

## Piedmont Virginia Community

### Policy Section III – Buildings, Grounds, and Facilities

#### III-8.1 NON-STORMWATER DISCHARGE POLICY

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Policy #:	III-8.1
Effective:	November 17, 2020
Revised:	September 25, 2020
Responsible Dept.:	Building, Grounds & Facilities Department

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#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the students, faculty, staff, visitors to the college and the environment through the regulation of non-storm water discharges. This policy establishes ways to control pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system to comply with the requirement of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for general permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4).

#### **Applicability**

This policy applies to all students, faculty and staff of PVCC, and contractors working on campus.

#### **Policy Statement**

The college prohibits any discharge to the college's storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater. A violation of this prohibition can result from any person doing the following:

1. Cause or allow any non-stormwater discharges, including but not limited to the discharge of sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes, into the storm sewer system, or any component thereof, or onto streets, sidewalks, parking lots, or any other areas draining to the storm sewer system.
2. Connect, or allow to be connected, any sanitary sewer to the storm sewer system.
3. Discharge any materials or item other than stormwater to the storm sewer system by spill, dumping, or disposal of any type without a valid federal and/or state permit or unless otherwise authorized by law.
4. Throw, place, or deposit or cause to be thrown, placed, or deposited in the storm sewer system anything that impedes or interferes with the free flow of stormwater therein.

The following non-stormwater discharges or flows occurring on campus shall only be considered illicit discharges if they are identified by the college with future updates to this policy as a significant contributor of pollutants discharging to the storm sewer system:

- Water line flushing, managed in a manner to avoid an instream impact;
- Landscape irrigation;
- Diverted stream flows;
- Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration;
- Uncontaminated pumped groundwater;
- Discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, water from crawl space pumps, springs, footing drains;
- Air conditioning condensation;
- Street wash water;
- Discharges or flows from firefighting activities;
- Discharges from noncommercial fundraising car washes if the washing uses only biodegradable, phosphate-free, water-based cleaners; or
- Other activities generating discharges identified by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality as not requiring Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit authorization.

Flows that have been identified by the Department of Environmental Quality as de minimis discharges are not significant sources of pollutants to surface water.

A. Prohibition of Illicit Discharges

No college employee, student, visitor or contractor shall throw, drain, or otherwise discharge, cause, or allow others under its control to throw, drain, or otherwise discharge into the college MS4 any pollutants or waters containing any pollutants, other than storm water.

B. Notification of Spills

To report improper discharges, or if you observe a person or persons introducing material of any amount into a storm drain, stormwater management facility or waterbody on campus, please contact the facilities manager immediately by calling (434) 961-5448.

C. Compliance

In the event that a discharge or flow is found to cause pollutants to be discharged into the storm sewer system, the college shall notify the person performing such activities, and shall order that such activities cease or be conducted in such a manner as to avoid the discharge of pollutants into the storm sewer system. The failure to comply with any such order shall constitute a violation of the college's prohibition of non-stormwater discharges to the storm sewer system and the

offending person may be subject to the college's established disciplinary policies and sanctions. In the case that the non-stormwater discharge also is conveyed through the college's storm sewer system to that of the downstream locality's storm sewer system, the person may also be subject to the locality's enforcement and penalties associated with local ordinances prohibiting non-stormwater discharges. PVCC will notify the downstream locality of the discharge.

#### F. Enforcement

Enforcement of the prohibition is implemented utilizing language within the *Standards of Conduct* for PVCC employees and *Student Handbook* for PVCC students.

#### **Definitions**

De Minimis – Small, minor, or significant spills of material that occur during normal material handling operations (e.g. spills from unloading or transfer of materials, leaks from pipes or valves, minor leaks of process equipment, etc.)

Illicit Discharge - Anything that goes "down the drain" (curb inlet, drainage ditch, directly discharged to a stream, etc.) that is not entirely composed of stormwater.

Pollutant – Any environmental substance other than rainwater and snowmelt that causes or contributes to pollution. Examples of contaminants prohibited for discharge may include but not limited to items such as trash, motor oil, gas, anti-freeze, animal waste, food waste, electronics, batteries, metals, plastics, etc.

Storm Drainage System – Any publicly owned facilities in which storm water is collected. This includes, but is not limited to, any roads with drainage system, municipal streets, gutters, curbs, inlets, piped storms, ditches, etc.

Stormwater - Water that originates from rain, including snow and ice melt. Stormwater can soak into the soil (infiltrate), be stored on the land surface in ponds and puddles, evaporate, or runoff.