



## Why Should I Care?

Stormwater runoff can easily become polluted by metals, chemicals, sediment, fertilizers, and trash it picks up as it flows. Business and Industrial activities may contribute to stormwater pollution (such as vehicle and equipment maintenance, improper disposal of hazardous waste, and more) during daily operations. Waste, residues, and byproducts from these activities enter storm drains, and flow into creeks and rivers harming aquatic life and impacting water quality.

## What is Brookings doing?

We continue to develop and implement programs to reduce non-storm water discharges into area creeks and streams.

- Clean approximately 10,000 feet of storm sewer and 500 storm drains every year
- Inspects creeks and channels annually for dry weather discharges
- Regulate and/or permit all industrial users served by the City to ensure compliance with federal and local regulations.
- Monitor industrial waste discharge activities of users by conducting routine industrial pretreatment inspections.

## Who We Are

The City of Brookings Engineering Department is responsible for stormwater management to protect the public's health and safety.

If you notice incidents of water pollution such as illegal dumping or spills, please contact:

City of Brookings Engineering Department  
520 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 140  
Brookings, SD 57006  
Phone: (605) 692-6629  
Email: [jlanning@cityofbrookings.org](mailto:jlanning@cityofbrookings.org)

## New in 2018: Changes to the South Dakota Construction Stormwater Program.

There are several changes proposed by the SDDENR for the Stormwater Permit Fees for Construction Sites. Please refer to the SD DENR website for details at <https://denr.sd.gov/des/sw/stormwater.aspx>.

# STORMWATER DISCHARGE

## How does my business contribute to stormwater pollution?

If stormwater flows off your property, you may be adding pollutants to stormwater runoff. The following information can help you reduce stormwater runoff and pollutant concentrations that result from business or industrial operation.

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## What is an Illicit Discharge?

An illicit discharge is any discharge to the storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater (rainwater or snow melt). An illicit discharge or connection may result from:

- Illegal dumping practice i.e., improper disposal of hazardous waste.
- A direct connection from the sanitary sewer to the storm sewer.
- Indirect connection from improper surface discharges to the storm sewer i.e., hosing down outdoor areas on a parking lot or other impervious surface.

## How can I prevent illicit discharges or connections from my business?

Since business and industrial facilities have the potential to impact stormwater by improper day-to-day activities, implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) is a tool you can employ to minimize pollution and protect our environment. Here are a few simple practices you can follow:

## Waste Management

Good housekeeping is required to keep pollutants out of stormwater.

- Recycle or properly dispose of waste.
- Place waste receptacles and materials under cover, if possible, or cover with a lid.
- Regularly inspect waste receptacles for structural damage or leaks.
- Keep waste collection areas clean and clean up spills immediately.
- Keep storm drains clear of debris, dirt, or other waste.
- Store containers under cover or ensure lids are clean and leak proof.



## Local Business Partners

Implement facility inspection protocols that protect stormwater quality such as:

- Know and maintain a site plan of the facility identifying sanitary and storm sewer connections.
- Label storm drains on site to discourage improper disposal and train employees on BMPs.
- Verify interior floor drains are plumbed to the sanitary sewer.
- Regularly inspect equipment and/or vehicles for leaks.
- Minimize the use of landscaping chemicals and ensure proper disposal of yard waste.
- Routinely sweep parking lots and pick up litter.

## Fleet Maintenance and Vehicle Washing

Oil, grease, dirt, wastewater and other fluids can pollute stormwater runoff when we service our vehicles and equipment. You should:

- Perform activities indoors if possible, to protect from rain/snow.
- Store equipment or vehicles under cover to protect from the elements.
- Check for leaks and repair promptly. Use a catch pan to capture leaks and drips.
- During cleaning, wash water discharges into the sanitary sewer.
- Wash bay is covered to keep stormwater out of the sanitary sewer.
- Use biodegradable, phosphate free detergents.
- Post signs to clearly identify the vehicle/equipment cleaning area.

## Spill Prevention and Cleanup

Develop a policy to address the impact from an accidental spill.

- Store hazardous materials away from high traffic areas to avoid spills.
- Keep all outdoor drums, dumpsters and tanks in a bermed area.
- Contain and clean up all spills immediately using dry methods.
- Do not hose down spill materials to the storm sewer.
- Use absorbents and sweep to pick up fluids.
- Keep spill kits stocked and readily accessible.
- Train employees on cleanup procedures.