



Give Water a Hand Storm Drain Marking



Take Action and Build Awareness

Partners for Clean Streams (PCS) is committed to making our area waterways healthy and safe. One of the ways PCS accomplishes this is through community awareness. Storm Drain Marking is a program originally launched under our Give Water a Hand initiative that encourages volunteer groups to educate citizens in how to protect our waterways by using storm drains correctly. PCS works directly with local jurisdictions to coordinate volunteers who paint and use medallions to mark storm drains in neighborhoods and pass out educational flyers to residents.

Ever wonder what a storm drain is? Storm drains transport all runoff from rain, snowmelt or sprinklers directly to our local rivers, streams, and ditches. Unlike the wastewater from your home, storm water is not treated. When water washes into storm drains, pollutants are carried along. Litter, pet waste, dirt, fertilizer, antifreeze and motor oil are just a few examples of contaminants that can enter our waterways through storm drains. Misused, clogged or polluted storm drains can increase flooding, damage property, and harm our water. Most of the misuse of storm drains is done by accident, from not knowing that drains are only for rain. Rule of thumb: if you wouldn't drink it, don't pour it down a storm drain!



**LAKE ERIE
STARTS HERE**
Dump no waste.



To help spread awareness and prevent storm drain pollution, groups of volunteers mark storm drains with paint or medallions, depending on their municipality. This reminds residents to protect drinking water and promote healthy habitats for wildlife.

We welcome groups to volunteer starting at the end of April through the early autumn to help jurisdictions mark drains around neighborhoods. In addition to marking, we also pass out educational door tags or flyers to residents. Groups receive free training and equipment, and typically mark prescribed areas for a couple of hours at a time.

To learn more about this program and other volunteer opportunities, call PCS at 419-874- 0727 or visit our website at www.PartnersForCleanStreams.org.

