

Painting The Basin Blue

The Klamath Watershed Council Urban Issues Working Group (UIWG) hopes to recover native fish populations in the Upper Klamath Basin by encouraging the community to reduce pollution and improve water quality. The Partnership sponsors stream restoration and service learning projects, sharing the value of healthy waters with others.

Our “Painting the Basin Blue” storm drain stenciling project raises awareness of the dangers of runoff and direct pollution into our community storm drains. Participants educate others by painting DUMP NO WASTE—DRAINS TO RIVER next to drains.

Urban runoff can lead to drinking water contamination, recreational closures, fish kills, and unsafe and unattractive waterways. No one wants this in their backyard. Storm drain stenciling can help stop this!

Even washing your car in the street or driveway adds soap, wax and oil directly into our local waterways!

Pollution in the Waterways

Careless dumping of used oil, cleaning products, paint, fertilizers, litter, toxic household materials, trash, etc. down our storm drains or onto city streets has become a common problem.

Storm drains are catch basins designed to carry rain and melting snow off the streets to avoid flooding.

Many people do not realize that anything dumped, washed or swept into the storm drains and drainage ditches flows directly, unfiltered and untreated, into OUR WATERWAYS! These materials may contain toxins harmful to fish and humans.



How To Help



- Report storm drain dumping or problems to your local code enforcement office
- Dispose of household hazardous materials and cleaners properly. Never dump into drains. Recycle used motor oil. Call Waste Management at 884-7706.
- Wash your vehicles at a car wash where waste water is treated and/or recycled, or on your own lawn.
- Don't over-water lawns and gardens. Most lawns in the Klamath Basin only need 1" of water a week. Overseed bare spots, de-thatch and aerate. Use slow-release fertilizer.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. Reduce runoff.
- DO NOT LITTER! It will wash into streams, lakes and rivers. Clean up pet waste!
- Participate in a storm drain stenciling project. Call OSU Klamath Basin Research & Extension at 883-7131 or Klamath Watershed Partnership at 850-1717 for information.

Get involved in UIWG's storm drain stenciling program in your neighborhood!

To Participate...

The Urban Issues Working Group (UIWG) of the Klamath Watershed Council and OSU Extension Klamath can coordinate a storm drain stenciling project for you by providing maps, paint, equipment, directions, safety materials, guidance and educational handouts.

This is a great idea for a service-learning project for scouts, schools, sports teams, youth groups, businesses, neighborhood groups, clubs, or even families!

All materials can be borrowed FREE of charge.

UIWG partners with OSU Extension Klamath, Klamath County Public Works, the City of Klamath Falls, and the Klamath County Drainage Service District to get you to work fast in the area closest to you.



Upper Klamath Basin Watershed

The Upper Klamath Basin Watershed encompasses nearly 7,447 square miles in area, consists of 4,265 miles of streams, and hosts 436 square miles of wetlands.

The Upper Klamath Basin Watershed is home to native bull trout, rainbow trout, short nose sucker, Lost River sucker, lamprey, dace, and other native fish. Numbers that were once plentiful have diminished, but there is still a chance to help fish populations improve.

PAINT THE BASIN BLUE!

Contact us to learn more about our "Painting The Basin Blue" storm drain stenciling program and the other ongoing projects we have to restore the Upper Klamath Basin Watershed and educate the people that call it home.

Klamath Watershed Partnership
541-850-1717
OR
OSU Klamath Basin Research &
Extension
541-883-7131

"Painting The Basin Blue"



The Upper Klamath Basin Storm Drain Stenciling Program

Klamath Watershed Partnership & OSU Klamath Basin Research & Extension



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