

## Environmental Issues Definitions

**FDEP:** Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the governing body responsible for enforcing environmental regulations in the State of Florida.

**Best Management Practices (BMP):** Activities or structural improvements that help reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater runoff. BMP include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4):** is a conveyance or system of conveyances owned by a state, city, town, village or other public entity that discharges to waters of the U.S.

**De Minimis:** Small, minor, or insignificant spills of materials that occur during normal material handling operations (e.g., spills from unloading or transfer of materials, leaks from pipes or valves, minor leaks of process equipment, etc.).

**Stormwater:** Runoff occurring when precipitation flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater runoff from naturally soaking into the ground. These discharges often contain pollutants in quantities that could adversely affect water quality. Federal regulations require permits for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity, construction projects (disturbing one or more acre of land) and MS4s. These permits require controls to reduce the transport of pollutants in storm water to waters of the United States.

**Illicit Connections:** Any man-made conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface, that is connected to a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) FLR04E051 without a permit, excluding roof drains and other similar type connections, and allows an illegal discharge to enter the storm drain system.

**Illicit Discharge:** An illicit discharge is any contaminant directly or indirectly allowed to enter the University's storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater. This could be in the form of illegal dumping, construction-related discharges or by having an illicit connection.

Preventing illicit discharges can be accomplished by picking up trash and disposing of it properly, not allowing anything but stormwater to reach the storm drains and catching leaks before they hit the ground. To protect the quality of our public health and streams, please report sources of pollution you witness around the University's campus, examples may include:

- Dumping waste/oil or other vehicle fluids
- Suspicious debris covering storm drains
- Paint brush cleaning or dumping of paint waste