MAMARONECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
1000 WEST BOSTON POST ROAD
MAMARONECK, NY 10543

ILLICIT DISCHARGES
JUNE 2024

SPDES PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES FROM MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS
GP-0-24-001

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR STORMWATER COORDINATOR:

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914-220-3081

OR AT
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1. THE SPDES GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES FROM MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4s)

The SPDES General Permit for MS4s authorizes the discharge of stormwater from municipal separate storm sewer systems located within designated urbanized areas to surface waters of the State. The MS4 GP includes six minimum control measures that when implemented are expected to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable in order to improve water quality and recreational use of waterways.

2. WHAT DISCHARGES ARE COVERED?

The SPDES general permit authorizes the discharge of stormwater:

- Within permit limitations
- From sources listed in the permit
- Through outfalls listed in the permit
- That do not violate Environmental Conservation Law (section 17-0501).

Non-stormwater discharges the following are also authorized under this permit provided they do not violate ECL 17-0501:

- Fire hydrant flushing
- Potable water sources
- Irrigation drainage
- Lawn watering
- Uncontaminated infiltration

- Leakage from raw water conveyance systems
- Routine external building wash down
- Vehicle washing which does not use detergents
- Pavement wash waters where spills or leaks of toxic material, other than minor and routine releases from motor vehicles have occurs, and no detergents are used
- Air conditioning and steam condensate
- Springs
- Uncontaminated groundwater
- Foundation or footing drains where flows are not contaminated

2. WHAT ARE ILLICIT DISCHARGES?

Illicit discharges are any discharge into an MS4 that is not entirely composed of stormwater, except for those mentioned above. Examples of illicit discharges include:

- Non-permitted sanitary sewage
- Garage drain effluent
- Waste motor oil
- Laundry wastewater
- Pesticides and fertilizers

An illicit discharge can also be any other non-permitted discharge which the MS4 operator or Department have determined to be a substantial contributor of pollutants to the MS4. If any discharge violates ECL 17-0501, that is also an illicit discharge.

3. WHY DO ILLICIT DISCHARGES MATTER?

Illicit discharges can significantly reduce the quality of our waterways, including our drinking water systems. Polluted waterways can cause the overgrowth of algae and deplete oxygen within a waterbody. Toxic fluids and pesticides can impact water quality and kill fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria can impact the health of our waterways, impacting human health and recreation opportunities. It is important to manage our discharges and ensure that our waterways are protected.

4. PROPER DISPOSAL OF COMMON POTENTIAL ILLICIT DISCHARGES

Common household illicit discharges include car washing runoff, driveway cleaning, dumping/spills. Lawn watering, swimming pool discharges, and septic tank effluent. In order to avoid illicit discharges, care must be taken to ensure proper disposal and handling of effluent.

- Septic systems must be serviced by licensed professionals who dispose of the waste at permitted treatment facilities. Inspections shall be conducted annually.
- Cars should not be washed in a manner than discharges runoff into the street, or no detergent should be used.

- Hazardous household wastes should be taken to permitted transfer facilities or treatment facilities.

If you are unsure of the nature of the discharge, contact your local town engineer or the NYSDEC for further inquiries.

3. HOW TO REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGES

If you have identified or conduced an illicit discharge, take the following steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of the discharge:

- Notify the correct emergency response agencies of the occurrence;
- In the event of a non-hazardous material, inform the municipality of the discharge;
- The Town of Mamaroneck Environmental Coordinator, Elizabeth Aitchison can be reached at: 914-381-7845, or emailed at EAitchison@TownofMamaroneckNY.org
- If the discharge emanates from a commercial or industrial establishment, the owner or operator mush retain an on-site written record of the discharge and the actions taken to prevent its recurrence.

Accordingly, you should contact your local NYDEC representative for more information on MS4s, permitting, and illicit discharges.

REMEMBER ANY WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICE YOU ADOPT, WILL HELP PROTECT AND MANAGE OUR WATER RESOURCES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.