

Did you know that rainwater can pollute?

Let's protect our rivers starting on campus!

Stormwater is rainwater or melted snow that flows over land surfaces such as streets, sidewalks, parking lots, rooftops, and natural channels like the arroyo.

Misuse of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) can allow pollutants to enter rivers, streams, and natural channels such as the arroyo. This is known as an **illicit discharge**; any unauthorized release into the storm drain system that harms water quality and the environment.

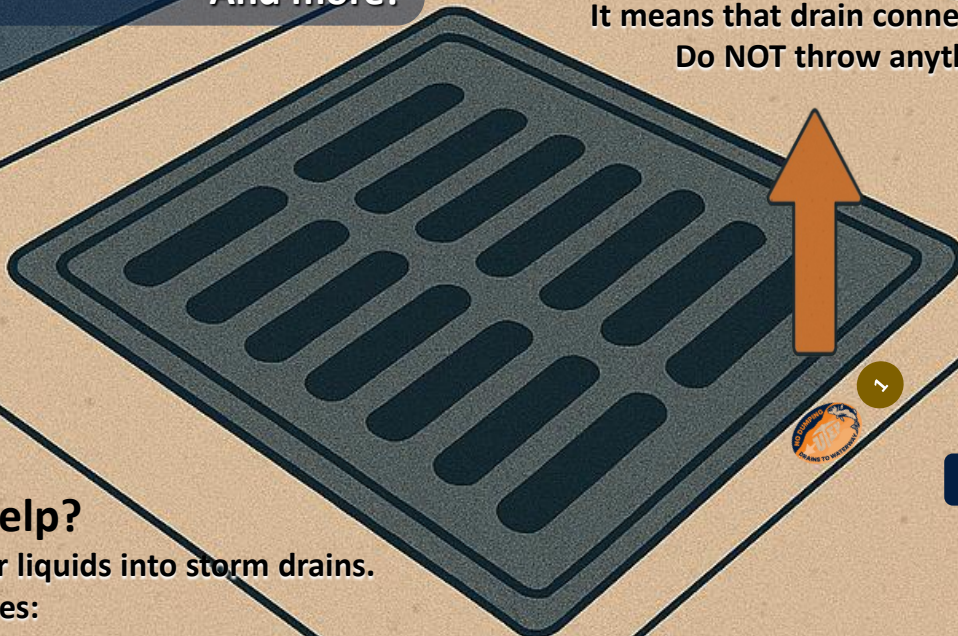
For example:

- Wash water containing chemicals, soaps, or detergents.
- Automotive fluids (oils, antifreeze, brake fluids).
- Fertilizers, pesticides, or yard debris.
- Outdoors washing activities (tools, equipment, vehicles)
- Paint, solvents, or pigments.
- Construction related residues (sanding dust, wood shavings, sediment, or mud).
- Leachate from trash bags or waste containers.
- Improper disposal of chemicals.
- Improper disposal of waste materials.

And more!



Have you seen this symbol on campus storm drains?
It means that drain connects to the river.
Do NOT throw anything in it!



Storm drains must be:

- Numbered
- Labeled
- Clean
- Vegetation-free

How Can You Help?

Do not throw trash or liquids into storm drains.

Report illicit discharges:

eh&s@utep.edu, 915-747-7124