



# Keep Montgomery County Beautiful

## Storm Drain Marking Program



Montgomery County Department of  
Transportation

Effective 4/1/2011



## **KEEP MONTGOMERY COUNTY BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM**

### **STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM - FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

Storm drains are located throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, including Montgomery County. When it rains, the water that runs down along the gutters on our street “disappears” down the storm drains.

Have you ever stopped to wonder where all the water goes? It does not go to a wastewater treatment plant. Therefore nothing is removed from the water. Anything that goes into your storm drain goes directly into our local stream, which feeds into a river and eventually empties into the Chesapeake Bay.

Your neighborhood stream is linked to the Chesapeake Bay. You can help protect the Bay by applying plastic markers with the words “No Dumping” on storm drains in your neighborhood. This message will help members of our community remember that nothing but rainwater should enter the storm drains. Civic associations, organizations, and residents can help spread the word: storm drains are not trash cans!

This application will get you started. Follow the guidelines to make your project a success! For questions, contact the MCDOT Community Outreach office at 240-777-7155.

#### **Prior to Marking:**

**Please Note:** Marking can only be done in 60 degree or warmer weather. The glue will not adhere in colder weather.

**A. Return application before project is to begin with the following information:**

- The neighborhood in which you want to work;
- Who is doing the project; and
- Who will provide supervision.

**B. Inform your civic/homeowner official and ask for their support and approval. Provide the following information:**

- Purpose of project;
- Dates of project, with a rain date; and
- A contact person for residents who have questions.

**\*\*Ask residents to move cars blocking storm drains\*\***

## ITEMS TYPICALLY PLACED IN STORM DRAINS

### MOTOR OIL

**Problem:** When poured down the gutter or storm drain, motor oil travels to your local stream where it damages or kills underwater vegetation and aquatic life. One quart of oil can contaminate up to two million gallons of drinking water or create an eight-acre oil slick.

**Solution:** Put used motor oil in a sturdy container, such as a plastic milk jug, and take it to the nearest collection center. To find the collection center nearest you, call the Maryland Environmental Service at 1-800-492-9188 or contact the Division of Solid Waste Services at 240-777-6410.

### ANTI-FREEZE

**Problem:** Anti-freeze is a highly toxic chemical. It is poisonous to people, as well as fish, birds, and pets.

**Solution:** Ask your local service station to add it to their anti-freeze storage drum or residents may bring up to 5 gallons of antifreeze to the Montgomery County Transfer Station. Remember not to mix your anti-freeze with any other substance!

### PAINT

**Problem:** Many paint products harm people, animals, and the environment when improperly used or disposed of.

**Solution:** Donate paint (but not lead paint!) to community groups, schools, local theaters, or other interested organizations. For small quantities of latex or oil-based paints, stuff the can loosely with newspaper, allow it to dry, reseal and discard in trash. Drop off at appropriate hazardous waste sites on designated days. For additional information call the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Solid Waste Services at 240-777-6410 or [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste).

### YARD TRIM

**Problem:** When left in the gutter or dumped into storm drains, yard wastes travel directly to the Bay. Once in the water, yard wastes decompose rapidly, adding excessive nutrients to the Bay, which are detrimental to Bay wildlife. Yard trimmings also clog storm drains, rendering them ineffective and causing localized flooding.

**Solution:** Instead of throwing your yard clippings away, compost them and use to condition your soil. Check gardening books to learn how to compost or call the Division of Solid Waste at (240) 777-6410 or visit their website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste).

### PLASTICS

**Problem:** Plastic and foam containers wash into storm drains and into the Bay. They do not decompose. Plastics kill wildlife when eaten by animals or when they become entangled in them.

**Solution:** Minimize your use of these products and make sure that the plastics you do use get put in the trash. If you see plastic litter, pick it up so that it does not get washed or blown into the storm drain, gutter, or local stream.



## STORM DRAIN MARKERS CHECKLIST & SIGN-OUT LOG

### WE SUPPLY:

#### The Storm Drain Marking Kit for Montgomery County:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Storm Drain Markers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tubes of Adhesive (1 per 12 markers)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Latex Gloves (2 pairs, if available)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wire Brush (1 or 2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Instructions on how to mount the markers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Door Hangers (if requested)

### WHAT YOU SUPPLY:

- The application and permission slip filled out completely and signature of civic/homeowner official
- Rags to remove excess adhesive
- Volunteer Labor
- Commitment to return wire brush within four weeks after check-out (complete sign out log below)

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STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM  
\*\*\*EQUIPMENT - SIGN OUT LOG\*\*\*

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of project: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
Materials returned by (date): _____	Received by: _____

\*\*\*APPLICATION\*\*\*

# Storm Drain Marking Program – Montgomery County



Organization/Individual/Group Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email:

Project Leader/Supervisor:

Title:

Telephone Number(s) Home:

**Work:**

Location of Storm Drains (include map if possible):

Number of Storm Drains:

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**For Neighborhood Association Approval** (*that will be impacted by storm drain marking*):

**I have contacted the president of the Neighborhood Association and advised them of this project.**

President:

Telephone Number:

Name of Association:

Date:

**I have read and understood the attached instructions before marking storm drains.**

Signature of Project Leader/Supervisor:

Date:

\*If photos are taken during the installation process and you would like to share them with the Community Outreach Office please email them to [mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov) \*

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**Return to:**

**KEEP MONTGOMERY COUNTY BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM**

Montgomery County Department of Transportation

Executive Office Building

101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor

Rockville, Maryland 20850

Phone 240-777-7155 \* Fax: 240-777-7178 \* Email: [mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov)