

Keeping it Clean



As our community grows,
so must its commitment to
protecting and improving

the quality of our water resources. Assets such as Silver Lake and the Zumbro River help make Rochester one of the nation's most livable communities. Keeping our water resources clean and usable is in everyone's interest.

StormWater
MANAGEMENT

Did you know that driving, gardening, walking your pet, and merely living and working in buildings can impact water quality? Rain and snowmelt carry harmful chemicals and sediment through our storm sewers and into our waterways. Many people do not realize that the wastewater treatment plant does NOT treat water entering storm sewers.

Storm drain inlets near you have been identified with a colorful marker with a pollution prevention reminder. Read about some easy steps YOU can take to help protect water quality on the back of this flyer.

How Can YOU Help Protect Water Quality?

General

- NEVER dump anything in storm drains and don't litter!
- Store materials in sheltered areas or in waterproof, covered containers.
- Know the characteristics of your waste products and dispose of used chemicals and paint products properly.
- Keep hard surfaces free of sediment, garbage, landscaping debris, and other materials that will contaminate runoff.

Vehicle Care

- Avoid spilling gas.
- Recycle used oil and dispose of used vehicle fluids properly.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash vehicles in areas connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Keep vehicles and equipment in good repair. Until they can be repaired, contain leaks by using drip pans, kitty litter, or sawdust and dispose of the fluid and absorbent properly.

Landscaping

- Use lawn chemicals sparingly.
- Unless soil tests show otherwise, use phosphorous-free fertilizer ("0" as the middle number) and apply them in the fall at the correct rate, and never before a rain.
- Direct down spouts away from hard surfaces and toward vegetated areas.

Construction

- Install and maintain adequate erosion control measures.
- Collect construction debris and dispose of it properly.

Learn more @

www.rochesterstormwater.com

**Remember:
Only Rain Down the Drain!**