

## TO REPORT AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE CONTACT:

**ECSD No. 6**  
**David Hojnacki**  
**Sewer District Manager**  
**(716) 823 – 8188**

### Things You Can Do to Protect Water Quality

- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Use fertilizers sparingly; sweep up any excess from driveways, sidewalks and roads
- Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Pick up after your pet
- Direct downspouts onto grassy areas away from paved surfaces
- Check vehicles for leaks
- Wash vehicles on grass instead of on the driveway, or take your car to the car wash
- Never drain pool water directly into a body of water. Always test the pool water first to ensure that pH levels are normal (6.5- 7.8), and chlorine levels are not detectable

## Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination (IDDE):

### A Citizen's Guide to Identifying & Preventing Stormwater Pollution



*The City of Lackawanna corporate lines are one and the same as ECSD No. 6 boundaries.*

### FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR LOCAL STORMWATER PROGRAM, CONTACT:

**ECSD No. 6**  
**Benjamin Noonan**  
**Assistant Sanitary Engineer**  
**(716) 858-8456**



## Erie County Sewer District (ECSD) No. 6

The ECSD No. 6 has developed a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP). It is available, under the "Education Center" tab and "Stormwater" at: [erie.gov/dsm](http://erie.gov/dsm)

The intent of the SWMP is to protect the waterways and enhance the quality of life in ECSD No. 6.

Stormwater runoff within the bounds of ECSD No. 6 directly impacts both Smokes Creek and Lake Erie.

The south branch - Smokes Creek has been identified as an impaired waterway. The pollutants of concern leading to this impairment designation are silt/sediment and phosphorus. The goal of the ECSD No. 6 is to identify existing resources and develop programs to reduce the negative impacts of stormwater pollution.

## Stormwater

Stormwater runoff is water from rain or melting snow that does not infiltrate into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns. Municipal storm sewer systems— storm drain inlets, pipes and ditches - collect stormwater runoff and convey it directly to a natural outlet, such as a creek, stream, river, or other types of local bodies of water. Ideally, stormwater runoff is contaminant free; however, it can pick up pollutants such as soil, animal waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, and debris and transport them to waterways where they are discharged with no treatment. This is one form of stormwater pollution. The stormwater systems in most areas, including ECSD No. 6, do not have the capability to clean or filter contaminants.

### The “Illicit Discharge”

An illicit discharge is any discharge to a municipal storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater. Pollutants end up in storm sewer systems in several ways, many of which are easily preventable. In some instances, companies and individuals have waste pipes tapped into stormwater pipes. In other cases, individuals use the storm drain inlets to dispose of various types of waste. Except in limited instances, disposal of anything other than

stormwater in storm sewers is illegal. It is important to remember that municipal storm sewer systems are not set up to treat or process anything and exist solely to transport rainwater to surrounding creeks, streams, rivers, and other bodies of water.

### Examples of Illicit Discharges

- Sewage
- Laundry Wastewater
- Improper Waste Oil Disposal
- Improper Disposal of Household / Commercial / Industrial Hazardous Waste
- Seepage from Septic Tanks
- Auto Leaks: Oil, Gas, Antifreeze, Brake Fluid, ATF
- Spills from Roadway Accidents

### Signs of Illicit Discharge

The point in a storm sewer system where flow is discharged into a body of water is a storm sewer outfall. In the case of ECSD No. 6 it is always a pipe; in other areas, it could be a ditch. If the outfall is flowing when there has been no recent rainfall, this may indicate an illicit discharge. Visible sewage waste, foul odor, suds or other evidence of contamination, are indicators that an illicit discharge is contaminating the storm sewer system.

Remember to keep an eye out for inappropriate amounts of discharge from stormwater pipes, **especially during dry weather.** This could be a sign that there is a problem and should be reported to:

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**Sewer District Manager**  
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