

# PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS FOR CLEAN WATER

## Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

### Why does it matter?

Illicit discharge carries pollution and chemicals directly into ditches and storm drains which connect to lakes, rivers and streams. Drainage in VLAWMO leads to Vadnais Lake: everyone plays a role in protecting this public source of drinking water.

### Illicit discharge is illegal dumping

- Illegal dumping in streets or ditches includes:
  - Trash, appliances, carpet, construction materials
  - Grass clippings and leaves
  - Waste water from carpet cleaning
  - Run-off from power washing in garages or parking lots
  - Concrete wash out from small projects (such as im proper fence installation)
  - Dry wall mud in streets
  - Dumping softener salt or janitorial cleaning such as mop bucket water.



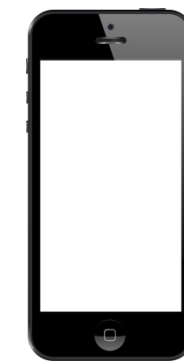
### What to look for

- Water flowing in storm sewer pipes during dry times:
  - Could be shallow groundwater seepage, which is OK
  - Could be illegal connections or dumping: is it clean?
- Mysterious looking outputs in a storm pond, stream, or lake



### What to do

- If you see illegal dumping happening, kindly and confidently stop the offender and explain what they are doing wrong and that they are polluting water.
  - Explain that storm drains are directly connected to lakes, rivers, and streams.
  - Explain the importance of Vadnais Lake.
  - Offer alternative solutions
- Document and take photos (include license plate).
- Report to the appropriate person:
  - Supervisor, City MS4 Coordinator, County staff (below)
- If no offender is on site, the right thing to do is allocate the time and materials necessary to clean-up the offense.



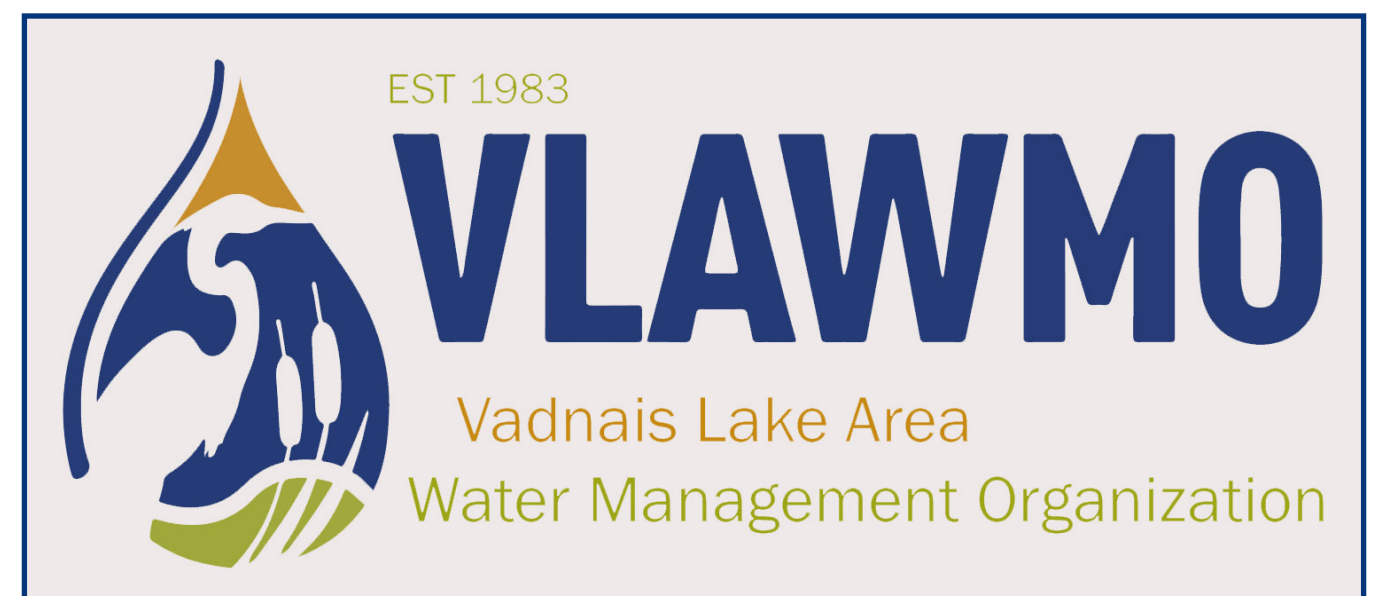
### Response procedure

If the illegal dumping is happening in the right of way:

- Ramsey County: Call the County Resource Specialist at 651-266-7162
- Anoka County: Call the County Engineer at 763-862-4213

DNR Conservation Officers

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/officerpatrolareas/index.html>



[www.VLAWMO.org/AGENCIES](http://www.VLAWMO.org/AGENCIES)  
(651) 204-6070