

# TAKE THE STORMWATER CHALLENGE!

#### Cleaner stormwater means a cleaner Lake Superior



The City of Marquette includes four major watersheds that naturally drain to Lake Superior (Dead River, Whetstone Brook, Orianna Creek and the Carp River). But did you know that underneath the city there is a system of stormwater pipes that also drain directly to the lake (see map)?

Each time it rains (or snow melts) water from roads, roofs, sidewalks and yards enters the nearest storm drain and makes its way to an outlet at Lake Superior. It's important to keep our stormwater runoff as clean as possible especially since most stormwater outlets are located near our public beaches.









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Here are some things you and your neighbors can do to help improve Marquette's stormwater quality and better protect Lake Superior. Take the neighborhood challenge to improve stormwater runoff quality!

- Dispose of all pet waste properly. Please do not take your dog to the beach!
- Avoid using fertilizers and pesticides (if you must; use sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters).
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden or rain barrel to capture runoff. Contact the SWP about our rain barrel rebate program for Marquette residents (limited time only).
- Dispose of cigarette butts properly. A butt on the ground will likely go through the storm drain and end up in Lake Superior.
- Dispose of hazardous household waste at appropriate collection sites.
- Allow your lawn to grow taller. Longer grass (approx. 3") helps hold water and filter contaminants. Compost your yard waste.
- Cover any exposed soil with vegetation or mulch. Use native plant species if possible.
- Promptly repair any leaks in your car or other vehicles.
- Wash your car on the grass or at the car wash (not in the driveway where water runs into the storm drain).
- Don't hose off your driveway, sweep dirt and debris back onto your yard or dispose of properly.
- Never dump anything down storm drains!

### Remember; Stormwater is a Resource not a Waste Product!

For more information or technical assistance regarding what you can do please contact the Superior Watershed Partnership at: 228-6095 or www.superiorwatersheds.org