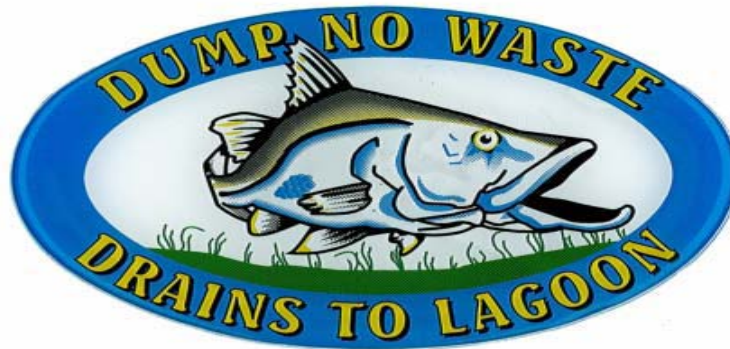




INDIAN RIVER COUNTY



STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM



The next time you walk in your neighborhood, take a moment to notice the storm drains that line the roadways. During each storm event the storm drains capture excess water that runs off rooftops, yards, driveways, and parking lots, all components of the human environment. The stormwater runoff carries with it many pollutants that accompany our modern lifestyles such as motor oil, pesticides, excess fertilizer, sediment, pet waste, and more. Many storm drains (inlets) lead directly to lakes or canals that discharge into the Indian River Lagoon. Our daily activities contribute to the deterioration of these waters.

Placing special storm drain markers (such as depicted above) on inlet covers is a clear reminder to all that anything entering the drains will flow untreated to our waters. Installation is easy! It is fast and easy to glue the Drain Markers on the drain covers and place information door-hangers on homeowners' front doors as you go. The Drain Markers are made of durable materials, so your work will have lasting value. You'll be helping to keep our waters clean. Enlist the help of a group such as scout troops, church, schools, your homeowners association, coworkers, and family!

Description

Storm drain marking involves labeling storm drain inlets with plaques, tiles, painted or precast messages warning citizens not to dump pollutants into the drain. The message, "Dump No Waste Leads to Lagoon" is a simple phrase to remind those passing by that the storm drains connect to local waterbodies and that dumping will pollute those waters.

IMPORTANT: Permission by Indian River County is not necessary for markers to be placed in private subdivisions - permission must be obtained from the subdivision homeowner's association. Permission by Indian River County Public Works Department **MUST BE OBTAINED IN WRITING** before markers are placed in County public right-of ways. For placement in jurisdictions other than the County, contact the municipality in which the property is located.

Example of a stormwater inlet



Storm drains can be labeled with stencils to discourage dumping

Where to get the Supplies:

The art for markers placed in private subdivisions is at the discretion of the private homeowner's association. The art for markers placed in public right-of ways must be approved by Indian River County and it must resemble the art shown at the top of this document. The message "Dump No Waste Leads to Lagoon" and Snook correlate with the County's pollution prevention signs placed along County roads.

Markers can be ordered from several suppliers that can be located through an internet search for "storm drain markers." The vendors supply kits that contain vinyl storm drain markers, adhesive, applicator brush, hand cleaners, door hangers, carrying pack, and instructions. Vinyl markers last longer than stenciled messages and need only glue to affix them to storm drain inlets. Stenciled messages will require repainting after a few years.

Bi-lingual markers are available indicating the message "Dump No Waste Leads to Lagoon" in English and Spanish.

How the markers are applied (generally):

Safety precautions:

- All minor volunteers must be supervised by an adult
- Wear gloves to protect your hands
- Never mark storm drains alone

1) CLEAN

- 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 drain - put it in a trash bag.
- Use a whisk broom to lightly scrub the surface where the marker will be placed
- Sweep loose debris away from storm drain



2) GLUE

- Apply adhesive to the back of the marker starting 1/8 of an inch from the outside edge circling toward the center. (Instructions are included with the markers you purchase)



3) STICK IT

- Apply the marker to the application surface pushing down **HARD** forcing adhesive out around the entire edge. It is important that the entire edge of the marker is sealed to the application surface.

The door hangers, supplied from the vendor, are an integral part of your efforts as they serve to inform homeowners with a message similar to the following:

The stormdrain markers applied in your neighborhood serve to remind citizens to help protect our waters from pollution that may kill wildlife and increase weed and algae growth.

Most storm drains discharge directly to our lakes, canals, and the Indian River Lagoon - NOT to wastewater treatment plants! Stormwater picks up street litter, yard waste, lawn fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, oils, and fluids from driveways and streets. The first half inch (1/2") of runoff from a storm generally carries 90% of the pollution in its path. You can help by preventing substances that you wouldn't want to swim in or drink from entering storm drains by:

- Keep curbs clean
- Use less fertilizer on lawns
- Avoid pesticides
- Compost garden trimmings ~ blow grass back on your yard
- Recycle used oil ~ Check for car leaks

- Wash your car on the lawn, not driveway or street
- Pick up pet wastes or bury a minimum of 5” deep
- Don’t litter
- Take leftover paints, automotive fluids, pesticides, etc. to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center at the IRC Landfill (770-5113)
- Have your septic tank professionally checked and maintained at least once every two years
- Get educated! Visit the County’s website at: www.ircgov.com/stormwater
- Be observant and report pollution at 226-1888 - Sprint/Nextel phones dial #IRC

Any Questions? Call the Indian River County Public Works Stormwater Education Coordinator at 226-1565. Please submit a photo of your volunteers installing markers to the Stormwater Education Coordinator at dwilson@ircgov.com. Your efforts can be recognized and serve to motivate others through our monthly electronic stormwater newsletter distributed to the public free of charge (see back issues at www.ircgov.com/stormwater).