

# Ordinance

No. 2017-01

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF OAKLAND, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 34 ENTITLED “ENVIRONMENT” TO CREATE A NEW ARTICLE VI ENTITLED “ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND CONNECTION STORMWATER REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, non-stormwater discharges into receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems pose a serious threat to the health and safety of all living things in the Town of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, non-stormwater discharges into receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems also increases the need for advanced and costly systems to remove or nullify the effects of contaminants introduced to our precious ground and surface waters; and

**WHEREAS**, non-stormwater discharges into receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems causes contamination of terrestrial and aquatic habitat, and does not provide a healthy living environment for citizens of the Town of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result, this Ordinance is needed as a local regulation to safeguard persons, protect property, prevent damage to the environment and promote the public welfare by development and implementation of guidance measures, regulation of activities, prohibition of dangerous practices, general good “housekeeping” practices, pollution prevention and educational practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly into stormwater, receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Commission finds that this ordinance bears a substantial relationship to the public health, safety and welfare of the town;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF OAKLAND, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1:** Chapter 34 entitled “Environment” is hereby amended to add a new Article VI to be entitled “Illicit Discharge and Connection Stormwater Regulations,” to read as follows:



**ARTICLE VI. Illicit Discharge and Connection Stormwater Regulations**

**Section 34-149. Purpose and Intent.**

The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the Town of Oakland through the regulation of non-stormwater discharges to the storm drainage system, to the maximum extent practicable as required by federal and state law. This ordinance establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) in order to comply with requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process. The objectives of this ordinance are:

- (1) To regulate the contribution of pollutants to the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) by stormwater discharges by any user.
- (2) To prohibit illicit connections and discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system.
- (3) To establish legal authority to carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to ensure compliance with this ordinance.

**Section 34-150. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

*Authorized Enforcement Agency.* The Town of Oakland or its employees or designees.

*Best Management Practices (BMPs).* A schedule(s) of activities, prohibitions of practices, general good “housekeeping” practices, pollution prevention and educational practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly into stormwater, receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems. BMPs also include treatment practices, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or water disposal, or drainage from raw materials storage.

*Clean Water Act.* The federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.), and any subsequent amendments thereto.

*Construction Activity.* Activities that require a NPDES construction permit(s). Construction activity includes construction projects resulting in land disturbance of one (1) acre or more and include but are not limited to clearing and grubbing, grading, excavating, and demolition.

*Hazardous Materials.* Any material, including any substance, waste, or combination thereof, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, a substantial present or potential hazard to human health,

safety, property, or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

*Illegal Discharge.* Any direct or indirect non-stormwater discharge into the storm drain system, except as exempted as otherwise provided in this Ordinance.

*Illicit Connections.* An illicit connection is defined as either of the following:

(1) Any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface, which allows an illegal discharge to enter the storm drain system, including but not limited to, any conveyances which allow any non-stormwater discharge including sewage, process wastewater, and wash water to enter the storm drain system and any connections to the storm drain system from indoor drains and sinks, regardless of whether said drain or connection had been previously allowed, permitted, or approved by an authorized enforcement agency, OR

(2) Any drain or conveyance connected from a commercial or industrial land use to the storm drain system, which has not been documented in plans, maps, or equivalent records and approved by an authorized enforcement agency.

*Industrial Activity.* Activities subject to NPDES Industrial Permits as defined in 40 CFR, Section 122.26 (b)(14).

*National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Discharge Permit.* NPDES is a permit issued by United States Environmental Protection Agency or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to 33 USC § 1342(b), that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.

*Non-Stormwater Discharge.* Any discharge to the storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.

*Person.* Any individual, association, organization, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity recognized by law and acting as either the owner or as the owner's agent.

*Pollutant.* Anything which causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; non-hazardous liquid and solid wastes and yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter, or other discarded or abandoned objects, ordinances, and accumulations, so that same may cause or contribute to pollution; floatables; pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; hazardous substances and wastes; sewage, fecal coliform and pathogens; dissolved and particulate metals; animal wastes; wastes and residues that result from constructing a building or structure; and noxious or offensive matter of any kind.

*Premises.* Any building, lot, parcel of land, or portion of land whether improved or unimproved including adjacent sidewalks and parking strips.

*Storm Drainage System.* Publicly-owned facilities by which stormwater is collected and/or conveyed, including but not limited to any roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, gutters, curbs, inlets, piped storm drains, pumping facilities, retention and detention basins, natural and human-made or altered drainage channels, reservoirs, and other drainage structures.

*Stormwater.* Any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from any form of natural precipitation, and resulting from such precipitation.

*Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan:* A document which describes the Best Management Practices and activities to be implemented by a person or business to identify sources of pollution or contamination at a site and the actions to eliminate or reduce pollutant discharges to Stormwater, Stormwater Conveyance Systems, and/or Receiving Waters to the Maximum Extent Practicable.

*Wastewater* means any water or other liquid, other than uncontaminated stormwater, discharged from a facility.

**Section 34-151. Applicability.**

This ordinance shall apply to all water entering the storm drain system generated on any developed and undeveloped lands unless explicitly exempted by an authorized enforcement agency.

**Section 34-152. Responsibility for Administration.**

The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, shall administer, implement, and enforce the provisions of this ordinance. Any powers granted or duties imposed upon the authorized enforcement agency may be delegated in writing by the Town to persons or entities acting in the beneficial interest of or in the employ of the Town of Oakland.

**Section 34-153. 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.

**Section 34-154. Ultimate Responsibility.**

The standards set forth herein and promulgated pursuant to this ordinance are minimum standards. This Ordinance does not intend nor imply that compliance by any person will ensure that there will be no contamination, pollution, nor unauthorized discharge of pollutants.

**Section 34-155. Discharge Prohibitions.**

1. *Prohibition of Illegal Discharges.* No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged into the Town's storm drain system or watercourses any materials, including but not limited to

pollutants or waters containing any pollutants that cause or contribute to a violation of applicable water quality standards, other than stormwater. The commencement, conduct or continuance of any illegal discharge to the storm drain system is prohibited except as described as follows:

a. The following discharges are exempt from discharge prohibitions established by this ordinance: water line flushing or other potable water sources, landscape irrigation or lawn watering, diverted stream flows, rising ground water, ground water infiltration to storm drains, uncontaminated pumped ground water, foundation or footing drains (not including active groundwater dewatering systems), crawl space pumps, air conditioning condensation, springs, non-commercial washing of vehicles, natural riparian habitat or wet-land flows, swimming pools (if dechlorinated - typically less than one PPM chlorine), firefighting activities, and any other water source not containing Pollutants.

b. Discharges specified in writing by the authorized enforcement agency as being necessary to protect public health and safety.

c. Dye testing is an allowable discharge, but requires a verbal notification to the authorized enforcement agency prior to the time of the test.

d. The prohibition shall not apply to any non-stormwater discharge permitted under an NPDES permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, provided that the discharger is in full compliance with all requirements of the permit, waiver, or order and other applicable laws and regulations, and provided that written approval has been granted for any discharge to the storm drain system.

2. *Prohibition of Illicit Connections.* No person shall construct, use, maintain or allow the continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection. A person is considered to be in violation of this ordinance if the person connects a line conveying sewage to the MS4, or allows such a connection to continue.

**Section 34-156. Suspension of MS4 access.**

1. *Suspension due to Illicit Discharges in Emergency Situations.* The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, may, without prior notice, suspend MS4 discharge access to a person when such suspension is necessary to stop an actual or threatened discharge which presents or may present imminent and substantial danger to the environment, or to the health or welfare of persons, or to the MS4 or Waters of the United States. If the violator fails to comply with a suspension order issued in an emergency, the authorized enforcement agency may take such steps as deemed necessary to prevent or minimize damage to the MS4 or Waters of the United States, or to minimize danger to persons.

2. *Suspension due to the Detection of Illicit Discharge.* Any person discharging to the MS4 in violation of this ordinance may have their MS4 access terminated if such termination would abate or reduce an illicit discharge. The authorized enforcement agency will notify a violator of the proposed termination of its MS4 access. The violator may petition the authorized enforcement agency for a reconsideration and hearing. A person commits an offense if the person reinstates MS4 access to premises terminated pursuant to this Section, without the prior approval of the authorized enforcement agency.

**Section 34-157. Industrial, Commercial or Construction Activity Discharges.**

Any person subject to an industrial, commercial or construction activity NPDES stormwater discharge permit, shall comply with all provisions of such permit. Proof of compliance with said permit may be required in a form acceptable to the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, prior to the allowing of discharges to the MS4.

**Section 34-158. Monitoring of Discharges.**

This Section applies to all facilities that have stormwater discharges associated with industrial or commercial activity, including construction.

The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, shall be permitted to enter and inspect facilities subject to regulation under this ordinance as often as may be necessary to determine compliance with this ordinance. If a discharger has security measures in force which require proper identification and clearance before entry into its premises, the discharger shall make the necessary arrangements to allow access to the Town's representatives. Facility operators shall allow the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, ready access to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, sampling, examination and copying of records that must be kept under the conditions of an NPDES permit to discharge stormwater, and the performance of any additional duties as defined by state and federal law.

The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, shall have the right to set up on any permitted facility such devices as are necessary in the opinion of the authorized enforcement agency to conduct monitoring and/or sampling of the facility's stormwater discharge.

The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, has the right to require the discharger to install monitoring equipment as necessary. The facility's sampling and monitoring equipment shall be maintained at all times in a safe and proper operating condition by the discharger at its own expense. All devices used to measure stormwater flow and quality shall be calibrated to ensure their accuracy.

Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the facility to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the operator at the written or oral request of the

Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the operator.

Unreasonable delays in allowing the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, access to a permitted facility is a violation of a stormwater discharge permit and of this ordinance. A person who is the operator of a facility with a NPDES permit to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activity commits an offense if the person denies the Town of Oakland reasonable access to the permitted facility for the purpose of conducting any activity authorized or required by this ordinance.

If the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, has been refused access to any part of the premises from which stormwater is discharged, and he/she is able to demonstrate probable cause to believe that there may be a violation of this ordinance, or that there is a need to inspect and/or sample as part of a routine inspection and sampling program designed to verify compliance with this ordinance or any order issued hereunder, or to protect the overall public health, safety, and welfare of the community, then the authorized enforcement agency may seek issuance of a search warrant from any court of competent jurisdiction.

**Section 34-159. Requirement to Prevent, Control and Reduce Stormwater Pollutants by the Use of Best Management Practices.** The Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, will adopt requirements identifying BMP for any activity, operation, or facility which may cause or contribute to pollution or contamination of stormwater, the storm drain system, or waters of the U.S. The owner or operator of a commercial or industrial establishment shall provide, at their own expense, reasonable protection from accidental discharge of prohibited materials or other wastes into the municipal storm drain system or watercourses through the use of these structural and non-structural BMPs. Further, any person responsible for a property or premise, which is, or may be, the source of an illicit discharge, may be required to implement, at said person's expense, additional structural and non-structural BMPs to prevent the further discharge of pollutants to the municipal separate storm sewer system. Compliance with all terms and conditions of a valid NPDES permit authorizing the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity, to the extent practicable, shall be deemed compliance with the provisions of this section. These BMPs shall be part of a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPP) as necessary for compliance with requirements of the NPDES permit.

**Section 34-160. Watercourse Protection.**

Every person owning property through which a watercourse passes, or such person's lessee, shall keep and maintain that part of the watercourse within the property free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation, and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate, or significantly retard the flow of

water through the watercourse. In addition, the owner or lessee shall maintain existing privately owned structures within or adjacent to a watercourse, so that such structures will not become a hazard to the use, function, or physical integrity of the watercourse.

**Section 34-161. Notification of Spills.**

Notwithstanding other requirements of law, as soon as any person responsible for a facility or operation, or responsible for emergency response for a facility or operation has information of any known or suspected release of materials which are resulting or may result in illegal discharges or pollutants discharging into stormwater, the storm drain system, or water of the U.S. said person shall take all necessary steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of such release. In the event of such a release of hazardous materials, said person shall immediately notify emergency response agencies of the occurrence via emergency dispatch services. In the event of a release of non-hazardous materials, said person shall notify the authorized enforcement agency in person or by phone or facsimile no later than the next business day. Notifications in person or by phone shall be confirmed by written notice addressed and mailed to the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, within three business days of the phone notice. If the discharge of prohibited materials emanates from a commercial or industrial establishment, the owner or operator of such establishment shall also retain an on-site written record of the discharge and the actions taken to prevent its recurrence. Such records shall be retained for at least three years.

**Section 34-162. Enforcement.**

Whenever the Town of Oakland, as the authorized enforcement agency, finds that a person has violated a prohibition or failed to meet a requirement of this Ordinance, the Town may order compliance by written notice of violation to the responsible person. Such notice may require without limitation:

- (a) The performance of monitoring, analyses, and reporting; and
- (b) The elimination of illicit connections or discharges; and
- (c) That violating discharges, practices, or operations shall cease and desist; and
- (d) The abatement or remediation of stormwater pollution or contamination hazards and the restoration of any affected property; and
- (e) Payment of a fine to cover administrative and remediation costs; and
- (f) The implementation of source control or treatment BMPs.

If abatement of a violation and/or restoration of affected property is required, the notice shall set forth a deadline within which such remediation or restoration must be completed. Said notice shall further advise that, should the violator fail to remediate or restore within the established deadline,

the work will be done by a designated governmental agency or a contractor and the expense thereof shall be charged to the violator.

**Section 34-163. Appeal of Notice of Violation.**

Any person receiving a Notice of Violation may appeal the determination of the Town. The notice of appeal must be received within fifteen (15) days from the date of the Notice of Violation. Hearing on the appeal before the Town or its designee shall take place within 15 days from the date of receipt of the notice of appeal. The decision of the Town designee shall be final under subject to further review as provided by Florida law.

**Section 34-164. Enforcement Measures After Appeal.**

If the violation has not been corrected pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Notice of Violation, or, in the event of an appeal, within fifteen (15) days of the decision of the Town upholding its decision or the decision of its designated agent, then the Town shall enter upon the property and are authorized to take any and all measures necessary to abate the violation and/or restore the property. It shall be unlawful for any person, owner, agent or person in possession of any premises to refuse to allow the Town or designated agent to enter upon the premises for the purposes set forth above.

**Section 34-165. Cost of Abatement of the Violation.**

Within fifteen (15) days after abatement of the violation, the owner of the property will be notified of the cost of abatement, including administrative costs. The property owner may file a written protest objecting to the amount of the assessment within five (5) days. If the amount due is not paid within a timely manner as determined by the decision of the Town or by the expiration of the time in which to file an appeal, the charges shall become a special assessment against the property and shall constitute a lien on the property for the amount of the assessment.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Article shall become liable to the Town by reason of such violation. The liability shall be paid in not more than 12 equal payments. Interest at the rate of as authorized by law and set forth by the Town in a resolution shall be assessed on the balance beginning on the 1st day following discovery of the violation.

**Section 34-166. Injunctive Relief.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any provision or fail to comply with any of the requirements of this Ordinance. If a person has violated or continues to violate the provisions of this ordinance, the Town may petition for a temporary or permanent injunction restraining the

person from activities which would create further violations or compelling the person to perform abatement or remediation of the violation.

**Section 34-167. Compensatory Action.**

In lieu of enforcement proceedings, penalties, and remedies authorized by this Ordinance, the Town may impose upon a violator alternative compensatory actions, such as storm drain stenciling, attendance at compliance workshops, creek cleanup, etc.

**Section 34-168. Violations Deemed a Public Nuisance.**

In addition to the enforcement processes and penalties provided, any condition caused or permitted to exist in violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance is a threat to public health, safety, and welfare, and is declared and deemed a nuisance, and may be summarily abated or restored at the violator's expense, and/or a civil action to abate, enjoin, or otherwise compel the cessation of such nuisance may be taken.

**Section 34-169. Criminal Prosecution.**

Any person that has violated or continues to violate this Ordinance shall be subject to criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law, and shall be subject to a criminal penalty and/or imprisonment as provided by law. The Town may recover all attorney's fees court costs and other expenses associated with enforcement of this ordinance, including sampling and monitoring expenses.

**Section 34-170. Remedies Not Exclusive.**

The remedies listed in this Ordinance are not exclusive of any other remedies available under any applicable federal, state or local law. It is within the discretion of the Town to seek cumulative remedies as needed for enforcement of this Ordinance. All attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses associated with enforcement of this Ordinance, including sampling and monitoring expenses are recoverable by the Town from the violator.

**SECTION 2. CONFLICTS.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, insofar as they are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict.

**SECTION 3. CODIFICATION.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be codified as and become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Oakland. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention.

**SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.** In the event that any portion or section of this Ordinance is determined to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall in no manner affect the remaining portions or sections of this Ordinance on which shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage and adoption.

**FIRST READING: JANUARY 10, 2017**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2017.**

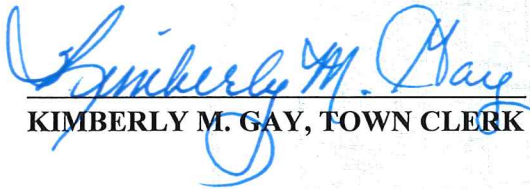
**TOWN OF OAKLAND**



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**KATHY STARK, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**



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**KIMBERLY M. GAY, TOWN CLERK**

