

# West Donegal Township

## IDDEs



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### What IS an IDDE?

The West Donegal Township Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) is made up of a series of stormwater management facilities, inlets, pipes, swales, and outfalls that collect and convey stormwater. Ultimately, many of these discharges end up in waterways like the Conoy Creek, where water quality must be monitored to ensure health and safety. IDDE stands for Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, and an IDDE is anything that is discharged to a creek which is not stormwater or groundwater. This includes:

- Oil/Fuel/lubricants
- Sediment and construction debris
- Soaps or cleaners
- Sewage overflows

### IDDE Issues

Illicit, polluted discharges pose numerous threats to the waterways within West Donegal Township, including:

- Increased cost in treating drinking water
- Algal blooms that can harm aquatic wildlife
- Chemical pollutants that kill plants and animals
- Unsightly streams with unpleasant odors
- Expensive fines from the DEP and the EPA to fix the problems.



### Preventing Pollutants

Preventing illicit discharges and other sources of pollutants into the MS4 is the Township's ultimate goal. You can assist us by doing the following:

- Do not pour/dump chemicals, dirt, trash, or other items into the storm drain.
- Follow proper lawn care practices, especially in relation to fertilizer and herbicide/pesticide use.
- Do not apply chemicals to your yard or sidewalk/driveway before rain.
- Clean up and properly dispose of pet waste.
- Do not empty your pool into the storm drain unless it has been properly dechlorinated.
- Keep your sidewalks, driveways, and other impervious surfaces clean and free of debris.

### Reporting an Issue

Municipal staff cannot be everywhere all the time, so we rely on the help of residents to identify pollutants and discharges too. Stormwater discharge issues can start with a smell or color that just doesn't look right and a helpful resident to report it. Even if the discharge is allowable, staff would rather be safe than have hundreds of gallons of pollutants enter our waterways.

If you see or smell something that doesn't seem right draining into a creek or stream, please call the Municipality at 717-368-7178.

