



Guidance for Prioritizing Stormwater Outfalls

1. Does the initial inspection information indicate evidence of an illicit discharge?
 - Any outfall with an identified discharge should be the first priority.
 - To search for outfalls where the initial inspection Bergmann conducted identified a potential problem, query the database for outfalls that have identified odors, structural damage, odd colors, floatables, or turbidity. The comment section for the outfalls where any of these problems were identified should provide a more detailed description of the problem.
2. What is the existing land use in the area or sewershed that the outfall drains?
 - Types of land use that should receive priority:
 - Industrial, potential for illicit connections as well as possible contamination from materials stored outside and any industrial processes or practices exposed to the weather. Areas where there are businesses which have industrial stormwater permits, or any type of permitted wastewater discharge as well as any areas where there may be known business sectors with a record of enforcement actions.
 - Heavy commercial use with large impervious parking lots, limited green space.
 - Areas which are under development and have a significant amount of construction activity.
3. Are there any environmentally sensitive areas downstream of the outfall?
 - Does the outfall discharge to a protected stream, Impaired Waters (303(d) and TMDL) or protected wetland?
 - Is the outfall located in an area associated with public use, access or recreational facilities?
4. Areas where there have been repeated complaints
 - Areas where illegal dumping or apparently contaminated discharges were reported in the past.



5. Structurally damaged outfalls. Especially where the damage or structural deficiencies may be contributing to the pollutant loading to the receiving waters during significant rain events.
6. Locations identified from ambient water quality sampling (if it exists)
 - The locations of high levels of particular contaminants (e.g., bacteria) can help to target priority outfalls.
 - Does the outfall discharge to a listed impaired water (e.g. 303(d) list)?
7. Outfalls located in older areas of the municipality
 - Older development may predate more stringent construction codes regarding illegal connections.
 - Older areas may have deteriorating sewer and/or storm sewer infrastructure.