

Hey, Stream Teams!

Let's take to the streets and . . .

stencil
storm drains!



If your Stream Team is looking for a city project, storm drain stenciling is the one for you!

Storm Drains and Water Quality

Storm drains are sometimes misused for the disposal of paint, motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, and other wastes. People are looking for a convenient place to dispose of these items and often are not aware that storm drains usually lead to nearby streams, rivers, lakes, or even sinkholes which are conduits to groundwater. In addition, each time it rains, water runoff carries street litter, yard debris, pet wastes, and other pollutants into storm drains. This “nonpoint source pollution” is a significant source of contamination for Missouri’s water resources.



- ◆ Each year in the United States, do-it-yourself motor oil changers improperly dispose of 192 million gallons of used motor oil into our environment. One gallon of used motor oil can contaminate one million gallons of water.
- ◆ Antifreeze is primarily composed of ethylene glycol, a sweet and poisonous compound which can kill or injure pets, birds, fish, and other wildlife when disposed of carelessly into the environment. It can also contain heavy metal contaminants picked up from engines during use.
- ◆ Paint, even latex paint, can contain a variety of hazardous ingredients including lead, mercury, and organic solvents.
- ◆ Soap suds from washing the car, rinse water from paint cleanup, pet waste, cigarette butts, litter, pesticide and fertilizer runoff, and yard wastes can all cause environmental problems when discharged into waterways via storm drains.

You can help!

To receive your Storm Drain Stenciling Kit, simply fill out the order form attached. Your free Kit will contain mylar stencils and detailed instructions on how to stencil storm drains, provide safety instructions for participants, and information for the community. The Kit also includes a sample news release and a flyer to distribute to homes or businesses in the stenciled area. (Use your own paint and brushes. Follow our recommendations provided with the Kit.) **Storm drains can be stenciled only after receiving the necessary permission from the proper authorities, when the roads are dry, and the temperature is over 50° F.**

How does it work?

- 1 Your group will identify a community, subdivision, or cluster of streets to start your stenciling project. Locate the storm drains in the target area and the neighborhood streams, rivers, or lakes that might be at risk from improper disposal.
- 2 Your group must obtain permission from the entity that has jurisdiction over the storm drains. This may include the city council, a neighborhood association, or the street department. Plan ahead and allow up to 6 - 8 weeks to obtain any necessary permits or licenses.
- 3 Stream Team provides most of your stenciling materials, but your group must supply latex paint, brushes, safety vests, traffic cones, and maps. Local sponsors should be encouraged to provide these supplies and to assist with the promotion and safety of the stenciling project.
- 4 Alert the local media about your activities so that the message will reach a greater number of people. Provide specific information about times, locations, and contacts. You may want to use the sample news release included in the Kit.
- 5 When ready to stencil, you can divide into small groups of three to five participants. Youth teams should have at least one supervising adult per group. Each group should receive a stencil, supplies, and a map with the locations of the storm drains they have permission to stencil.
- 6 While at the storm drain site, take time to collect trash for proper disposal.
- 7 Within the group, participants can take turns painting, holding the stencil, and watching for traffic. Each storm drain will take about 15 minutes to stencil.
- 8 When the stenciling in an area is complete, your groups can distribute flyers to nearby homes. A flyer will be included in the Kit. The stenciled message is expected to last for approximately two years, so the reminder will continue beyond this stenciling event.
- 9 After the stenciling event, please complete a Stream Team Activity Report and mail it to the address provided on the report.

Missouri Stream Teams . . . take

In order to protect our water resources, people around the country are organizing storm drain stenciling and community education programs. The stenciled message, "Dump No Waste, Drains to Stream," provides a visible reminder of the consequences of improper waste disposal in storm drains. Now, a Storm Drain Stenciling Project is available in Missouri through the Stream Team program. The Project involves stenciling storm drains, a litter clean-up, and a community education campaign. How can you help? It's easy! Request your free Storm Drain Stenciling Kit today . . . and take to the streets!

to the streets!

Storm Drain Stenciling Kit Order Form:

Stream Team Number: _____

Name: _____

Shipping Address: (no PO Box please) _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Work Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Community, city, or city area to be stenciled: _____

Number of stencils needed: _____ (Estimate five participants per stencil. The mylar stencil can be used repeatedly and the stenciled message is expected to last for approximately two years.)

Number of Storm Drain Stenciling Kit booklets needed: _____ (Each Kit booklet contains detailed instructions, safety information, and sample news release.)

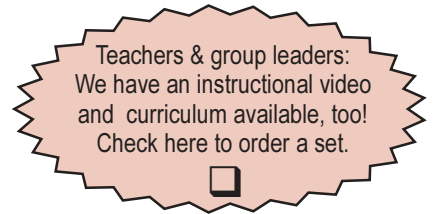
Number of community education flyers needed: _____ (Estimate number of homes and/or businesses near storm drains for distribution before, during, or after stenciling.)

Number of litter bags needed: _____ (Estimate one bag per 2 or 3 storm drains.)

Number of pairs of latex gloves needed: _____ (Estimate one pair per participant.)

Fill out form, detach, and mail to: Stream Team
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

Don't forget to send us an Activity Report when you are done with your project!



Where can I get more information?



If your Stream Team needs assistance or would like more information, please call: 1-800-781-1989 (voice mail) or 573/522-4115 x 3169

Or you can write to us at:

Stream Team
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

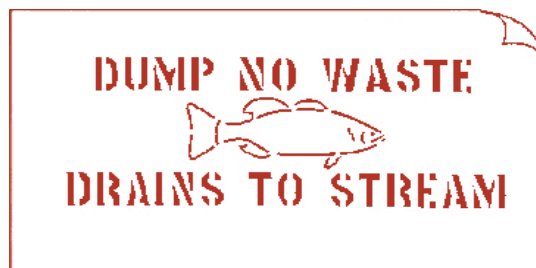
Or e-mail us at:

streamteam@mdc.mo.gov

Or visit our web site at:

<http://www.mostreamteam.org>

Good luck with your storm drain stenciling project!



Stream Team is sponsored by:
Missouri Department of Conservation,
Missouri Department of Natural Resources,
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