

## WHAT IS A STORM DRAIN?

The grated openings in the street that collect water from rain and melting snow to minimize street flooding. Rainwater often carries street debris - trash, leaves, grass clipping, pet wastes, car fuels - into storm drains. Also pesticides, paints, antifreeze and used motor oil can end up in the storm drains when people dispose of them improperly.

## WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

Have you ever wondered where water goes after it "disappears" into a storm drain? Storm water is usually not treated at a wastewater plant, but is discharged directly into rivers, lakes, or wetlands through outfall pipes. Runoff carries contaminant and debris picked up along the way, polluting lakes and streams. It can also contaminate ground water drinking water supplies.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### **Volunteer to mark storm drains!**

Prevent pollution by keeping contaminants out of storm drains. Follow the NO DUMPING WASTE message and do your part to help protect our waters.

To sign up YOUR volunteer group to mark storm drains, contact:



River Keepers  
325 7th St. S,  
Fargo, ND 58103  
info@riverkeepers.org  
(701) 235-2895  
www.riverkeepers.org

River Keepers organizational support from:  
Buffalo-Red River Watershed District  
Southeast Cass Water Resource District

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON STORM DRAINS

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
([www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us))  
Environmental Protection Agency  
([www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov))

## STORM DRAIN AWARENESS PROGRAM



*"Protecting the Red River by linking human actions to pollution problems."*

### **SPONSORS:**

City of Moorhead  
([www.ci.moorhead.mn.us](http://www.ci.moorhead.mn.us))  
City of Fargo  
([www.ci.fargo.nd.us](http://www.ci.fargo.nd.us))  
River Keepers  
([www.riverkeepers.org](http://www.riverkeepers.org))  
Moorhead Public Service  
([www.mpsutility.com](http://www.mpsutility.com))  
Clay County Household Hazardous Waste  
([www.clay.mn.us](http://www.clay.mn.us))  
Cargill  
([www.Cargill.com](http://www.Cargill.com))  
The Conservation Fund  
([www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org))  
Clay County Soil & Water Conservation  
District - Local Water Plan

## PREPARATION

1. Discuss the idea of storm drain marking with your organization or group of friends. This project is appropriate for youth groups, school classes, civic organizations and neighborhood groups. It is recommended that participants be at least 10 years old.
2. Select a date for marking. It must be 50 degrees Fahrenheit outside and the pavement must be dry.
3. Decide on a neighborhood to mark and a location to meet.
4. Know how many people will be participating.
5. Know how many supervisors there will be. One supervisor is recommended for every four youth volunteers.
6. Know the time of day and length of time available to do project. Two hours is the recommended length of time.
7. Plan a back up date in case of rain.

To reserve the marking kits, contact:  
River Keepers at (701) 235-2895  
or [info@riverkeepers.org](mailto:info@riverkeepers.org).

You will be provided:  
A map of area to mark  
curb markers, adhesive, brushes,  
doorhangers and safety vests.

## DAY OF PROJECT

Break into groups - two people to mark the curb and two people to distribute doorhangers. Put on safety vests.

### Curb Marking Team

- Sweep the area where the marker is going to be placed. Surface must be clean, dry and free of any loose debris.
- Apply adhesive to the back of the marker as shown. Start 1/8" in from the outside edge applying an even bead around the entire edge and then work to the center. It is not necessary to use a large amount.



- Application surface must be flat. The preferred placement is on the face of the curb. If this is not possible, right next to the curb and storm drain on the street is okay.
- Place the marker on the application surface. Push down HARD with a twisting motion forcing adhesive out from the edge. **It is important that the entire edge of the marker is sealed to the curb.**

### Doorhanger Team

- Walk on sidewalks, stay off of the grass.
- Do not put doorhangers in mailboxes.
- Place doorhanger on the door that looks most used. Do not open the door.
- Do not leave a doorhanger if you think it will blow away.

## FOLLOW-UP

1. Indicate streets marked on provided maps.
2. Fill out evaluation forms.
3. Wash hands with soap and water.
4. Return maps, forms and kits.
5. Congratulate yourselves...you deserve it!

**THANKS FOR HELPING PROTECT  
THE VALLEY'S WATER  
RESOURCES!**

