

know where  
it goes

take simple  
steps to reduce  
STORMWATER POLLUTION

## Sample Stormdrain Marking Introduction

### **I. Intro and the Problem of Stormwater Pollution**

Hi everyone. Thank you all for volunteering today! My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I work at \_\_\_\_\_.

We have an important job today to help spread the word about stormwater pollution so we can improve the health of our rivers, ponds and the Bay.

#### *Does anyone know what stormwater is?*

Stormwater is all of the water that runs off of the hard surfaces like pavement and driveways and ends up in the stormdrain, picking up pollutants from our everyday activities as it goes.

#### *Where do the stormdrains lead?*

A lot of people think that they go to water treatment facilities but actually most of them go directly into ponds, rivers and eventually Narragansett Bay. In the neighborhood where we will be marking drains they connect directly to [water body]

#### *So why then would stormwater be such a big problem?*

Rain picks up all types of pollutants like excess fertilizer and pesticides from lawns, bacteria from pet waste and antifreeze and oil from your car. Polluted stormwater can then lead to flooding, pollution of water sources like reservoirs, fishing bans, beach closures and even fish kills.

#### *What types of things can we all do to reduce stormwater pollution?*

Picking up after our dogs, sweeping fertilizer, pesticides and fertilizers back onto the lawn, washing our cars at a car wash or even

So that's where you guys come in. You are going to be marking stormdrains with this marker today to help get the idea into people's heads that stormdrains connect directly into our water sources and getting them to understand that the things we do on land like fertilizing our lawns and walking our dogs effects the health of the environment. This is great because instead of just learning about a problem with the environment you will actually be part of the solution.

[www.ristormwatersolutions.org](http://www.ristormwatersolutions.org)

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## **II. Storm Drain Marking Instructions**

We will separate into groups of 3 and spread out around the area according to your map. One person records data, one preps the site, and the third does the sticking. You want to stay out of the road and make sure one person is always looking out for traffic. We will all be wearing bright safety vests. The way to mark the drains is one person prepares the area of the curb or the corner of the stormdrain to be marked by cleaning it off with the brush. Then, one person takes the epoxy (wearing gloves) and spreads it on the back of the marker in an even bead around the outside edge. Try not to get any epoxy on the front of the marker. Then you stick the marker down on the curb, pushing hard in the center with a twisting motion. You'll see a little edge of epoxy form around the marker to know it has been applied properly.

Everyone should get a copy of the "Where Do I Fit In?" factsheet to take home and then take an extra to give out to residents and folks who walk by and ask what you are doing. One of the most important aspects of this project is to teach people about stormwater pollution, and this is a great opportunity to inform people who are already interested!

Each group gets a recording sheet and a permission letter. The recorder keeps track of the street locations of where drains have been marked on the "Storm Drain Data Card." Please also keep track of the types of materials you find in the drain with check marks.

I'll have my cell phone all day if you need anything and the number is on this sheet. Meet back here at \_\_\_\_\_.

Any questions?