

What is “Storm Inlet Marking”?

The City of Green Bay Public Works Department is asking residents to participate in “Storm Inlet Marking”. This application involves labeling storm inlets (catch basins), with a marker educating residents not to dump pollutants into the inlet (catch basin). The message, **“No Dumping, Drains to Waterways”** is a simple phrase to remind those passing by that the storm inlets connect to local waterways and that dumping will pollute those waters.



Storm Inlet Marker

Supplied

Storm inlet marking materials are supplied by the City of Green Bay Public Works Department.

Organizations/Groups

It is a worthwhile, educational program designed for 5th through 12th grade students, local youth groups, adults, community or church groups and Neighborhood Associations.

Safety

Just a few safety precautions:

- All minor volunteers must be supervised by an adult.
- Volunteers must wear safety vests.
- NEVER mark storm inlets alone, and be conscious of vehicular traffic and use caution when crossing streets.
- To protect volunteers' hands, use gloves when picking up debris near or on the inlet.
- Never pick up syringes or suspicious looking objects.
- Don't approach houses to place door hangers when dogs are in the yard or on the porch.
- Stay away from parked vehicles. Group members are personally responsible for property damages.
- Be courteous to passersby and homeowners who inquire about the project, hand out door hangers.

How the markers are applied:

1. Clean the area:

- Make sure the surface where the marker will be placed is flat, dry and free of any loose debris.
- Pick up any trash to prevent it from entering the storm inlet and put it in a trash bag.
- Use a whisk broom to lightly sweep the surface where the marker will be placed.



2. Apply the adhesive disk:

- Peel the backing paper from one side of the adhesive disk and apply the disk by firmly pressing the adhesive disk to the curb. Then peel off the remaining paper and apply the marker to the adhesive disk.



3. Apply the Storm Inlet Marking:

- Place the marker **“NO DUMPING – DRAINS TO WATERWAYS”** so that the wording is facing the street. After applying the marker, use a rubber mallet on the entire surface of the marker to press down onto the adhesive. This marker will notify other residents that nothing but storm water should enter the inlets.



Hang a door hanger (provided), on the residents' doorknob. Be sure that the door hanger is secured to the door so that it doesn't blow away and litter the street.

The **Door Hangers**, supplied by the City of Green Bay, are an integral part of your efforts as they serve to inform homeowners with a message similar to the following:

- Anything that enters a storm inlet is discharged “UNTREATED” into the waterways we use for recreational use.
- Clean up leaves or grass clippings that accumulate on your driveways, sidewalks, or in the streets.
- Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris like concrete and mortar. Excess fertilizer and soil should be swept onto green spaces.
- Use phosphorous-free fertilizer and avoid pesticides, and minimize your use of salt on driveways and sidewalks during the winter.
- Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste at designated collection or recycling locations.
- Clean up after your pets.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface – not the driveway.
- Check for auto leaks - recycle used oil.



What are Storm Inlets?

Storm inlets along roadways or parking lots allow runoff water from rain or snow melt to enter into the storm drainage system. The storm drainage system discharges directly into our local waterways.

Storm water runoff, or water left on impermeable surfaces after a rain event, washes soil, debris, oil, leaves, grass clippings, pet waste, and fertilizers into storm drain inlets. The storm drain system is a network of underground pipes designed to control flooding by transporting storm water from paved ground to a waterway. Material flowing into a storm drain does not get treated before emptying into our local waterways. Simply put, "UNTREATED" storm water can pollute waterways. Although the individual storm drains may contribute small amounts of pollutants, the combination of many storm drains can cause a negative impact on water quality.



Why Should We Mark Storm Drains?

- Storm inlet marking informs others about the street to waterway connection.
- Many people may not realize that water flowing into storm inlets is "UNTREATED" before it empties into our local waterways.
- Polluted runoff can harm the City of Green Bay waterways –where we fish and swim and enjoy our recreational time.
- Storm inlet marking can be effective service learning or civic learning project for schools, scout groups, homeowner associations, or any organization wanting to make a positive impact on our community.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends storm inlet marking for all municipalities.

Taken Action At Home:

- **Sweep instead of hosing off the driveway, street, or sidewalk.** Water runoff from driveways or sidewalks carries pollutants through storm drains and into waterways.
- **Lawn and garden chemicals.** Use phosphorous-free fertilizers and pesticides sparingly. Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides directly before or after a rain event.
- **Safely dispose of household products and motor oil.** Many products should be recycled or taken to a community hazardous waste center.
- **Compost or mulch yard waste.** Sweep leaves or grass clippings that accumulate on your driveway, sidewalk, or in the street.
- **Clean up after your pet.** Dispose of waste properly.
- **Do not wash your car in the driveway.** Use a commercial car wash or wash on the lawn.

City of Green Bay Department Of Public Works

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Other Suggestions For Your Neighborhood..

- "Adopt -A-Storm-Inlet"
- "Adopt -A-Pond"
- "Protecting Our Greenways"
- "Adopt-A-Ditch"
- "Adopt-A-Creek"

"Storm Inlet Marking"



**Help
Keep Our Community
Clean and Green**



**What Touches The Ground
Enters The Waters**