

Volunteer Storm Drain Marking Program



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The City of San Marcos and Texas State University are seeking volunteers to mark storm drains and inlets with inlet markers containing a “No Dumping, Drains To River” message.

Why do we need to mark inlets and storm drains?

It is a common misconception that water entering storm drains and inlets gets treated or filtered before it enters the river, creeks, and streams. As stormwater runs across roads, parking lots, and the ground it picks up pollutants such as oils, pet waste, and sediment that enter our waterways and pollute the water that we use for drinking, fishing, and swimming. These same waters are home to many aquatic creatures including endangered species such as the San Marcos Salamander, Texas Blind Salamander, the Fountain Darter, and Texas Wild Rice.

Will marking the storm drains and inlets help reduce pollution?

By installing inlet markers, you are making residents aware that any pollutant that enters a storm drain can have a detrimental effect on the environment. Inlet markers are a way to remind them to do their part to keep stormwater clean. In addition to inlet markers, a door hanger containing tips on keeping stormwater clean will be placed on homes in the neighborhoods where inlet markers are installed. The door hanger and inlet marker are designed to complement each other. The door hanger/ inlet marker combination is an educational tool used to educate the public about stormwater pollution and ways to reduce its effects on the environment.

What is involved in marking inlets and storm drains?

Volunteer efforts will be centered in neighborhoods and low traffic areas. Before the volunteers arrive at the worksite, crews will prep the inlets that need to be marked. On the day of the event, volunteers will be provided with a map of the inlets to be marked, safety vests, tools, markers, door hangers and other necessary items needed to complete the work. A demonstration will take place showing the volunteers how to correctly install a marker. The volunteers will be divided into work teams. Some teams will install inlet markers and other teams will hang door hangers on houses in the neighborhood.

How much time will be involved installing the markers?

It depends on the size of the group. Larger groups will be able to install markers more quickly than a small group. Volunteers should plan on a minimum of 4 hours to install markers and pass out door hangers.

Who do I contact to volunteer?

To volunteer or for more information you can contact:

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