



# HOTSPOT INVESTIGATIONS FOR CLEAN STORMWATER

In order to manage stormwater runoff, Frederick County implemented the **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program** in 2015. Stormwater runoff is a result of a rain or snow event flowing over impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. This **stormwater runoff** conveys pollutants associated with vehicle maintenance, pet waste, lawn care, and litter into the storm drain system leading directly to our local waterways. When materials like used oil, trash juice from dumpsters, chemicals, or other hazardous materials are discharged, intentionally or unintentionally, into the storm water sewer system, this is considered an **illegal discharge**. Frederick County is charged with the responsibility to discover, document, and eliminate these sources of stormwater pollution.



Commercial Facility



Industrial Facility

In order to do this, and as part of the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program, Frederick County conducts **Hotspot Investigations**. These investigations are friendly visual surveys of commercial and industrial areas around Frederick County to ensure they are not contributing to stormwater runoff pollution. In conjunction with the investigation, the surveys will include an investigation form and photographs to document site conditions. Frederick County is mostly focused on operations regarding vehicle maintenance, outdoor material storage, dumpster and waste conditions, and overall proper housekeeping measures at your facility. A follow up meeting will be scheduled with the facility if potential illicit discharges are observed.

## HELP FREDERICK COUNTY PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION!

Frederick County aims to help inform businesses and citizens on how to identify, prevent, and eliminate illicit discharges.



- 1 Accompany Frederick County staff when hotspot investigations are conducted at your facility.
- 2 Learn about the acceptable and unacceptable conditions to minimize your contribution to stormwater pollution.
- 3 Ask questions about what you can do to fix the conditions around your facility.
- 4 Contact Frederick County Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources with any concerns – [sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov).

# THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

## Acceptable Conditions:



Covered Dumpster



Washing Vehicles in a Wash Bay



Using Secondary Containment



Covered Grease Bin

## Unacceptable Conditions:



Uncovered Dumpster



Washing Vehicles on Pavement



Not Using Secondary Containment



Uncovered Grease Bins



**The Tips for Green Businesses** is a publication of the Frederick County Division of Energy & Environment. For more information on this topic and about our programs, visit [sustainablefrederickcounty.org](http://sustainablefrederickcounty.org), email us at [sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov), or call 301.600.1416. Sustainable Frederick County is on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#).