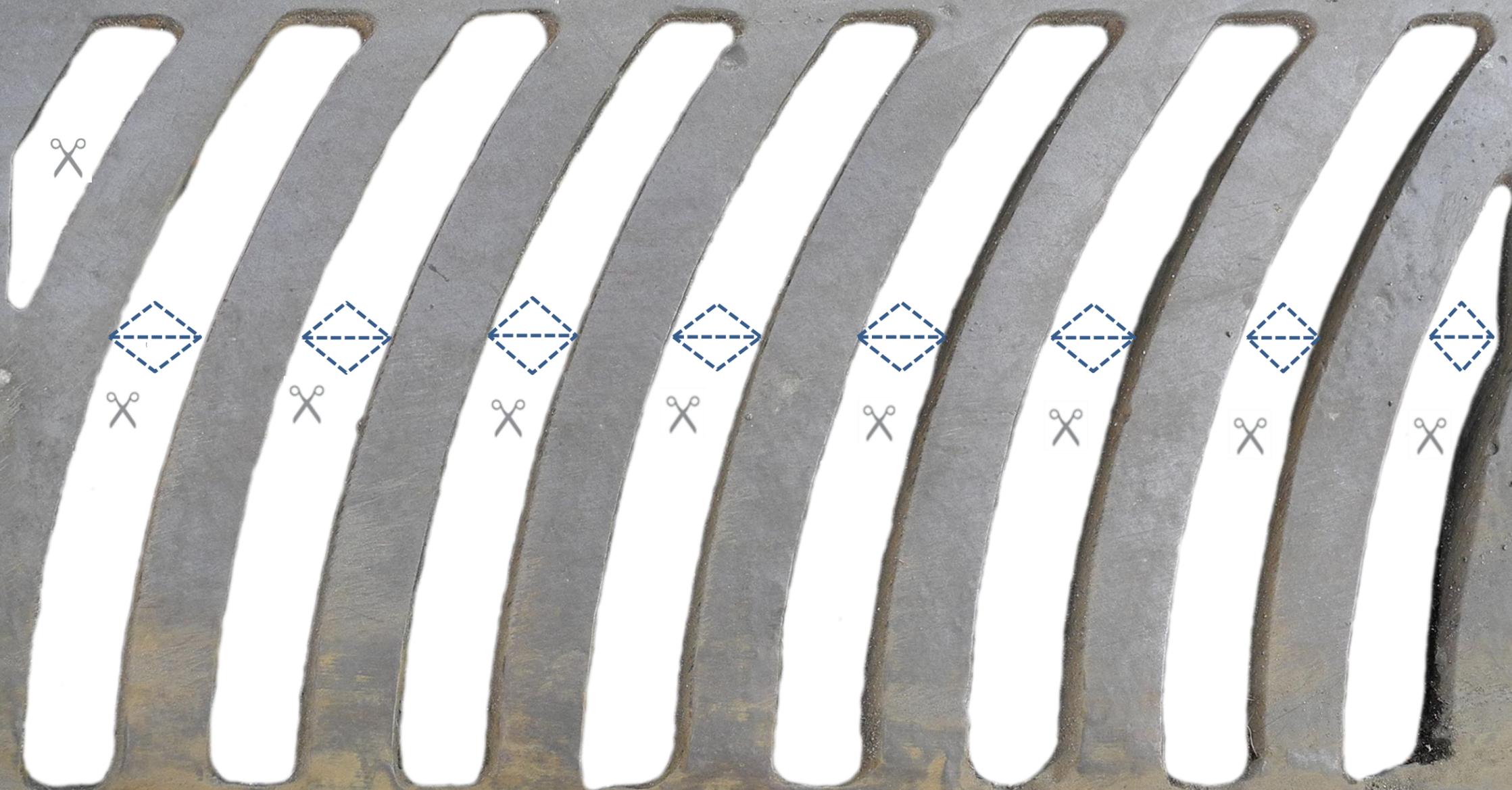


Where does your storm drain go?





# Storm Drain Activity Sheet

Where does the rain that falls on the streets and parking lots go? Where does your storm drain go?

PDF Source: [www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/es-watersheds-pdf/watershed-k-12-education/storm-drain-activity-sheet-print-bw-11x17.pdf?sfvrsn=2](http://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/es-watersheds-pdf/watershed-k-12-education/storm-drain-activity-sheet-print-bw-11x17.pdf?sfvrsn=2)

Background resource: Watershed Stewardship videos [www.crd.bc.ca/education/our-environment/watersheds/educational-resources](http://www.crd.bc.ca/education/our-environment/watersheds/educational-resources)

<b>Activity 1 - Outdoors</b>	<p>Take the children on a walk around the block and, if you are near a creek, lake or shoreline and can safely do so, visit there too. During the walk plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- count the storm drains and trees</li> <li>- stop at a grassy area</li> <li>- stop at a paved/cement area.</li> </ul>
	<p>As you start the walk, explain to the children that wherever they are, they are walking in a watershed.</p>
	<p>At the grassy area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask the children where they think the rain goes when it falls on the grassy areas and gardens?</li> <li>- Explain that these areas are called '<b>pervious</b>', because it is possible for the rain to soak in. (Hint: water soaks into the ground and slowly makes its way through the soil to the roots of plants and trees, or supplies water to a creek through the soil).</li> <li>- Say "<b>pervious, possible for the rain to soak in.</b>"</li> <li>- Here you can also ask the children to <i>softly</i> jump on a grassy area and <i>softly</i> say "<b>pervious possible</b>".</li> </ul>
	<p>As you continue on the walk, explain to the children how the trees, grass and gardens need the rain to soak in.</p>
	<p>At the paved/cement area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Walk on the sidewalk, blacktop or cement.</li> <li>- Ask the children where they think the rain goes when it falls on the hard surface of the playground, roads and parking lots?</li> <li>- Explain that rain can't soak into these hard surfaces because they are "<b>impervious</b>" and the rain runs off down the hill/incline. (Hint: rain runs off the hard surface, down a storm drain or to a grassy area).</li> <li>- Say "<b>impervious, impossible for the rain to soak in</b>".</li> <li>- Here you can also ask the children to jump <i>hard (and loudly)</i> on the hard sidewalk, parking lot and shout "<b>impervious impossible!</b>"</li> </ul>
	<p>As you continue on the walk,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask: <i>What pollution do you see on the streets and parking lots?</i> (Hint: Oil stains, cigarette butts, garbage)</li> <li>- Talk to the children about all the rain water on the roads and parking lots: how the water picks up those pollutants as it flows into the storm drains; and then this dirty water goes straight to the nearest creek, lake or shoreline.</li> <li>- Ask: <i>Do you think all the critters, fish and animals would like to swim in or drink this water?</i></li> <li>- Ask the children if they would want to wade in this water when they go to the beach?</li> </ul>
<p>Ask the children: <i>How would you keep the streets and parking lots cleaner - so that the water is cleaner when it flows into the nearby creeks, lake and shoreline (beach)?</i></p>	

<b>Activity 2 - Indoors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Print the storm drain graphic, single-sided, on 11x17 size paper (black &amp; white).</li> <li>- Ask the children to cut out the white spaces of the storm drain image. (Hint: 1. fold along the middle line of diamonds; 2. cut out dashed triangle; 3. unfold and use cut out diamonds for easy access to cut our rest of white space)</li> </ul>
	<p>On a blank piece of paper, have the children to draw their favourite local creek, lake or shoreline. (Hint: they can include local fish, animals, birds and/or themselves.</p>
	<p>Glue the cut out grate image over top of the children's drawing.</p> <p>Explain that this is to emphasize that the water going down the storm drains goes directly to this favourite place and that <b>we must do our part to keep it clean!</b></p>
<b>Activity 3 Follow-Up</b>	<p><b>Earn your FREE CRD Ollie the Otter Watershed Warden Badge*!</b></p> <p>Simple on-line badge application. Do a beach clean-up, school yard clean up, ride your bike or walk, take care of a tree. More ideas and application: <a href="http://www.crd.bc.ca/education/school-programs/for-k12-teachers/educator-guides-resources/watersheds">www.crd.bc.ca/education/school-programs/for-k12-teachers/educator-guides-resources/watersheds</a></p> <p><small>*(must be resident of the capital region, British Columbia)</small></p>
	<p><b>Vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Rain</b> – the water that falls from clouds</p> <p><b>Stormwater</b> – the rain water that runs off the land, rooftops, parking lots and along the streets, picking up pollutants as it runs over these surfaces</p> <p><b>Storm drain</b> – the drain/grate on the side of the roads or in parking lots, these drains lead directly to the nearest creek, lake or shoreline (beach)</p> <p><b>Pervious</b> – allows water to soak in</p> <p><b>Impervious</b> – does not allow water to soak in</p>