



# Stormwater Management Program News

## First Edition 2025

### Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

Follow these tips to minimize potential impacts to stormwater runoff.

- 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.

- Pick up your pet waste while out on walks and make sure outdoor pet areas are cleaned regularly. Pet waste can carry bacteria and viruses that we don't want in our waterways and it can contribute nutrients as it decays.

- 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.

- Wash vehicles on grassy or non-paved surfaces using biodegradable soap. The grass will filter grime and other pollutants allowing



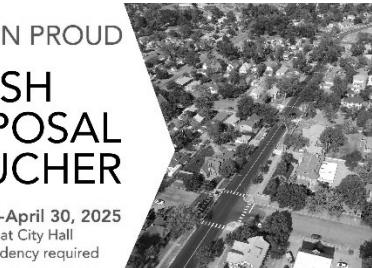
### Upcoming Clean-Up Events:

**Canon Proud Clean-up:** The City of Cañon City is offering a limited number of trash vouchers beginning on March 17<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> on a first-come, first-served basis. The vouchers can be used for free disposal of household trash, furniture, construction debris, brush, logs, leaves and yard waste at the Twin Enviro Phantom Landfill. The vouchers are good for up to 500 pounds of free disposal. Pick up your voucher at City Hall between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

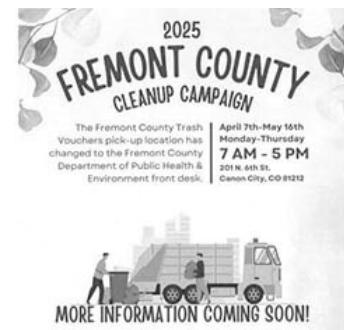


**April 5:** Fremont County Public Health and Environment is hosting an Electronics Recycling Event. The event will be held at the Fremont County Department of Human Services, 172 Justice Center Rd from 9 am to 12 pm. All electronics, including large appliances will be accepted. TVs and CRT computer monitors will be charged \$30 each; all other items are free.

The 2025 Fremont County Cleanup Campaign starts April 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 16<sup>th</sup>. Trash vouchers will be available for pickup Monday – Thursday from 7 am to 5 pm at the Fremont County Department of Public Health and Environment, 201 N 6<sup>th</sup> St, Canon City.



March 17–April 30, 2025  
pick one up at City Hall  
proof of residency required



**April 26:** The Cañon City Area Recreation and Park District and the City of Cañon City will be partnering again this year for the 2025 annual Clean Up/Green Up. The clean up will focus on the Riverwalk and other trails throughout the City. Breakfast will be available for volunteers starting at 8 am with the clean up starting at 9 am. Volunteers will meet at the Recreation District's Community Room at 575 Ash St. Trash bags and water will be provided; please bring your own work gloves.

April 27: Royal Gorge RIO will be hosting their annual river clean up from 9 am to 2 pm. Volunteers will meet at Centennial Park and can raft the river or walk alongside it to remove trash and debris. The Stormwater Program will also have a booth with giveaways, demonstrations and information on pollution prevention.

In addition to the upcoming events, the following companies will accept recycling, appliances, vehicles, and specific metals. Please contact them directly for more information.

- Junk Masters will pick up scrap metal, appliances, vehicles, batteries, pipe, wire, machinery and more for free. They do not accept TVs, wood, tires, furniture, paints or household chemicals and trash. Please call or text them at 719-429-4590 or 719-429-2219.
- R.D. Recycling will accept appliances for free disposal. They will also pick up large loads in bulk. The company will purchase brass, aluminum, and copper at prevailing rates, and automobile batteries for \$3.00 each. The company is located at 1501 High Street; please call 719-641-0630 for more information.

The Royal Gorge Bridge and Park will be hosting their Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 5 pm. Mention "Earth Day" to receive a \$15.00 admission.

### **Stormwater Concerns:**

The Stormwater Program has received some concerns from citizens about large items such as garbage totes being blown or washed into area drainages. We'd like to ask everyone to be mindful of the potential for large items such as totes, lawn furniture, wading pools and other items to be blown into the street or drainages during our numerous high-wind days. Items may also be picked up by storm runoff during larger storms. These types of items have the potential to block drainage channels, culverts or storm inlets leading to localized flooding. Be sure to keep large, light items secure by moving them inside or to an area sheltered from the wind or out of reach of higher runoff flows.

Stormwater personnel have also noticed an increase in oil and automotive fluid drips and leaks on City streets. We'd like to remind everyone to immediately clean up any spills or leaks from their vehicles. The fluid can be covered in cat litter, sand or absorbent. Once absorbed it can be swept up and placed in the garbage.

### **Stormwater Program Announcements:**

The annual Stormwater Program summary report is now available on the City of Cañon City's website: <https://www.canoncity.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/212>



*"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](mailto:grdebekker@canoncity.org).

### **Spring Clean-Up of Irrigation Laterals and Ditches**

Irrigation ditches will soon come on in Cañon City which means the lateral pipes and ditches along property boundaries will be flowing with water. Please take the time to make sure these pipes and ditches, including Right-of-Way ditches, along your property are clear of any debris and sediment. Cañon City Municipal Code, Title 19, assigns this responsibility to the property owner or resident. Regardless of whether you have water shares or use the irrigation water or not, it is your responsibility to ensure the water flows unobstructed. Downstream users depend upon it.

Irrigation water is used to water crops, gardens and yards within the City, so it is also important to keep the water as clean as possible. The water eventually returns to the Arkansas River or Four Mile Creek. Any items, such as trash, grass clippings and sediment have the potential to be washed into the river or creek. These items can also cause blockages of culverts or pipes, leading to water overflowing, flooding the street or adjacent properties. Please do not dump any trash, yard waste, pet waste or other substances into these laterals or into the mainstem of the irrigation ditches.

