



Did you know that anytime someone pours or sweeps anything into any Orlando street, parking lot or driveway, it will most likely end up in one of the City's lakes? Many Orlando businesses discard debris or discharge wastewater onto the ground and into the stormdrains which contributes to lake pollution.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STORMWATER SYSTEMS AND SANITARY SEWERS

A storm drain is a part of a stormwater system that collects rainwater from streets, parking lots and roof tops and in most cases,

discharges it untreated into lakes. If you pour or sweep washwater, paint, oil, litter, or food debris into a street or parking lot, they will eventually be carried into a nearby lake by the underground stormwater system. This is not to be confused with the underground sanitary sewer system which carries wastewater from households and businesses through a series of pipes to a sewage treatment plant. The sanitary sewer system is designed to collect and carry wastewater, the stormwater system is designed to collect and carry rainwater only.

All this polluting material can seriously damage our lakes by:

1. Depleting oxygen from lake water which causes fish kills.
2. Creating toxic conditions for fish and wildlife.
3. Adding excess nutrients to a lake, causing excessive algae growth.



ORLANDO'S ORDINANCE PROHIBITS DISCHARGE OF POLLUTANTS

In an effort to reduce lake pollution we have enacted codes that prohibit discharge of pollutants into city stormlines. Under the Stormwater Utility Code, Section 31.19 (1), the city prohibits the discharge of pollutants into the lakes or any part of the stormwater system, which includes streets, parking lots, and retention/detention ponds. Polluting matter includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Petroleum Products, including but not limited to oil, gasoline and grease
- Solid Waste
- Pet Waste
- Chemicals
- Paints
- Soaps
- Laundry Waste
- Steam Cleaning Waste
- Pesticides, Herbicides or Fertilizers

- Degreasers or Solvents
- Heated Water
- Sanitary Sewage
- Chemically Treated Cooling Water
- Antifreeze and Automotive Products
- Lawn Clippings, Leaves, Branches etc.
- Animal Carcasses
- Silt
- Acids or Alkalis
- Recreational Vehicle Waste
- Construction Materials
- Dyes (without prior written permission from the Utility Bureau)

- Any groundwater which contains phosphorus or nitrogen concentrations into which the groundwater is discharged.
- Any water which exceeds state surface water standards
- Toxic or Poisonous Solids or Liquids
- Solids in such quantities or of such size capable of causing interference or obstruction to the flow in the City's stormwater system.



Code Enforcement may include fines up to \$1,000 per day of violation and reimbursement for expenses incurred by the City in carrying out pollution abatement.



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP



To prevent polluting our lakes and avoid fines:

1. Promote Good Housekeeping Habits.

- Use dry cleanup methods
- Keep all wash water/wastewater inside

2. Educate Your Employees.

- Discharging wastewater outside of wash water is illegal
- Promptly clean up spills.

3. As an Employer You Can:

- Learn the Stormwater Utility Code
- Contact division for assistance with training materials
- Train employees on best management practices (BMP's)
- Have cleanup materials available at all times

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



The Streets and Stormwater Division will be actively enforcing codes dealing with pollutant discharges to storm systems. We would prefer to work with businesses to reduce pollutant loading to City Lakes as opposed to imposing fines through Code Enforcement action. Please feel free to contact the Streets and Stormwater Division at 407.246.2370 if you have any questions or need assistance in bringing your business into compliance with City Stormwater Codes.

REMEMBER... ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN!



CITY OF ORLANDO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
STREETS AND STORMWATER DIVISION

407.246.2370
cityoforlando.net/stormwater

BETTER BUSINESSES, BETTER LAKES



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