

**CHAPTER 50
DISCHARGE OF POLLUTANTS TO THE
WATERS OF DANE COUNTY**

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50.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Dane County by preventing potentially polluting substances from reaching the municipal storm sewer system, lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater as required by federal and state law. This chapter establishes methods for controlling the discharge of potentially polluting substances into the municipal storm sewer system in order to comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act, Chapter 283.33, Wis. Stats, and Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System municipal storm water discharge permit program under Chapter NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code.
[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.02 AUTHORITY. This chapter is enacted pursuant to the authority of s. 33.455, Wis. Stats.
[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.03 ADMINISTRATION. This ordinance shall be enforced by Public Health Madison and Dane County or Land and Water Resources.
[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.04 APPLICABILITY. This ordinance shall apply to all surface and ground waters of Dane County. This ordinance does not apply to activities allowed by and in compliance with DCO Chapter 49.
[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.05 DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

(1) *Discharge* means any actions or omissions that cause or allow for the spill, release, escape

or other discharge, of any potentially polluting substance.

(2) *Illicit discharge* means any discharge of a potentially polluting substance directly or through stormwater that reaches a municipal storm sewer system, drainage way, wetland, waterbody or groundwater, except those authorized by a Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (WPDES) permit or other discharge not requiring a WPDES permit such as landscape irrigation, individual residential car washing, diverted stream flows, uncontaminated groundwater infiltration, uncontaminated pumped groundwater, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, and similar discharges. These and other discharge exceptions do not apply if the discharge is identified by Public Health Madison and Dane County as a source of pollution to the waters of Dane County.

(3) *Municipal storm sewer system* means a conveyance or system of conveyances including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, constructed channels or storm drains, which meets the following criteria:

(a) Owned or operated by a state, city, town, village, county, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law), including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the Clean Water Act that discharges into waters of the United States.

(b) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater.

(c) Which is not a combined sewer conveying both sanitary wastewater and stormwater.

(d) Which is not part of a publicly owned wastewater treatment works that provides secondary or more stringent treatment.

(4) *Person* means an individual, owner, operator, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, municipality, interstate agency, state agency or federal agency.

(5) *Pollution* means human-made or human-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological or radiological integrity of water.

(6) *Potentially polluting substance* includes any substance which may cause pollution if discharged to waters of Dane County, including but is not limited to, fuel oil, gasoline, solvents, industrial liquids or fluids, milk, grease trap and septic tank wastes, sanitary sewer wastes, storm sewer catch basin wastes, oil or petroleum waste, dredged soil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage or garbage leachate, refuse, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive substances, wrecked or discarded equipment, waste from mobile sources, industrial, municipal and agricultural waste.

(7) *Responsible Person* means the person or persons who cause a discharge of a potentially polluting substance, an illicit discharge or both. Responsible person includes the person on whose behalf the activity that results in the discharge was conducted, whether through employment of or contracting with the person who cause the discharge.

(8) *Stormwater* means runoff from precipitation including rain, snow, ice melt or similar water that moves on the land surface via sheet or channelized flow.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.06 DISCHARGE OR RELEASE PROHIBITED. It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow an illicit discharge, including permitting the escape of any potentially polluting substance into waters of Dane County, or into any municipal storm sewer system, or drainage way leading into any lake, wetland or stream, or to permit the same to be so discharged to the ground surface.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.07 CLEANUP OF POTENTIALLY POLLUTING SUBSTANCES. Responsible persons, including the person who causes a discharge of a potentially polluting substance through any means, including but not limited to delivering, hauling, disposing, storing, discharging or otherwise handling or maintaining potentially polluting substances shall be responsible for the immediate cleanup of any such spilled material to prevent its becoming an illicit discharge and causing pollution to the waters of Dane County.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.08 DUTY TO NOTIFY. Any person responsible for the illicit discharge or discharge of potentially polluting substances shall

immediately report the discharge to the emergency number for Public Health Madison and Dane County.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.09 FINANCIAL LIABILITY. Any person responsible for the illicit discharge or discharge of potentially polluting substances may be held financially liable for the cost of any cleanup or attempted cleanup deemed necessary by Dane County, or its designated agent, in an effort to minimize the polluting effects of the discharge and restore the environment.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.10 STORAGE OF POLLUTING SUBSTANCES. It shall be unlawful for any person to store any potentially polluting substances in a manner that allows it to escape onto the ground surface, or into the ground, municipal storm sewer system, drainage way, wetland, lake or stream.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.11 PENALTIES.

(1) Any person who violates or refuses to comply with the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$2000 and the costs of prosecution. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

(2) The corporation counsel is authorized to seek enforcement of any part of this ordinance by court action seeking injunctive relief. It shall not be necessary for the County to seek other remedies before seeking injunctive relief.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.12 EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this ordinance shall be November 16, 2021. The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to any discharge discovered or occurring after that date.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

50.13 SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any provision, clause, sentence or paragraph of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person, establishment or circumstances shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of this ordinance.

[History: cr., Sub. 1 to 2021 OA-17, pub. 11/15/21.]

END OF CHAPTER