



The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines an illicit discharge as “any discharge into a storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.” When source pollutants reach and mix with stormwater, you have an illicit discharge to the storm sewer system, which drains directly to surface waters without treatment.

Please be cautious about what washes off your property and notify your local municipal office if you detect any illicit discharges in your area. Municipal contact information is provided on our website.

## Improper Mask Disposal and the Environmental Consequences

Perhaps you’ve skirted around a few. Walking to your parked vehicle, shopping cart in tow, and there it is—that black, white or light blue face mask discarded on the pavement. Fear may instinctively run deep, when confronted with the possibility that the mask we just removed could contain some contagious particles. “Dump it. NOW!”, some may think.

Protecting oneself is understandable. Adding more problems to the environment, however—not so much.

Most “disposable” face masks are made with plastic materials that once discarded can last in our environment for generations. When improperly disposed, face masks

containing micro-sized plastic fibers can smother environments and break up ecosystems—posing many risks to wildlife, local waterways, stormwater management systems, vegetation and people.

### What Can We Do?

- Carry a small plastic bag for mask collection and disposal
- Dispose of the mask in a nearby trash container
- Replace disposable face masks with reusable ones that can be washed

*Our future environment will thank us.*

### Examples of illicit discharge include:

- Automotive fluids (oil, fuel, antifreeze)
- Landscape waste (grass clippings & leaves)
- Cooking oil and grease
- Paints
- Solvents
- Pet waste
- Chlorinated pool water
- Sanitary sewer wastewaters
- Trash

### If reporting an illicit discharge incident, please include:

- Date and time of incident
- Location of discharge or dumping
- Digital photos or description of incident
- Vehicle make & model/license plate

## Important Guidelines for Pool Water Discharge



It's that time of year for enjoying backyard swimming pools! At the same time, property owners should remain mindful of important pool water discharge guidelines. Water from swimming pools and hot tubs often contains high levels of chlorine. Discharging chlorinated pool or spa water into streams (irrigation canals or ponds, etc.) is harmful to fish and other aquatic life. In addition, the discharge of any sewage or industrial waste, including swimming pool water, to any waters of the Commonwealth without a permit is a violation of the Clean Streams Law. The best place to drain your pool is in a grassed area for infiltration or down the home's sewer clean-out. The clean-out usually is located next to the house at the point closest to the city sewer line and usually outside a bathroom or kitchen. For more information, visit [www.wvsa.org](http://www.wvsa.org) (Stormwater Management/Best Management Practices Residential).



## Online Outreach at Your Fingertips



Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's (WVSA) website includes a section welcoming customers' **questions, comments, and or documentation** relative to stormwater management.

For online submissions, visit:  
[wvsa.org/stormwater-management/webforms/public-questions-comments](http://wvsa.org/stormwater-management/webforms/public-questions-comments)



## Convenient Payment Drop-box Locations



In the interest of public health and convenience, Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) has added several new drop-box locations for customer payments. In addition to its drive-through bay at its Business Office (179 Wyoming Ave., Kingston), drop-boxes have been installed throughout several municipalities.

For a complete list, please see the backside of your bill or visit [wvsa.org/billing-services](http://wvsa.org/billing-services).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WVSA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 20**  
**Tuesday, September 14**

Dates subject to change.  
Visit [wvsa.org/upcoming-events](http://wvsa.org/upcoming-events)



For more information on **WVSA** and its **services**  
Para más información sobre **WVSA** y sus **servicios**

**Business Office:** | **Sanitary & Stormwater**  
**570-820-9872** | **Divisions: 570-825-3416**

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