

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program

The Village of Lincolnshire is required to comply with the Phase II regulations of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) under the Clean Water Act. These regulations are designed to ensure surface waters are free of pollutants. The program targets homeowners and small businesses in an effort to stop them from disposing pollutants improperly by releasing them directly into the environment or into a storm sewer. Storm sewers, unlike sanitary sewers, go directly into the nearest river without being treated. When enough household chemicals, such as used motor oil and antifreeze, make their way into our waterways, they can kill fish and plants living in or near the water.

As part of the NPDES, Lincolnshire conducts an illicit discharge detection program. The program involves inspecting the Village's storm sewer when they should be dry, such as during a summer dry spell. If liquid is found in the storm sewers, the liquid is evaluated to determine its contents. In the event the liquid contains anything other than Stormwater, the Village traces the liquid to its source to determine the responsible party. The responsible party is required to take corrective action to eliminate the discharge. In some cases, the party may be fined.

If you would like to report a case of illegal dumping or have any other water quality concerns, call the Village at 847-883-8600. Remember, only rain water should flow through storm sewers.