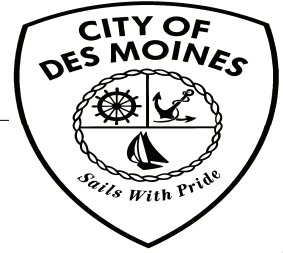


**CITY OF DES MOINES
21650 11TH AVE SOUTH
DES MOINES, WA 98198**



Dear Volunteers:

The City of Des Moines would like to offer an important opportunity to your organization or club. This is a great way to give back to your community. As we know, Des Moines is known for its beautiful Puget Sound view and creeks. The question is, what can you do as a citizen to keep pollutants out of our City's waterways and the Puget Sound? Perhaps, it has never crossed your mind how our daily life activities can impact surface water which ultimately impacts Puget Sound. Daily activities that contribute most to water pollution are: car washing, dog waste, leaking motor oil, littering, over use or not properly applying pesticides or herbicides, etc. A storm drain stencil project is a great way to educate the public about pollutants carried by storm water into a nearby storm drainage system then into creeks, Puget Sound, and other bodies of water. A stencil, such as shown in the picture above, is easy to apply and is very durable and is a great reminder to the public.



What you can do:

Volunteers are needed to stencil neighborhood storm drains; such a group could be middle and high school students, Boys & Girls Scout or local environmental and community service organizations. The message on storm drains is very educational, it alerts people that discharges into storm drains pollute valuable water resources; it can also heighten community awareness of nearby bodies of water. The stencils are placed next to catch basins. This type of project is not time consuming nor dirty.

Your Benefits:

Urban areas are significant sources of pollution, and storm drains are often the conveyers. This project could be used as community service for high school students. It's a fun activity for kids, a learning exercise, and helps enforce a positive change in peoples' attitudes towards protecting our City's watersheds.

Conclusion:

This Stenciling Program is an educational effort intended to increase public awareness of the direct correlation between storm drains and your local creeks and rivers. If you have any question or would like to volunteer to stencil local storm drains (even if just your own neighborhood), call Ruth in the Public Works Department @ 206- 870-6869, or email rfamurewa@desmoineswa.gov

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance; your time and effort are much appreciated!

Ruth Famurewa
NPDES Coordinator
Direct line: 206-870-6869