

## The Village of Cottage Grove Launches NEW Adopt-A-Storm Drain Program

Storm drains play an important role in flood prevention and protection of our lakes, rivers and streams. They help move stormwater runoff from roofs, driveways, streets and other hard surfaces to underground pipes or storm sewers that eventually make their way to our lakes, rivers and streams. Unfortunately, that runoff also carries pollutants, trash, leaves and other debris with it to our waters. Keeping storm drains and the area around them clean can help protect our waters! Village staff sweeps the streets and cleans inlets as often as we can... but we can't do it alone.

The Village of Cottage Grove is one of five communities partnering with Dane County on a new Adopt-A-Storm Drain program and we're looking for volunteers. It's easy! Here's how it works.

1. Adopt a nearby storm drain using the Dane County Adopt-A-Storm Drain App.
2. Commit to safely cleaning the area on and around the adopted storm drain at least once a month, but preferably before every large rain event.
3. Report the amount and type of debris after each cleaning using the Adopt- A-Storm Drain App.
4. Report any spills/discharges washing down the storm drain.
5. Agree to share feedback that will be used to improve the program and expand it to other Dane County communities.

All volunteers will be provided Storm Drain Cleaning Kit that include: a safety vest, storm drain decal to place on their adopted storm drain, dust pan and broom, collection bucket and an Adopt-A-Storm Drain sticker to proudly display. Volunteers will also be included on our Adopt-A-Storm Drain e-Newsletter, which comes out 3-4 times/year. Adopt a local storm drain and have a Ripple Effect on area waters!

To Adopt-A-Storm Drain near you or learn more visit: <https://ripple-effects.com/adopt-a-storm-drain>

