



DOWNSTREAM

Storm Water Quality Management 2016 First Quarter Newsletter

COSWA Booth at the OKC Home and Garden Show

The Central Oklahoma Storm Water Alliance (COSWA) hosted a booth at the Oklahoma City Home and Garden Show. This year's emphasis was to educate residents about Low Impact Development techniques. Featured at the booth were instructions on building a rain barrel, tips on how to create a rain garden at home, and



COSWA Members Brady Wright, City of Midwest City and Paul Jestice, City of Bethany



Pictured with our winner, Cheryl Causey (center) are COSWA members Danielle Barker, City of Bethany (left) and Anna Waggoner, City of Yukon (right)

information about what types of native plants work best in rain gardens. These features are a great way to reduce the amount of pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals that get washed into our lakes and streams.

COSWA also held a Rain Barrel raffle. The winner was Cheryl Causey of Yukon. Congratulations Cheryl!

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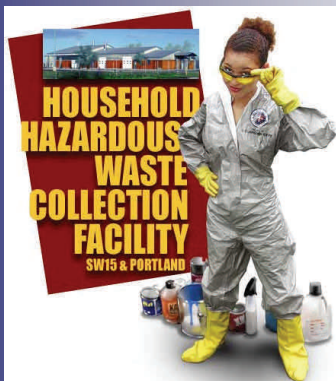
Adopt-A-City Street Program



www.coswa.wordpress.com

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

On Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Oklahoma City residents have the opportunity to deliver unwanted computers, tires, ammunition, and prescription medication to the south side of the Fairgrounds. The collection is open to Oklahoma City residents only. Proof of residency is required. During the last collection, Oklahoma City residents dropped off almost 30,000 pounds of materials. These materials should never go into our communities regular trash. Join the effort to keep these items out of the landfill.



The City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is located at 1621 South Portland and accepts a wide variety of hazardous materials from residents homes year round. Items accepted at the facility include gasoline, automotive fluids, batteries, pesticides, swimming pool chemicals, paint-related products, and many more. The facility is open Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The facility is available to residents of Oklahoma City. Residents of The Village, Yukon, Tinker Air Force Base, Shawnee, El Reno, Edmond, Bethany, Warr Acres and Moore can also recycle their waste at the facility, but may be charged for the service through their municipality. Residents must bring their water bill as proof of residency. For additional information visit www.okc.gov/SWQ

Industrial Workshop - Spring 2016

Storm Water Quality (SWQ) Spring Industrial Workshops are scheduled for Tuesday, February 23 and Wednesday, February 24, 2016, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Oklahoma City Zoo Rosser Conservation Education Center Auditorium, 2101 NE 50th Street. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Duplicate information is provided for both days therefore one day attendance is advised. This workshop is free.

Topics will include the latest rules and regulations, instruction on visual monitoring, and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan review. Attendees will also receive instruction regarding building a new program or fine-tuning an existing program. For attendees who hold Oklahoma DEQ Water and Wastewater Operators and/or Laboratory Licenses, this class is approved for four (4) hours of renewal training.



**For workshop registration information, visit www.okc.gov/swq
or email andrea.shelton@okc.gov**

Winter Storm Water Tips

In urban areas, storm water carries pollutants directly into Oklahoma City's water ways through the storm drainage system. Unlike our household wastewater, storm water does not go through a treatment plant first. It is dumped directly into lakes and rivers. Here are a few helpful hints to reduce the amount of harmful pollutants entering storm drains this winter season.

1. On a warm winter day, you may be tempted to break out the hose and bucket to get some of the road grime off of your car. Take a moment to see where that runoff is going. Does it wash down the driveway and into the storm drain? If so, all that salt and dirt will enter a stream or pond. Using a car wash facility may cost a few dollars more, but the water will be treated before being released into the watershed.
2. While it may be habit to stock up on salt for the winter, many people would not consider dumping a bucket of it into a local waterway. But the results can be similar. Salt runs off of your sidewalk and onto the storm drain. Consider more environmentally-friendly deicing products that do not contain sodium chloride (salt). These can be found at most home improvement stores.
3. While winterizing your vehicle, check that your car is not leaking oil or other fluids. It takes only a small amount of motor oil to pollute thousands of gallons of water. Also, dispose of drained fluids properly. You can drop-off these items at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 1621 S. Portland. Please do not dump these items down the storm drains.

STORM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ADOPT-A-CITY STREET PROGRAM

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www.okc.gov/SWQ



The Adopt-A-City Street Program (AACS) gives residents of Oklahoma City an opportunity to take ownership of their environment. The program participants make a two year commitment to collecting litter at least four times each year at their adopted area. The City provides a sign featuring the participant name and materials needed to complete the litter collection events such as safety vests, gloves, and bags. In 2015, 708 volunteers participated in 74 AACS events, collecting over 5 tons of litter.

Litter is a serious storm water pollution issue. Whether you are an individual, community group, local business, or corporation, we all have a role to play in protecting and improving the health of our waterways. The Adopt-A-City Street program supports storm water management throughout Oklahoma City and beyond. For more information about the Adopt-A-City Street program email andrea.shelton@okc.gov or call (405) 297-1797.



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