

	Florida Gulf Coast University	Policy: TBD
	Prohibit Illicit Stormwater Discharge	Responsible Office: Environmental Health and Safety

A. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy establishes the requirements to control discharge to the Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in compliance with Phase II of the Environmental Protection Agency’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. A Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) is a system of conveyances like roads with stormwater systems, municipal streets, 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 sewer or water treatment works system.

B. REASON FOR POLICY

This policy provides guidance to all persons on University premises regarding the operation of the Storm Sewer System on campus. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) regulates known discharges of contaminants to surface waters in the State of Florida. In an effort to address this type of pollution, the DEP promulgated stormwater management rules to reduce the impact of contaminated stormwater runoff from certain MS4s. Under Florida Administrative Code Rule 62-624, FGCU is required to comply with these requirements.

A requirement of the stormwater rules is that MS4s are required to prohibit Illicit Discharges. An Illicit Discharge is any discharge to the FGCU 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. As part of FGCU’s commitment to environmental stewardship, all discharges to the FGCU MS4 system are to be consistent with the Florida Administrative Code rules governing discharges into stormwater, and prevent any form of water pollution.

C. APPLICABILITY AND/OR ACCOUNTABILITY

The policy applies to all persons on University premises.

D. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. *Contaminant:* The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) defines “contaminant” as any physical, chemical, biological 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 contaminants include the elements cesium, plutonium, and uranium.
2. *Illicit Discharge*: The entry of any substance or Contaminant, other than storm water, into any storm drain or treatment area.
 3. *Pollutants*: Any substances in water, soil, or air that degrade the natural quality of the environment, offend the sense of sight, taste, or smell, or cause a health hazard. The usefulness of the natural resource is usually impaired by the presence of Pollutants and Contaminants.
 4. *Stormwater Management System*: Structures and treatments 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.
 5. *Stormwater System*: The inlets, pipes, ponds, treatment areas, and discharge structures for managing rainfall runoff.
 6. *Water Pollution*: The contamination of water bodies (e.g., 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 Contaminants.

E. PROCEDURES

1. All employees, students, contractors, and visitors:
 - a) Shall not discharge any Contaminant to the FGCU 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. VIOLATION OF REGULATION

A student found to be in violation of this Regulation shall be subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct and may be subject to arrest and prosecution. An employee found to be in violation of this Regulation shall be subject to discipline under Regulation FGCU–PR5.016, Disciplinary Actions, or the Collective Bargaining Agreement, as applicable, and may be subject to arrest and prosecution. Any other person found to be in violation of this Regulation may be subject to arrest and prosecution.

Related Information

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)
 Regulation FGCU-PR5.016, Disciplinary Actions
 Collective Bargaining Agreement

Specific Authority

Section 403.0885, Florida Statutes
 BOG Regulation 1.001(7)(e) and (8)(e)

History of Policy

New

APPROVED

*s/Rhonda J. Holtzclaw
 Rhonda J. Holtzclaw, Director

February 19, 2019
 Date