



Stormwater Management Program News

Second Quarter 2021

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS

Many of our local restaurants have added outdoor seating during the past year. Following these simple tricks can help prevent potential pollutants from being picked up by stormwater runoff while enjoying the new areas or while picnicking in our City parks:

- When finished eating, place all disposable items in a trash container, if one is available.
- If no trash container is available, secure easily blown-away items such as napkins, straws, and straw wrappers by placing them under plates, glasses, or silverware until the table can be bussed.
- Pick up any dropped items, including food items, and throw them away or secure them to prevent being blown away.
- When enjoying the City Parks, dispose of all trash immediately upon finishing in provided trash containers or pack them up and dispose of them at home.

While enjoying our many trails, please dispose of all trash in provided trash containers or pack it out to dispose of at home. Please also pick up after your pets. City parks and trails have pet waste stations with baggies and trash containers. Do not leave baggies along the trail to pick up on the way out. Remember – There is No Poop Fairy!



City of Cañon City

P.O. Box 1460

128 Main Street

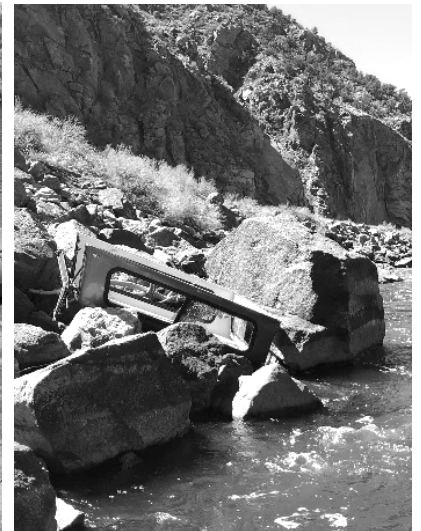
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APRIL EVENTS

April was Earth Month with April 22nd designated as Earth Day. Many clean-up events took place during the month and the City of Cañon City's Stormwater Program would like to recognize and thank all the organizations and volunteers that helped clean up City ditches, parks, trails and the Arkansas River. Below are a few that took place in April. If any other events took place be sure to let us know so we can send our thanks and recognition.

Royal Gorge RIO organized an Arkansas River clean up on Sunday, April 11th. Over 100 people volunteered to help; they removed 1,580 pounds of trash, five tires, and one car topper from the river and its banks. Fantastic job everyone!



Credit Union of Colorado held their annual Go Green Clean Up on April 21st. The employees cleaned up the street, median, and areas along Fremont Drive from North Raynolds Avenue to Orchard Avenue. Ten employees picked up about twenty bags of trash.



The Cañon City Metro Rec District hosted its annual Clean Up/Green Up Riverwalk and Arkansas River clean up on April 24th. This year the City of Cañon City and Fremont Adventure Recreation (FAR) joined as co-sponsors. We had over 40 volunteers removing trash along the Arkansas River, Riverwalk, City Parks, Pathfinder Park, John Griffin Regional Park, and the South Cañon Trails. Several organizations also volunteered with the clean up, including Clean-It-Up.org, FAR, Rock N Rail Railroad, Cañon City employees, and Starbucks. Both Howard Disposal and Twin Enviro donated roll-off dumpsters for the event. Volunteers removed 3.35 tons (that's 6,700 pounds!) of trash and debris.



A huge thanks to everyone that participated in these events. Let's make every day Earth Day: take time to pick up litter, don't throw litter out of vehicles, pick up after pets and dispose of the waste properly. We all can make a difference with just little actions. If you know of a clean up event being planned be sure to let us know.

"When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe." – John Muir

Please feel free to direct any concerns or questions to Glenda DeBekker, City of Cañon City Stormwater Program at either (719) 276-5265 or grdebekker@canoncity.org



MORE POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS

Spring and Summer means yard work for many. Follow these tips to minimize potential impacts to stormwater runoff.

- Yard work often means mowing the lawn, weeding flower beds and gardens and pruning trees and bushes. Grass clippings should be bagged for disposal or composted to create natural fertilizer. Leaving grass clippings on the lawn can help add natural fertilizers as they decay.
- Never blow, sweep, or place grass clippings or other yard waste in the street along the curb. Runoff from storm events or over-irrigation of lawns can wash the clippings or other waste into the nearest storm drain or culvert, leading to blockages of flow and localized flooding. If the waste makes it through the storm sewer system, it will be washed into the Arkansas River where it may cause other issues such as algae blooms or other impacts to wildlife and recreation.
- Use fertilizers sparingly and only as the manufacturer directs. Excess fertilizer will just wash off the lawn and into the storm system; again potentially causing water quality problems in the Arkansas River and possibly other drainages. Excess fertilizer in our waterbodies can lead to algae blooms which impact wildlife, recreation, and drinking water.
- Sweep paved areas such as sidewalks and driveways rather than hosing them down. Collect the sweepings and dispose of them in the trash.

We hope you get out and enjoy our beautiful parks and trails. By following the tips provided you can help keep our local waterways, parks, and trails clean for all to enjoy.