



Stormwater Management Program News

Second Edition 2023

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

Follow these tips to minimize potential impacts to stormwater runoff during this fall and winter.

- When performing fall fertilizing use fertilizers sparingly and only as the manufacturer directs. Excess fertilizer will just wash off the lawn and into the storm system, 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.
- Make sure to use drip pans or cloths to capture any spills or drips when performing maintenance to get your vehicle winter-ready. Drips and spills can be absorbed by sand or cat litter then swept up and placed in the garbage for disposal.
- Dispose of left over chemicals, paint and material from yard care and home improvement projects properly. If possible donate left over items to places such as Habitat for Humanity's ReStore or check with local paint stores about recycling left over paint. Try a neighborhood swap for unused materials. Cat litter or sand can be added to cans to absorb the paint; once dry it can be placed in the garbage for disposal.
- Place shoveled snow back on your lawn to provide extra moisture as it melts, rather than placing it in the street.



City of Cañon City

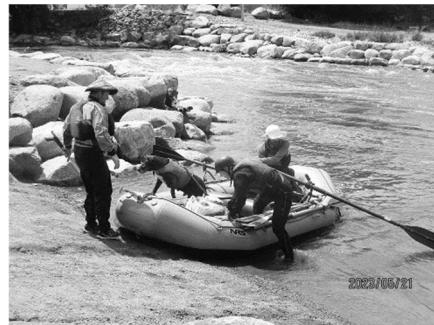
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Spring/Summer Updates:

City personnel participated in the Rec District's annual Clean Up Green Up event at the end of April. The event concentrated on removing trash along the Arkansas River and Riverwalk through town. Fifty-three volunteers helped remove almost 5,000 pounds of trash and debris!

City personnel also participated in the Royal Gorge RIO's annual Arkansan River clean-up in May. Volunteers rafted the river or walked along the river, picking up trash and debris. Thanks to all who participated, over 500 pounds of trash and debris were removed.



The City of Cañon City held a Dumpster and Electronics Recycling event in April. Ten large dumpsters were filled and two truckloads of electronics were collected for recycling.



The Cañon City Community Service Office and Stormwater Program had a joint booth at the 2023 Fremont County Safety Jam in June. Almost 300 people stopped by to learn about keeping their pets safe while on walks from the CSO Officers and to learn about stormwater pollution prevention by the City's Stormwater Program.



Upcoming Events:

The City of Cañon City will be hosting a paper shredding event in October. Only paper will be accepted for shredding – no newspaper or other type of media will be accepted during this event. Paper will be accepted from the public at City Hall in the downstairs foyer on Tuesday, October 10th from 7 am to 10 am and on Thursday, October 12th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. The cost is \$0.50 per pound, cash only. All paper collected will be shredded on October 24th.

The City Streets Department will be conducting its annual leaf pick up beginning in November. Specific dates will be announced later this fall.

Notes from the Field:

City personnel have been conducting annual inspections of City drainages and stormwater infrastructure such as detention basins. We have noticed more debris and trash in the channels than we normally do. Many of the items appear to be wind-blown items that end up in the channels. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind our residents to keep dumpster and trash tote lids closed to prevent trash from being blown into the streets and drainages and possibly end up in the river. It seems like wind storms are becoming more common in the area so we also recommend that yard items such as patio furniture cushions, garden fencing and wading pools be secured when high winds are in the forecast. These types of items have been found in drainages; if not retrieved by the owner, the City will remove and dispose of them.

Grass clippings and other yard waste have also been found in drainages during inspections. Please remember that dumping yard waste or other items into the street, drainages or detention basins is against City Code. Yard waste can be washed into storm drains or culverts which may cause them to become clogged and lead to localized flooding. If the yard waste makes it to the river or other drainages, it could cause algae blooms as it decays. Please bag all yard waste for pick up by your waste disposal company or compost it.



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.

Stormwater and Street Projects Update

N. Raynolds Ave/Pear/Field Ave: Construction is on-going. Crews are placing the remaining sections of curb and gutter and prepping for pavement installation. New irrigation pipes, clean-outs and storm drains have been installed.

Franklin Ave – 19th St to Orchard: Work will begin soon and will be focused first on installing irrigation and drainage features prior to new pavement, curb and gutter, and sidewalks.

College Ave – 3rd St to 9th St: Work is anticipated to begin in early October and will include full reconstruction of pavement. Spot repairs of curbs and sidewalk ramp upgrades will also be done.

Rhodes Ave: Completion of the stormwater improvement project is anticipated to commence mid-to-late November and be finished by April, 2024. Work will include relocation of existing utilities and installation of new utilities under the railroad, stormwater and irrigation improvements, and restoration of the impacted roadway.



Tidbits

Cañon City's official rainfall total for May, 2023, was 2.97" which is the second highest for May since 2000. The total for June, at 1.86", is also the second highest for that month since 2000. And as of September 18, our rainfall total is at 1.7", making it the fifth highest for September since 2000.

Thanks to our Stormwater Maintenance crew the City's storm sewer system appeared to handle these storms better than it had in previous years.