

## Adopt-A-Drain Dispatch December 2023 - February 2024



This quarterly newsletter is to keep you informed about program updates and to celebrate the successes of this program. Do you have a success or story to share? Please submit photos and stories to [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov) to help make this newsletter great. The program currently has 239 participants that have adopted 498 drains. Be sure to check the [website](#) to see the dashboard with up to the minute statistics. **You are making a difference!**

### **\*\*\* Recognition Program! \*\*\***

We know that you don't clean drains for fame and glory. That's good, because we can't really offer that! However, we can offer a few ways of showing how much we appreciate your efforts. We have created several levels of recognition for our volunteers.

- Level 1 receives a window cling for any number of drain cleanings the first year
- Level 2 receives an invitation to an appreciation picnic for a minimum of 12 drain cleanings logged during the year.
- Level 3 receives an Adopt A Drain t-shirt for 5 years of service with a minimum of 12 cleanings per year
- Level 4 gets your name engraved on our Adopt a Drain Hall of Fame plaque to be displayed at the Waukesha County Courthouse for 10 years of service with a minimum of 12 cleanings logged per year.

Be sure to log your cleanings so they will count towards our recognition. **If you don't log it, we don't have a record of it!**





### **Volunteer Spotlight:**

Mark Golterman and his wife noticed a lot of debris in the street uphill from their drain, so they decided to try to get it cleared before the predicted three-day monsoon began. They cleared 4 buckets of debris, and 2 wheel-barrow full! They got 61 lbs of stuff from the west side of the street, and went back later and gathered another 56 lbs from the east side. Thank you for your hard work!

*Share your enthusiasm for your drain! [Send photos and captions](#) and you could be in the next edition of the Adopt-A-Drain Dispatch!*

### **Helpful Hints for Winter**

1. Enjoy a hot drink as you look out the window at your favorite storm drain.
2. Call your municipal public works if your drain becomes frozen over.



### **What's in a Name?**

*We love all of the clever names being bestowed upon our storm drains. Here we would like to introduce you to a few of our favorites.*

Our next call out goes to Jacci Buehl for her drain named "Drains like us, baby we were born to run!" Your drain is already looking forward to Spring-steen. Jacci won't let any Pink Cadillac drip oil down her drain that was Born in the USA!





## Pollution Highlight: Salt

Whether you love it or not, winter is coming. That means snow and ice on our streets along with snowplows and salt. Did you ever think about where that salt goes after it clears our roadways? Salt dissolves in water, so it goes wherever the water that drains off the road goes. Sometimes that is into a storm drain where it ends up in a lake or river. Sometimes it soaks into the ground and enters our groundwater.

No matter where it ends up, the salt ends up damaging infrastructure, waterways and groundwater. Do your best to use less salt this winter. Let's keep our waters shark free!

## Cross Connections Corner



For a comprehensive list of Environmental Education programs offered by Waukesha County, visit [www.waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd) Our school guide and our public guides are both here...there's something for everyone!



### Land Resources Division

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