

Frequently Asked Questions – FAQ's

Here are some of the most commonly asked questions:

About the Local Storm Drain System

- What is a catch basin?
- Are sewers and storm drains the same thing?
- Do catch basins and storm drains get cleaned out?
- Can catch basins be cleaned out right before a storm?
- Can filters or screens be installed in front of catch basins?
- Why isn't a net/fence/barrier installed at the end of a storm drain channel?
- Why doesn't the City build a regional stormwater treatment facility?
- What kinds of pollutants are found in the storm drain system?
- How much water passes through the storm drain system?

About Illegal Dumping

- On occasion, I see people dumping used oil into storm drains. What can I do?
- What happens if I see a neighbor, or know someone who's throwing trash into a storm drain?
- How can I properly dispose of used motor oil, antifreeze and old car batteries?

About the Program

- What is the Rapid City Stormwater Steering Committee?
- What is the Phase II Stormwater Program?
- I have seen markers over catch basins. How do I get a marker for a catch basin near me?
- How can I be environmentally responsible when washing my car?
- Yard clippings and leaves are natural, so they don't cause any problems, right?