



Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination



What is an Illicit Discharge?

Any activity that results in a discharge to the City of Aberdeen stormwater system or receiving waters that is not composed entirely of stormwater, with exception of the following allowable discharges:

Allowable Discharge

- Water line flushing
- Landscape irrigation
- Diverted stream flows
- Rising groundwater
- Uncontaminated groundwater
- Irrigation water
- Water from crawl spaces
- Lawn watering
- Residential vehicle washing
- Street wash waters
- Dechlorinated swimming pool
- Emergency fire fighting

Examples of Illicit Discharges

- Sanitary wastewater
- Effluent from septic tanks
- Commercial car wash water
- Improper oil disposal
- Radiator flushing disposal
- Laundry wastewater
- Spills from roadway accidents
- Improper disposal of auto or household toxins
- Pet waste
- Yard waste

What is the City of Aberdeen doing?

KCI Technologies was hired to target the outfalls with the highest potential for pollution, conduct an investigation to look for illicit discharges, identify what the illegal pollutant is, track the pollutant to its source, and assist the City with its elimination.



Why are IDDE Efforts Necessary?

Illicit discharges enter the storm sewer system three ways:

1. Direct connections from wastewater pipes.
2. Indirectly from infiltration by cracked sanitary pipes or spills.
3. Oil, household waste, pesticides/fertilizers and pet waste dumped on purpose.

The result is untreated discharges that contain pollutants, including oil, heavy metals, bacteria, and excess nutrients from fertilizer, which can harm our water quality, wildlife, and human health.

The City of Aberdeen is required under a federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit to find and eliminate these problems.