

**EVERY CURB IS A SHORELINE**  
RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Storm drains provide a direct route for pollutants on streets to flow into our rivers, lakes and streams. Contact Rice Creek Watershed District today to get your group involved in storm drain stenciling.

In natural landscapes, rain tends to soak into the ground gradually. However, nowadays, much of the land is covered by impervious surfaces - such as streets, parking lots and roofs - where the water cannot soak into the ground. Instead, water runs-off rapidly through storm sewers carrying pollutants collected along the way directly into our water bodies. Typical pollutants include grass clippings, leaves, pesticides, motor oil and pet wastes.

**PLEASE! DON'T POLLUTE!**



**DRAINS TO RIVER**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Many residents are unaware that storm drains connect the streets to our local waters and pour antifreeze, fertilizer, paint, used motor oil or animal waste down storm drains thinking that the drain runs to a

sewage treatment facility. But in fact, storm water is not treated before entering lakes and rivers. Stenciling and distributing door hangers is a fun way to educate people about the simple steps they can take to keep Minnesota's waters clean.

We are making strides in reducing excessive storm water run-off pollution with better building designs and innovative practices such as:

- "green roofs" (rooftop gardens absorb rainfall)
- rain gardens (garden in low areas that absorb excessive rain)
- rain barrels (barrels under downspouts)
- pervious pavements (allows water to soak in)

But we need community involvement to stencil our streets and get the word out – EVERY CURB IS A SHORELINE! Contact Dawn Dubats at RCWD: 763-398-3070 x178 / [ddubats@ricecreekwd.com](mailto:ddubats@ricecreekwd.com)

