

# Intro to Illicit Discharges

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For CEZOA

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# Agenda

- Introductions
- Stormwater
- Illicit Discharges
- Pictures
- Questions/Discussion

# Introductions

- Who is here?

- Why are you here?

It's okay if you're just here for AACCE credit.

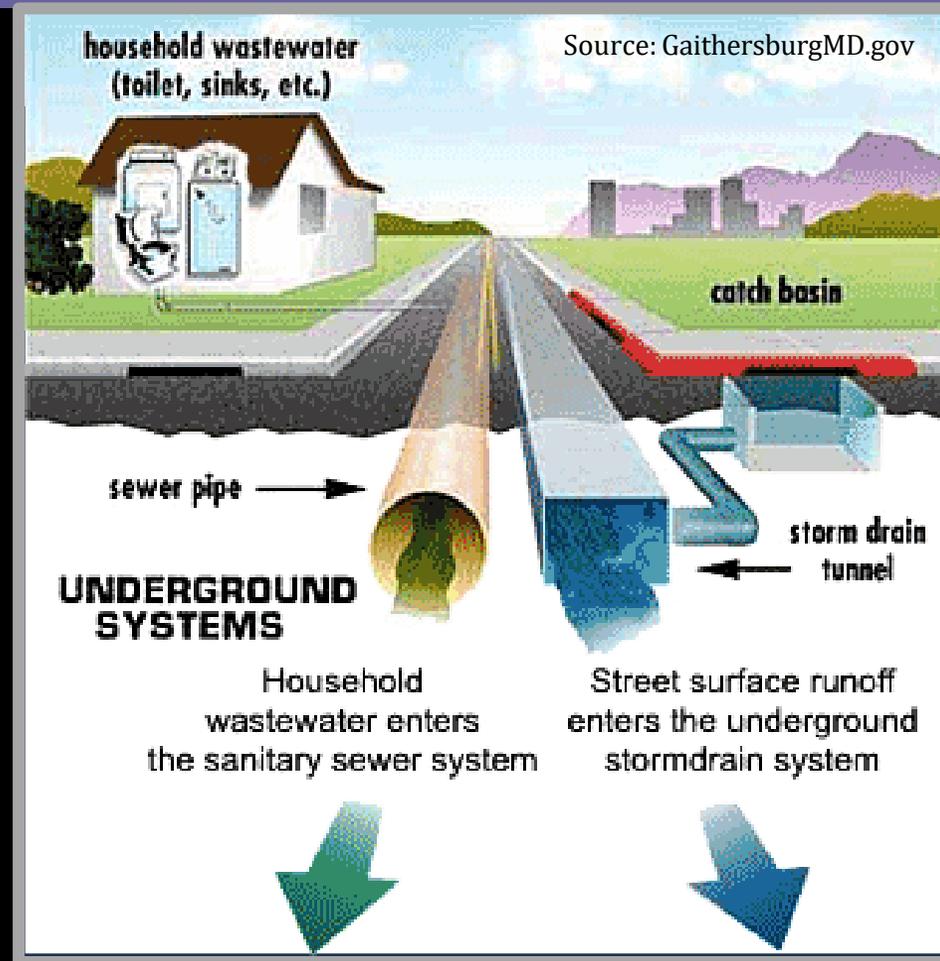
You'll still find it interesting and helpful...I hope

- What are we discussing?

# Stormwater 101

- Precipitation that enters storm drains
- Easily contaminated
  - Picks up pet waste, oil, soaps, sewage, litter, pesticides/fertilizers
- Is often not treated for pollutant removal
  - Depends on location, age of development, local regulations
- Biggest source of water impairments in urban areas

# Stormwater 101



a video speaks volumes!

<https://vimeo.com/354942534>

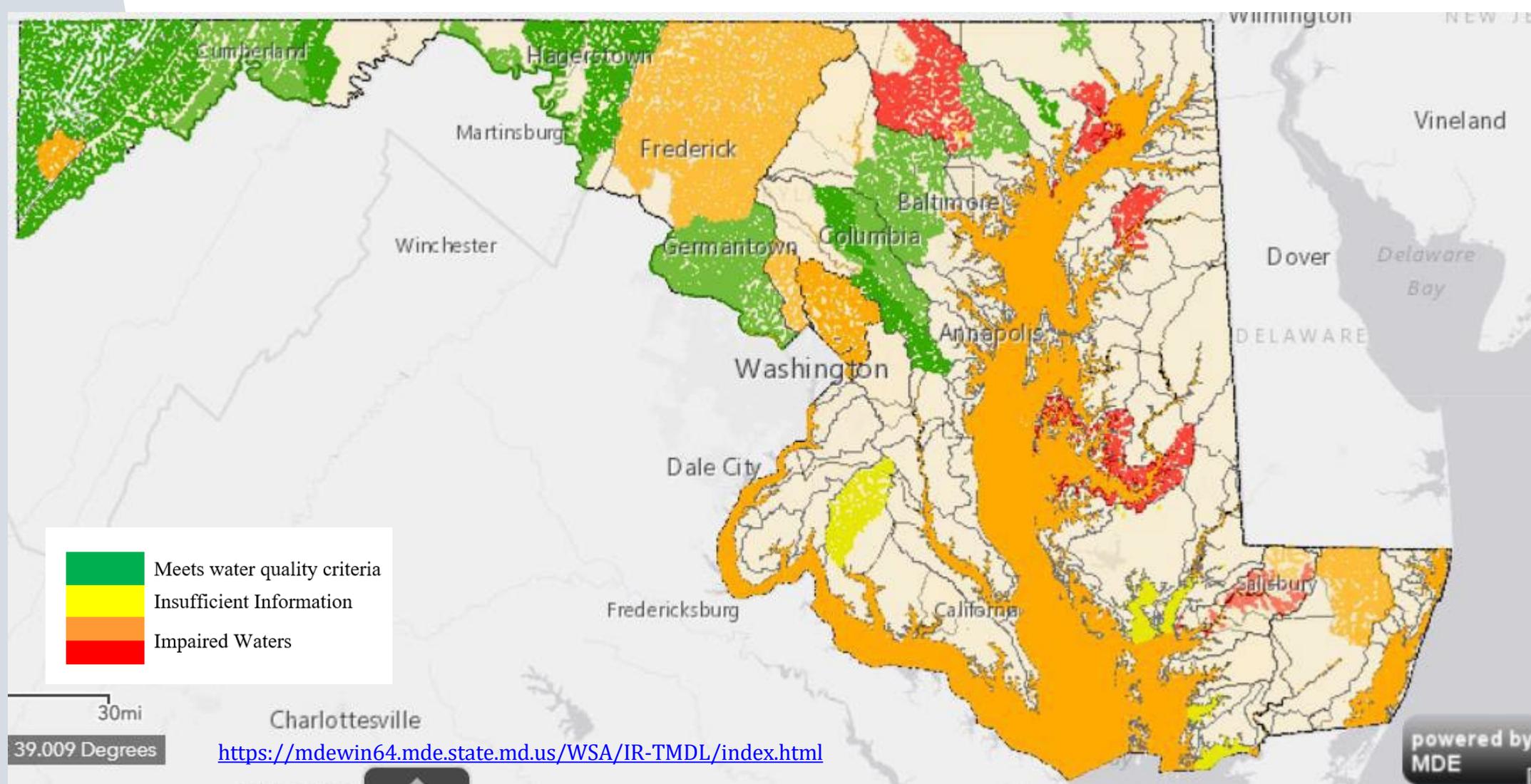
# Impacts of Stormwater



broken sewer near the



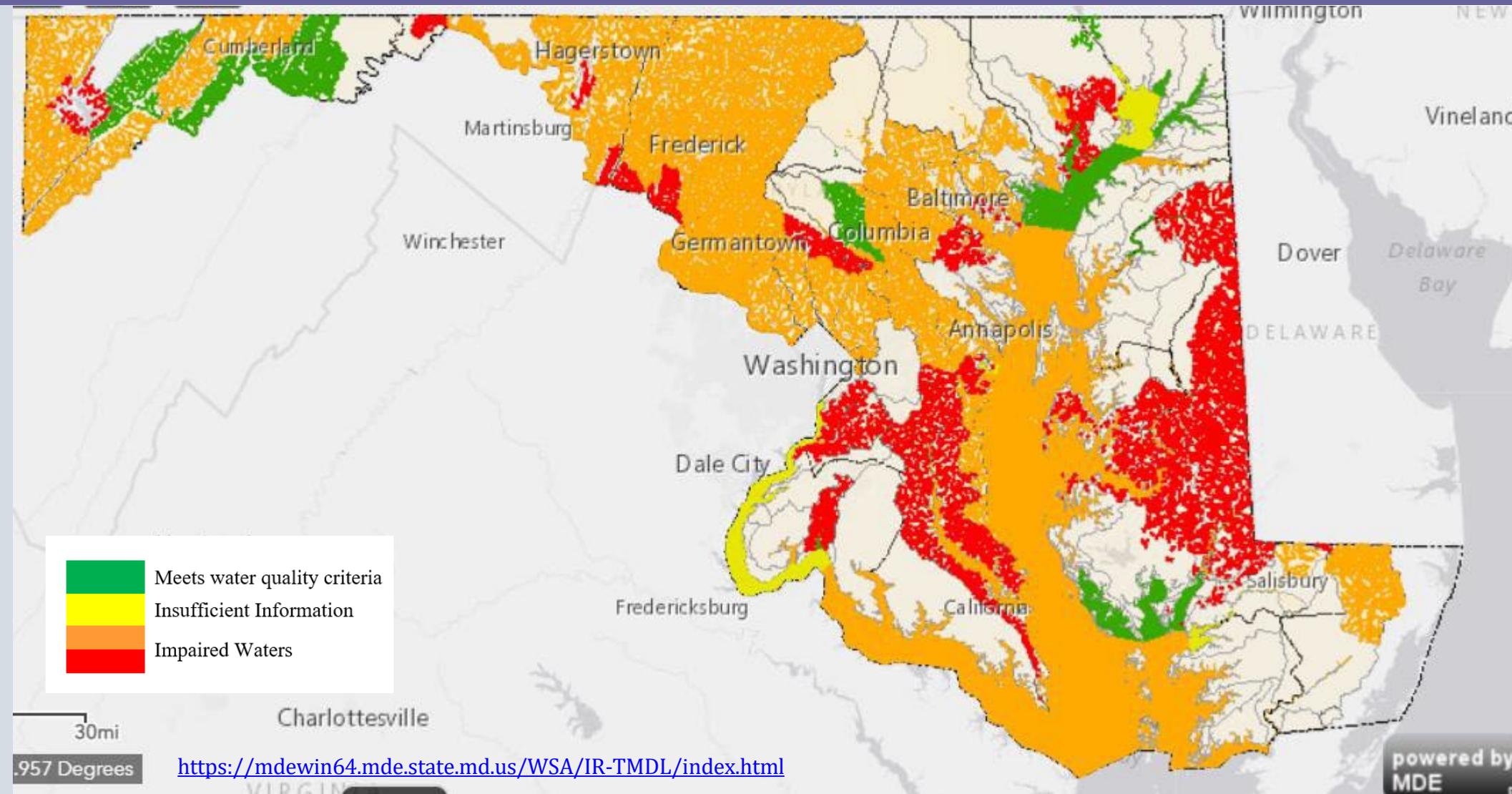
# Streams overloaded with nutrients



## Potential Sources:

- Pet waste
- Grass clippings
- Detergents
- Fertilizers

# Streams with too much sediment



## Potential Sources:

- Construction sites
- Streambank erosion
- Bare spots in yards

# Review and Question Break

- What is stormwater?
- How healthy are Maryland's streams?
- Why are we here?

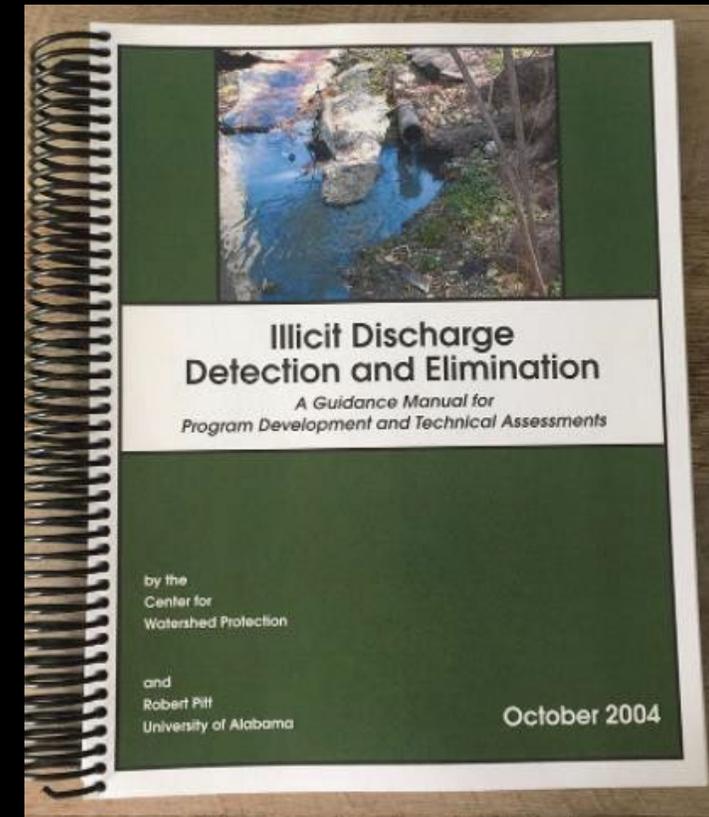
# The Solution: Federal Regulations

- 1972: Clean Water Act introduces the **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System**
- 1990: NPDES Phase 1 permits for large **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)**
- 1999: Phase 2 required permits for municipalities and smaller counties

# DISCLAIMERS!!!

- Variables (and acronyms) abound!
  - Permit and Code language
  - Co-permittees
  - Non-MS4 or CSS
- Interjurisdictional and interdepartmental coordination
- This is just an introduction

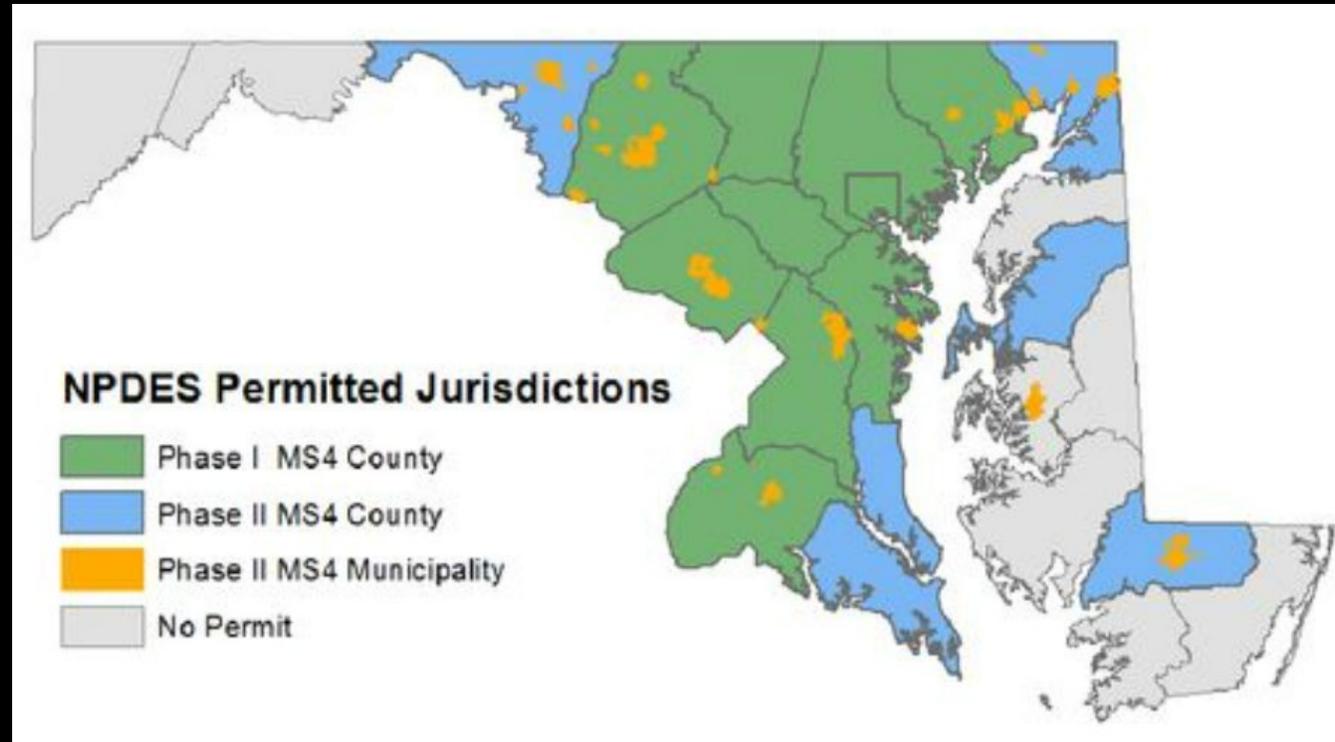
*Warning: you may never look at a shopping center the same way again.*



# NPDES Permit Basics

- Several different permits
- Applies to most communities in Maryland
  - Phase I (larger jurisdictions)
  - Phase II (smaller jurisdictions)
  - Certain State and Federal facilities
- Requires certain minimum control measures (PE&O, PP&I, IDDE, ESC, SWM, PP/GH)
- Requires annual reporting to the State

# MS4 Communities



# What's an Illicit Discharge?

(2) *Illicit discharge* means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities.

CFR Title 40 - Protection of Environment

CHAPTER I - Environmental Protection Agency

SUBCHAPTER D - Water Programs

PART 122 – EPA Administered permit programs: the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Subpart B - Permit Application and Special NPDES Program Requirements  
§ 122.26 Storm water discharges (applicable to State NPDES programs, see § 123.25).

# Exemptions (differ by community)

- Lawn watering
- Crawl space pumps or air conditioning condensation
- Swimming pools (if dechlorinated - typically less than one PPM chlorine)
- Non-commercial washing of vehicles
- Diverted stream flows
- Fire fighting activities
- Any other water source not containing pollutants (diverted stream flows, ground water)

# Where do I find illicit discharges?

- **Routine activities in residential areas**

Car Washing - Driveway Cleaning - Dumping/Spills (incl RV or boat holding tanks) -  
Equipment Washdowns - Lawn/Landscape Watering - Septic System Maintenance -  
Swimming Pool Discharges

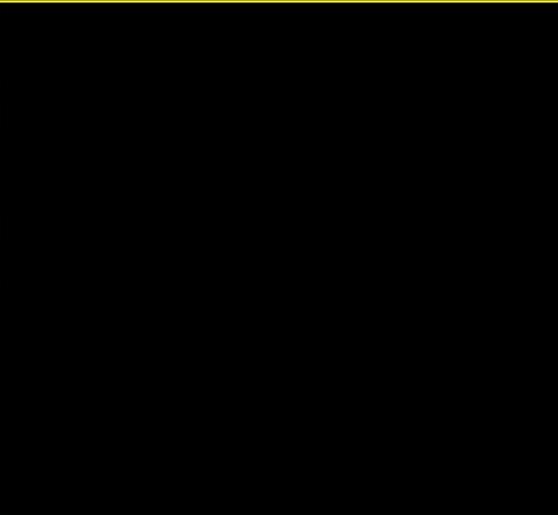
- **Routine activities in commercial areas**

Building Maintenance - Dumping/Spills - Landscaping/Grounds Care - Outdoor  
Storage - Parking Lot Maintenance (power washing) - Vehicle Fueling - Vehicle  
Maintenance/Repair - Vehicle Washing - Washdown of equipment and grease traps

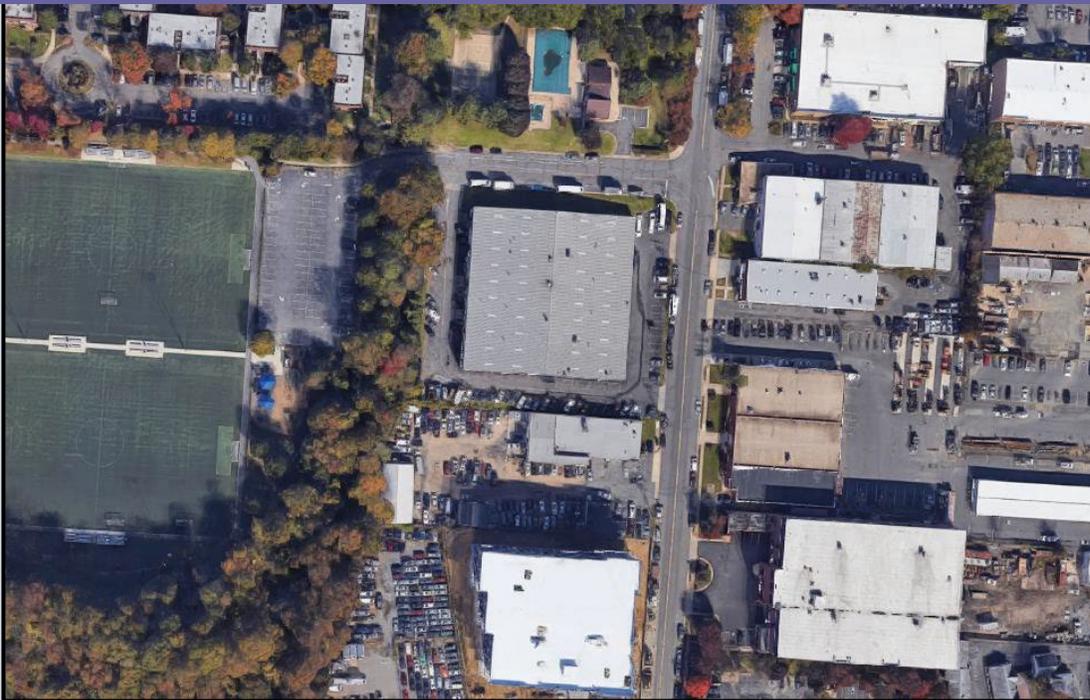
# How do I know if it's a problem?

- Telltale signs of an illicit discharge – odor, color, sheen, suds, turbidity
- Trust your gut. If it seems like something isn't right, check it out.
- Ask the experts
  - Your permit manager or MDE
- Accept your limitations
  - Illicit discharges can be tricky
  - Educational opportunity

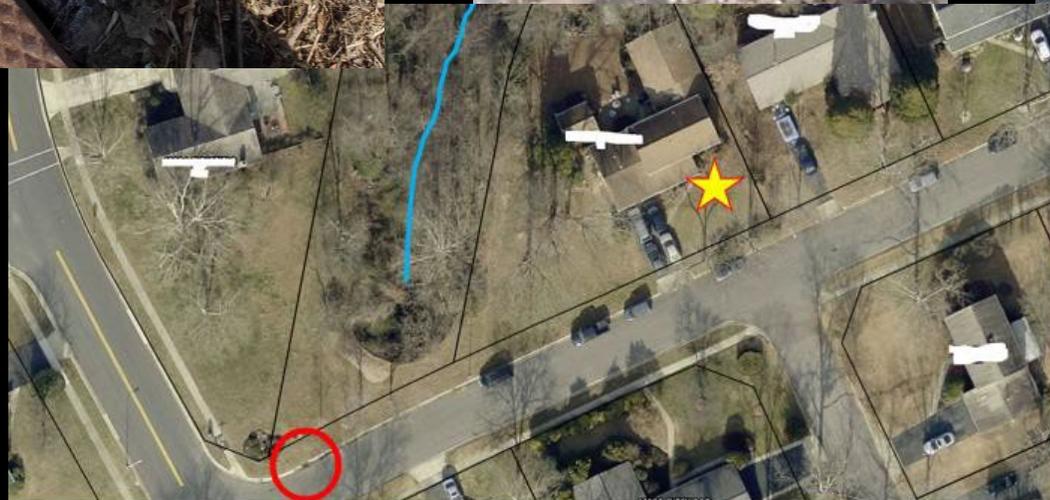
# Sometimes it's intentional



Sometimes it's subtle



# Sometimes they come to you



# Sometimes they don't ... surveying the community



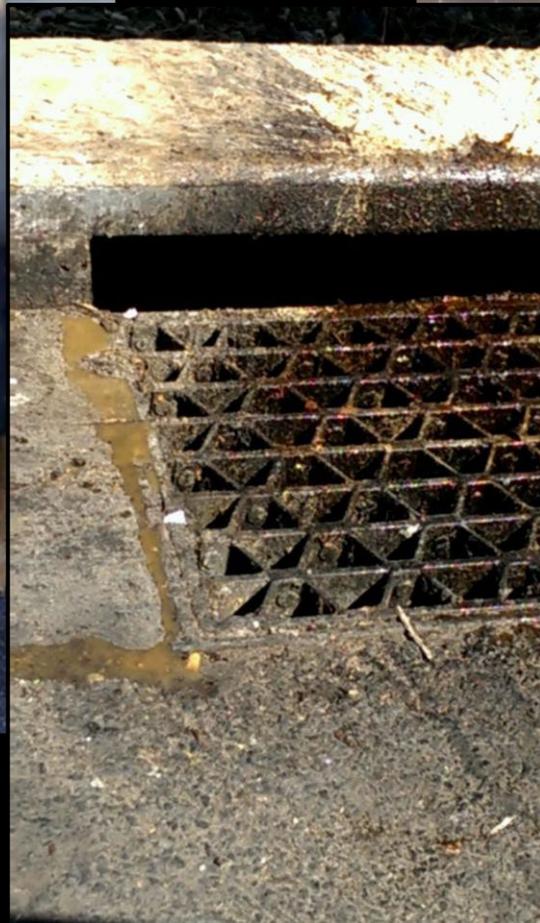
# Is it always restaurants!?!?



# Yikes!



But they are frequent flyers!



# Questions and Break

# Residential Areas



# Residential Areas



# Residential Areas



# How do I know it's a problem?



# How do I know it's a problem?



[arlingtonva.us](http://arlingtonva.us)



Last but not least...



# Quiz/Discussion

- Stormwater – what's okay to have in it?
- What's an illicit discharge?
- Where might you find one?
- What are some common sources?
- How do you find out if an 'oil sheen' is natural?
- Who do you call for help??

IN SUMMARY....

What Should Go Down the Storm Drain?

ONLY RAIN!!! 😊

Go! Find some illicit discharges!!

THANK YOU!

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