgating rules and issuing permits, managing and reviewing permit applications, and performing compliance and enforcement activities. City will be the responsible agency to inspect, monitor and if needed enforce.

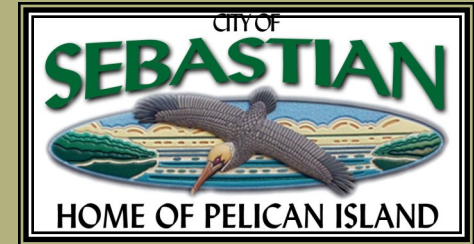
## City Ordinance

The City of Sebastian's Ordinance for violators states, "Owner must fix violation in a given amount of time. The City of Sebastian adopted an Ordinance No 0-13-11 which states Notice of Violation to the responsible person may be fined for the administrative, inspection and remediation cost and may be required to implement Best Management Practice (BMP).

For More Information Contact

Call Citizen Request (772) 581-0111

# Illicit Discharge and Pollution Prevention For Sebastian



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## What is an Illicit Discharge?

An illicit discharge is an unlawful act of disposing, dumping, spilling, emitting, or other discharge of any substance other than storm water into the storm water drainage system. The storm water drainage system includes streets, ditches, catch basins, yard inlets, lakes, and streams.

### Mode of Entry into the Storm Drain System

Illicit Discharges can be further classified based on how they enter the storm drain system. The mode of entry can either be direct or indirect.

Direct entry means that the discharge is directly connected to the storm drain pipe through a sewage pipe, shop drain, or other kind of pipe.



Direct entry usually produces discharges that are continuous or intermittent. Direct entry usually occurs when two different kinds of "plumbing" are improperly connected. The three main situations where this occurs are:

Sewage cross-connections: A sewer pipe that is improperly connected to the storm drain system produces a continuous discharge of raw sewage to the pipe (Figure 1). Sewage cross-connections can occur in catch-



ments where combined sewers or septic systems are converted to a separate sewer system, and a few pipes get "crossed".

Straight pipe: This term refers to relatively small diameter pipes that intentionally bypass the sanitary connection or septic drain fields, producing a direct discharge into open channels or streams.

Industrial and Commercial Cross-connection: These occur when a drain pipe is improperly connected to the storm drain system producing discharge of wash water process water or other inappropriate flows into the storm drain pipe. Older industrial areas tend to have a higher potential for illicit cross-connections.

Indirect entry means that flows generated outside the storm drain system enter through storm drain inlets or by infiltrating through the joints of the pipe. Generally, the indirect modes of entry produce intermittent or transitory discharges, with the exception of ground water seepage. The five main modes of indirect entry for illicit discharges include:

1. Groundwater seepage into the storm drain pipe.
2. Spills that enter the storm drain system at an inlet. An example is an accident spill.
3. Dumping a liquid into a storm drain inlet.
4. Outdoor washing activities that create flow to a storm drain inlet.
5. Non-target irrigation from landscaping or lawns that reaches the storm drain system.



## Types of Illicit Discharges from Commercial Generating Sites

- Outdoor washing.
- Disposal of kitchen oil and grease in storm drains
- Disposal of food.
- Car fueling, repair and washing into storm drains.
- Parking lot power washing.
- Poor dumpster management.

## Implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan

Businesses should start by evaluating their most frequently used chemicals and toxics. Their pollution prevention plans must then address source reduction, reuse and recycling, and energy consumption. While plans must be customized to each situation and community, most of these methods can be applied anywhere. The City will monitor and inspect businesses for BMP measures.

## Source Reduction

- Incorporating environmental considerations into the design of products, buildings, and manufacturing systems increases resource efficiency.
- Rethinking daily operations and maintenance activities can help industries eliminate wasteful management practices that increase costs and cause pollution.
- Reducing the amount of water used in cleaning or manufacturing can reduce the amount of wastewater produced.
- Re-engineering and redesigning a facility or an operation allows it to take advantage of newer, cleaner and more efficient equipment.
- Buying the correct amount of raw materials will decrease the amount of excess materials discarded (for example, paints that have a specified shelf life).
- When possible, businesses should cover pollutants stored outdoors to limit their contact with rain.

## Reuse/Recycling

- Alternative materials for cleaning, coating, lubrication, and other production processes can provide similar results while preventing costly hazardous waste generation, air emissions, and worker health risks.
- Using "green" products decreases the use of harmful or toxic chemicals. Green products are also frequently more energy efficient than other products.
- One company's waste may be another company's raw materials. Finding markets for waste can reduce solid waste, lessen consumption of virgin resources, increase income for sellers, and provide an economical resource supply for the buyers.
- Recycling paper products, glass, and paper saves money and reduces waste.