

Keeping it Clean



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!
- Dispose of used chemicals and paint products properly at the Olmsted County Hazardous Waste Facility.
- Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the trash.

Vehicle and Boat Care

- Avoid spilling gas.
- Take used oil to an oil retailer or recycler. Take other used auto fluids to the Olmsted County Hazardous Waste Facility.
- Use commercial car washes or wash your car or boat on your lawn using a phosphate-free & non-toxic soap.
- Until you can repair vehicle leaks, contain them by using drip pans, kitty litter, or sawdust and dispose of the fluid and absorbent in the trash.

Yard and Garden

- 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 plant rain gardens to receive run-off from your roof.
- Keep lawn & garden chemicals, garden debris, lawn clippings, and leaves off hard surfaces.

Learn more @

www.rochesterstormwater.com

Remember: Only Rain Down the Drain!