



For Immediate Release
Contact: Melissa Merz
312-814-3118
877-844-5461 (TTY)
mmerz@atg.state.il.us
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**MADIGAN: ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS TO STORM SEWERS
CREATES UNHEALTHY SITUATION**

Chicago – Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced that a lawsuit has been filed in Champaign County Circuit Court alleging that some residents and businesses in the village of Bondville routinely and illegally connect their private septic systems directly into the village’s storm sewers.

Madigan’s lawsuit was filed against the village of Bondville.

Bondville does not have a wastewater treatment plant. Madigan’s suit contends that, as a result, wastes discharged into the village’s storm sewers that drain directly into Kaskaskia Ditch violate water pollution and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations.

“Raw sewage in storm sewers is an obvious public health hazard that needs to be corrected as soon as possible,” Madigan said.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) referred the case to Madigan’s office after laboratory analysis of a January 2005 sample of water being discharged from the Bondville storm sewer system revealed highly elevated levels of bacterial contamination.

Madigan’s lawsuit, filed March 10, seeks a civil penalty per violation for water pollution. Penalties also are sought on a second count against the village for discharging contaminants without a NPDES permit.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Phillip McQuillan is handling the case for Madigan’s Environmental Protection Division.

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