Illicit Discharges & Illicit Connections to the Stormwater System
**Illicit Discharges & Illicit Connections**

An **Illicit Discharge** is the discharge of pollutants or other non-stormwater materials to storm sewer systems, through either overland flow or direct dumping of materials into a stormwater inlet or drainage ditch. Examples of illicit discharges that have occurred in the City of Jefferson include the dumping of used motor oil, leftover house paint, caked water softener salt, used anti-freeze, solid waste, leaves and grass clippings to name a few.

An **Illicit Connection** is the discharge of pollutants or non-storm water materials into a storm sewer system, through a pipe or other means of direct connection. The primary source of illicit connections that have been found, and which are corrected as they are identified in the City of Jefferson, are sanitary sewer laterals that were connected to the storm sewer system at some point in the past. Other potential illicit connections may also include wash water from laundromats or car washes, etc.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination as it pertains to citizens of the City is addressed in Chapter 31, Sections 31-400 through 31-440 of the City Code. It can be viewed electronically on the City website at http://www.jeffcitymo.org/clerk/documents/chap31.pdf or a paper copy can be obtained at City Hall.

Due to Federal and State water quality mandates of the Clean Water Act, illicit discharges and illicit connections are gradually being eliminated through inspections, clean-ups and re-connections, and through public education efforts.

The City of Jefferson storm sewer system is comprised of approximately 759,499 linear feet of pipe, 12,672 structures and 64,902 linear feet of improved channels. The City does not maintain open channels. Obviously, illicit discharges can occur within the City and easily be overlooked and go undetected. Members of the community are a great help to the City when they report incidents as they happen, so the illicit discharges can be addressed. If you observe an illicit discharge, please notify the Department of Community Development at 573-634-6410.