

Who to Call for Environmental Concerns

Environmental Emergencies

Dumping, spills and releases of hazardous substances (including oil and petroleum products, chemicals, hazardous waste, pesticides), fish kills, and illegal open burning of items like tires, plastic, copper wire, asbestos covered materials (Not yard debris, see below)

Who To Call:

DHEC Emergency Response 24 hours a day/seven days a week
(803) 253-6488 or 1-888-481-0125

Non-emergency Open Burning

Burning of land clearing and/or yard debris

Who to Call:

DHEC Region 3 Columbia Office
During business hours: (803) 896-0620

Algae Blooms

Appearance of excessive algae (mats, surface scum) that may give off an unpleasant odor; can be associated with the death of other organisms like fish

Who To Call:

DHEC Region 3 Columbia Office
During business hours: (803) 896-0620

Illegal Dumping

Any type of waste not disposed of at a permitted facility or landfill including appliances, tires, trash and medical waste. Pouring of the following items down or near stormdrains should also be reported: paint, household chemicals, pet waste, trash or grease

Who to Call:

City of Columbia

Preferred method during business hours: (803) 545-4001 or (803) 545-3186
Additional contacts during business hours and after hours non-emergencies:
Use the webform at: www.Columbia.SC.Gov/Cleanwater

Richland County (includes Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes)

During business hours: (803) 576-3599

Sewer Overflows

Untreated wastewater flowing from a manhole, pump station or broken sewer line; also any broken or leaking water or sewer line

Who To Call:

City of Columbia

24 Hour Response: (803) 545-3300

Richland County (includes Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes)

During business hours: (803) 576-3599

After hours emergency: call DHEC (803) 253-6488 or 1-888-481-0125

Improper Best Management Practices At Construction Sites

Dirt and/or debris flowing off a site under construction and/or into a stormdrain, stream or lake (Not including ponds designed to capture runoff)

Who to Call:

City of Columbia

Preferred method during business hours: (803) 545-4517 or (803) 231-9383

Additional contacts during business hours and after hours non-emergencies: Use the webform at:

www.Columbia.SC.Gov/Cleanwater

Richland County (includes Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes)

During business hours: (803) 576-3599

Leaking Tanks, Garbage Bins Or Fats Disposal Bins

Who To Call:

City of Columbia

Preferred method during business hours:

For fats disposal bins: call the FOG program at (803) 545-3400

For leaking tanks and garbage bins: call Solid Waste at (803) 545-3800

Additional contacts during business hours and after hours non-emergencies: Use the webform at:

www.Columbia.SC.Gov/Cleanwater

Richland County (includes Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes)

During business hours: (803) 576-3599

Suspicious Pipes Discharging Into Creeks Or Drainage Ditches

Pipes that discharge running water, especially when it has not rained, that appears to come from sinks or toilets or that is colored, foul smelling or has a sheen

Who To Call:

City of Columbia

Preferred method during business hours: (803) 545-3186 or (803) 545-4001

Additional contacts during business hours and after hours non-emergencies:
Use the webform at: www.Columbia.SC.Gov/Cleanwater

Richland County (includes Forest Acres and Arcadia Lakes)
During business hours: (803) 576-3599

Wetlands Fill Or Dredging

Unpermitted wetlands or floodplain fill, unpermitted removal of dirt from a waterbody

Who to Call:

Army Corps of Engineers Columbia Regulatory Field Office (803) 253-3444

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