

	<b>FGCU POLICY 3.058</b>	<b>Responsible Unit:</b>  Environmental Health and Safety
	<b>Prohibit Illicit Stormwater Discharge</b>	

## A. POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy establishes the requirements to control discharge to the Florida Gulf Coast University (University) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in compliance with phase II of the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.

## B. REASON FOR POLICY

This Policy provides guidance to all persons on University premises regarding the operation of the MS4 on campus.

## C. APPLICABILITY AND/OR ACCOUNTABILITY

This Policy applies to all persons on University premises.

## D. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. *Contaminant*: Biological, chemical, physical, or radiological substance discharged in water:
  - a. *Biological Substance*: Organisms in water. Examples of biological or microbial contaminants include bacteria, viruses, protozoan, and parasites. Also referred to as microbes or microbiological contaminants.
  - b. *Chemical Substance*: Elements or compounds that may be naturally occurring or man-made. Examples of chemical contaminants include nitrogen, bleach, salts, pesticides, metals, toxins produced by bacteria, or human or animal drugs.
  - c. *Physical Substance*: Sediments or organic materials suspended in the water from soil erosion and litter and primarily impact the physical appearance or other physical properties of water.
  - d. *Radiological Substance*: Chemical elements with an unbalanced number of protons and neutrons resulting in unstable atoms that can emit ionizing radiation. Examples of radiological pollutants include the elements cesium, plutonium, and uranium.
2. *Illicit Discharge*: Any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater with the exceptions of provided for in rule or activities covered by a specific discharge

permit.

3. *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System* (“MS4”): A system of conveyances such as roads with Stormwater Systems, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, constructed channels, or storm drains, operated by the University, designed and used for collecting or conveying stormwater, and that are not part of a combined sanitary sewer or potable water system.
4. *Pollutants*: Man-made or man-induced alteration of the biological, chemical, physical, and radiological integrity of water.
5. *Stormwater Management System*: Structures and treatments (i.e., Stormwater System) to filter and treat rainfall runoff, which may carry Pollutants such as litter, oils, gasoline, fertilizers, pesticides, sediments, and anything else that can float, dissolve, or be swept away by moving water.
6. *Stormwater System*: The inlets, pipes, retention ponds, treatment areas, and discharge structures for managing rainfall runoff.
7. *Water Pollution*: The contamination of water bodies (e.g., ponds, lakes, rivers, oceans, aquifers, and groundwater). This form of environmental degradation occurs when Pollutants are directly or indirectly discharged into water bodies without adequate treatment to remove Pollutants.

## **E. PROCEDURES**

1. All employees, students, contractors, and visitors:
  - a. Shall not discharge any Contaminant to the ground or to the University Stormwater Management System;
  - b. Shall take appropriate actions to ensure Contaminants are not discharged in the course of activities related to their operations or the operations of those working under their purview; and
  - c. Shall report any observed Illicit Discharges to the University Police Department (UPD) or Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S).
2. Environmental Health & Safety and Physical Plant:
  - a. Shall respond to all reports of Illicit Discharges and take necessary actions to mitigate the effects of each Illicit Discharge to include directing cleanup operations and procuring outside resources, if required;
  - b. Shall notify environmental authorities as required by law; and

- c. Shall provide guidance and outreach to the University community regarding the prevention of Illicit Discharges.
3. The University shall conduct regular inspections of Stormwater System components.

## **F. VIOLATIONS**

Alleged violations will be addressed through the University disciplinary procedures applicable to the individual. Individuals who are not associated with the University may be subject to arrest and prosecution.

## **G. EXEMPTIONS**

The following discharges are specifically exempt from compliance with this Policy unless identified as a source of Pollutants:

1. Waterline flushing;
2. Landscape irrigation, including lawn watering;
3. Diverted stream flows;
4. Rising groundwaters and discharges associated with declared emergencies;
5. Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration to separate storm sewers;
6. Uncontaminated pumped groundwater;
7. Discharges from potable water sources;
8. Fountain drains;
9. Air conditioning condensate;
10. Irrigation water;
11. Springs;
12. Water from crawl space pumps;
13. Footing drains;
14. Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
15. Dechlorinated swimming pool discharge;

16. Street wash waters; and

17. Discharges or flows from emergency firefighting activities.

*Authority*

*33 U.S. Code §1251 (1972) Clean Water Act*

*Chapter 62-624, Florida Administrative Code*

*Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)*

*40 CFR 122 —EPA Administered Permit Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)*

*Section 403.0885, Florida Statutes*

*BOG Regulation 1.001, University Board of Trustees Powers and Duties*

*History of Policy*

*New 06/28/21*

**APPROVED**

          \*s/Michael V. Martin            
Michael V. Martin, President

          June 28, 2021            
Date