



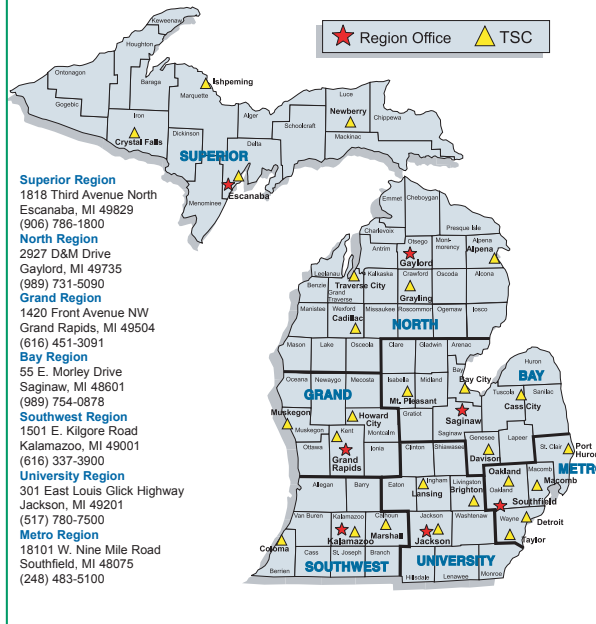
For additional information on what MDOT is doing to protect our lakes and streams and/or to get involved in local protection efforts, visit our Web site at:

www.michigan.gov/stormwater



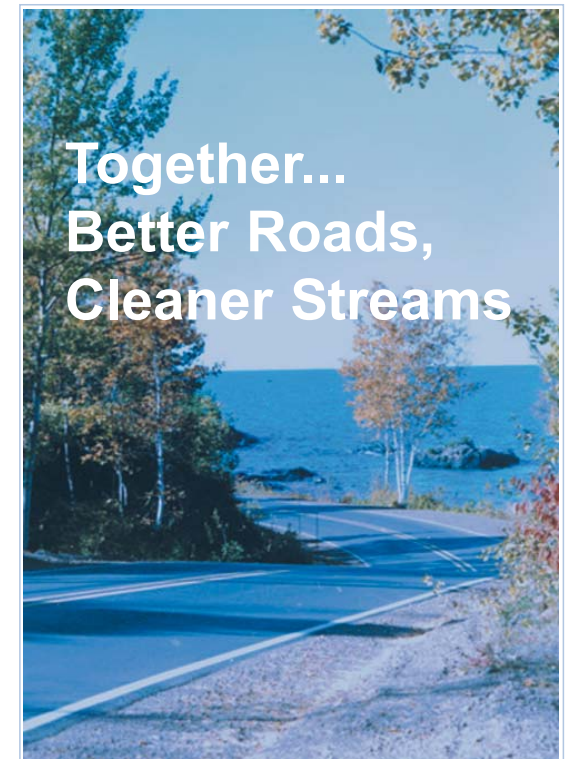
The view of Port Huron's Blue Water Bridge, located on the south end of Lake Huron, is just one of Michigan's beautiful vistas worth preserving.

MDOT Region Offices



WHAT IS A TSC?

Michigan has 26 Transportation Service Centers (TSC) throughout the state that provide local customer service to the general public. For the TSC nearest you, contact the MDOT Region Office for your county.



What Is Storm Water Runoff?

When it rains or snows, storm water flows over streets, lawns, fields and buildings to lower areas such as lakes, streams and wetlands. This runoff can collect debris, oil, grease, pesticides, fertilizers and other harmful chemicals that eventually make their way into our rivers, creeks or lakes.

Eventually, runoff from our state's highways ends up in our lakes, streams and wetlands. Although this runoff is generally cleaner than runoff from agricultural areas, urban areas and industrial sites, reducing storm water pollution is a priority for MDOT.

MDOT's Pollution Reduction Strategies

In compliance with recent U.S. EPA regulations, MDOT has developed Storm Water Management Plans for roadways in six major communities in Michigan: Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Sterling Heights, and Warren. These plans will help prevent pollution of Michigan's waterways by reducing pollutants carried to them by storm water runoff. Each plan outlines preventive actions to reduce pollution entering lakes and streams, providing mechanisms for identifying and terminating illegal connections to storm sewers.

What Is an Illicit Discharge?

An illicit discharge is an illegal connection or tie-in to a storm sewer. Municipal storm sewers are designed to convey storm water runoff to nearby lakes and streams to prevent flooding, but they are not designed to handle flow from sources such as gutter downspouts. Generally, there is no treatment to the runoff before it empties into a receiving stream. Dumping anything other than storm water into a storm drain is illegal and considered an illicit discharge.

www.michigan.gov/stormwater

Examples of Illicit Discharges

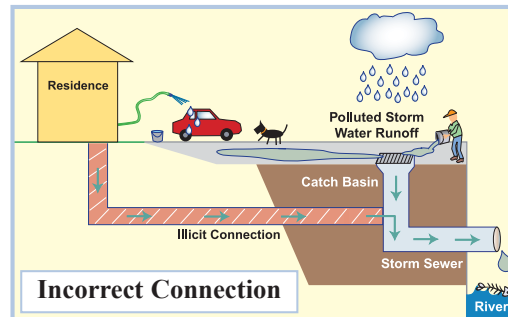
- Sanitary wastewater (sewage)
- Septic tank waste
- Car wash, laundry, and industrial wastewaters
- Improper disposal of auto and household toxics, such as motor oil and pesticides
- Spills on roadways and other accidents

Why Is an Illicit Discharge a Problem?

Illicit discharges allow pollutants to enter lakes and streams, causing public health concerns, unpleasant odors/color, and harming aquatic and animal life. Pollution can also lead to excess growth of vegetation.

How Do I Spot an Illicit Discharge?

- Look for makeshift pipes or hoses that lead to a storm drain or body of water.
- Watch for stains, unusual odors, structural damage to streets or gutters and abnormal vegetative growth in nearby lakes and streams.
- If you see water discharging from a pipe during a period of dry weather, **REPORT IT**.



How Can I Help Reduce Polluted Storm Water Runoff?

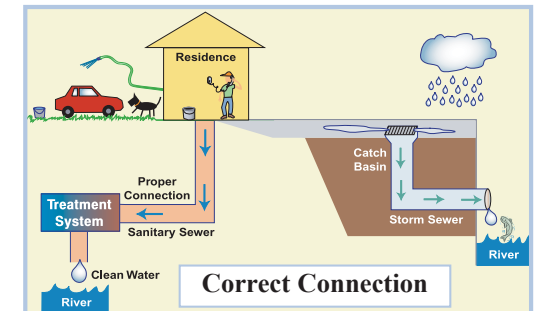
- Never dump anything down a storm sewer or drain.
- Take used oil to your local quick lube or auto shop.
- Dispose of pet waste in a trash can.
- Wash your car on your lawn so excess water, chemicals and dirt are filtered through grass and vegetation.
- Visit the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Web site to find out more about storm water runoff: www.michigan.gov/deq

Contractors working on or near sewer lines should contact the MDOT office in their region for details about how they can reduce storm water runoff resulting from construction activities.

To protect the quality of our streams and public health, report all illicit discharges. You can do this anonymously by calling the **PEAS** (Pollution Emergency Alerting System) Hotline.

Report Illegal Discharges and Connections!

Call PEAS at (800) 292-4706



Be Stormwater Savvy



Don't let a good drop go bad!
