



*Division of
Administrative Affairs*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Policy #P&P-08

FAU Stormwater Illicit Discharge Policy

Version #1

Effective: 10/20/2023

Revised: New

1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to prohibit illicit discharges to the Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) Boca Raton Campus Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in compliance with Phase II of the Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.

2. POLICY STATEMENT:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) regulates known discharges of contaminants to surface waters in the state of Florida. To address this type of pollution, stormwater management regulations were established to reduce the impact of contaminated stormwater runoff from certain MS4s. Under the regulations outlined in F.A.C. 62-624, FAU's Boca Raton Campus is required to comply with these requirements.

As a condition of the stormwater regulations, regulated MS4s are required to prohibit illicit discharges. An illicit discharge is any discharge to the FAU Boca Campus storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater with the exceptions of State recognized exclusions or activities covered by a specific discharge permit. Examples of illicit discharges include, but are not limited to, dumping of motor vehicle fluids, paint, car wash water, and sediment from construction sites.

As part of FAU's commitment to environmental stewardship, all illicit discharges to the FAU Boca Raton Campus stormwater system are prohibited.

3. CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS:

3.1. Stormwater - Stormwater is a component of the overall water cycle. It is precipitation that falls to earth, some of which is absorbed into the ground, some of which makes its way into streams and rivers and then eventually to the oceans. Stormwater consists of rainwater or snowmelt but can also be water from a garden hose or other water source. Stormwater runs off a surface, like driveways, parking lots or rooftops, goes into a gutter, ditch or roadside drain and ultimately into the storm sewer drain system. In our area, stormwater doesn't go to a treatment plant so any pollutants carried in the stormwater are discharged into waterways and the environment.

3.2. EPA Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit - The storm drain system in our community is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit program. When this permit is issued, the EPA is giving approval to the community to discharge stormwater to surface waters – with the understanding that only clean stormwater will be discharged. Our community then becomes responsible for ensuring that nothing enters the system that can pollute our lakes, rivers, and streams.

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3.3. Illicit Discharge - Anything that enters a storm drain or directly into a river that is NOT uncontaminated stormwater is an illicit discharge (or non-permitted discharge) and is against the law. Non-permitted discharges contribute high levels of pollutants including but not limited to: sediment (such as from construction sites), heavy metals, toxics, oil and grease, solvents, nutrients, and bacteria to streams, lakes, and rivers.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES:

4.1. FAU President

The President assures that FAU maintains compliance with all state, federal, and local regulations related to environmental health and safety.

4.2. Employees, Students, Contractors and Visitors

4.2.1. Shall comply with all aspects of the FAU Boca Raton Campus' MS4 Permit.

4.2.2. To the maximum extent practicable, shall not discharge any contaminant to the FAU Boca Raton Campus storm sewer system.

4.2.3. Shall report any observed illicit discharges to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) or the University Police Department.

4.3. Colleges, Departments, Units, and Contractors

4.3.1. Shall take appropriate actions to ensure that unapproved materials are not discharged to the FAU Boca Raton Campus storm sewer system in the course of activities related to their operations or the operations of those working under their purview.

4.3.2. If illicit discharges are discovered within a college, department, unit, or contractor's jurisdiction, will ensure that the discharge has ceased and that appropriate measures have been taken to remediate the situation.

4.3.3. Will bear the financial responsibility of remediating any environmental contamination resulting from illicit discharges related to their activities or the activities of their employees.

4.4. EH&S

4.4.1. Shall respond to all reports of illicit discharge and take necessary actions to mitigate releases to include procuring and directing cleanup operations. If required remedial actions are beyond the ability of EH&S, a contractor may be called to complete the remediation.

4.4.2. Is responsible for notification of environmental authorities as required by law in the event of an illicit discharge.

4.4.3. Shall provide guidance to the FAU Boca Raton community regarding the prevention of illicit discharges.

5. ENFORCEMENT:

Version #1.0

(FAU – EH&S - P&P 08 – 10/20/23)


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Oversight and enforcement activities for this program are conducted by Environmental Health and Safety. Enforcement will be conducted in accordance with University Policy 4.1.2 Environmental Health and Safety and MAN16 FAU Stormwater Management Program Manual.

6. RELATED INFORMATION:

- University Policy 4.1.2 Environmental Health and Safety
- MAN16 – FAU Stormwater Management Program Manual (Formerly EH&S P&P22)

Approved and issued by order of:


Wendy Ash Graves
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

DATE:
10/20/23

POLICY MAINTENANCE SECTION

Last Revision Date	10/20/2023
Last Revision By	W. Ash Graves
Next Review Due	10/20/2026
Review Frequency	3 years
Version	1.0
Time-sensitive Items	

THIS POLICY RESCINDS ALL OTHER WRITTEN DIRECTIVES REGARDING THIS TOPIC.

7. RECORD OF CHANGES/STATUS CONTROL:

Version	Date	Summary of Changes	Reviewed By
1.0	10/20/2023	New Document to comply with EPA regulations for MS4 Phase II permit	<input type="checkbox"/> W. Ash Graves