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1 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of storm drain marking is to establish a standard procedure for marking the storm drains in an effort to reduce nonpoint source pollution. This manual covers the method used for labeling storm drain inlets. Many people mistakenly assume storm drain inlets empty to water treatment facilities, justifying their decision to pour chemicals or sweep pollutants directly into storm drains. This nonpoint dumping greatly increases the level of nonpoint source pollutants already present and can contribute substantially to a decline in water quality. A storm drain marking project affords many opportunities for public education. Once labeled, these storm drains become public education tools; reminding the community that stormwater runoff flows directly to nearby waterbodies.

2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 Nonpoint Source Pollution: Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution is caused when rainfall carries pollutants from a wide variety of sources into the surface water or group water.

3 PREPARING FOR FIELD WORK

3.1 Gather the following equipment:

- Safety vests
- Caulk gun
- Curb marker adhesive
- Storm drain markers
- Rubber gloves
- Wire brush
- Trash bags
- Map of storm drains to be marked
- Hand cleaner
- Pen

4 SAFETY PROTOCOL

4.1 The storm drain marking procedure occurs mainly in parking lots and on sidewalks. Therefore, safety is of utmost importance when marking storm drains.

4.1.1 Marking of storm drains should always be done by at least two people.

- 4.1.2 Safety vests are to be worn at all times.
- 4.2 Follow these first aid procedures when working with the adhesive glue:
 - 4.2.1 Inhalation: Only open and use the curb marker adhesive in open air areas outside.
 - 4.2.2 Eyes: Flush eyes with water if any adhesive comes into contact with them.
 - 4.2.3 Skin Contact: Wash affected area with soap and water. Contact a physician if irritation persists.
 - 4.2.4 Ingestion: Call physician immediately

5 CONDUCTING FIELD WORK

- 5.1 Using the GIS system and written notes, map out storm drains to be marked and take storm markers (including extras for storm drains that were unaccounted for).
- 5.2 Brush debris away from the desired location of the marker. Put any trash at or near the site into one of the trash bags. Then scrub the spot with the wire brush to create a better surface for adhesion.
- 5.3 Select an unused curb marker adhesive and place it into the caulk gun. Be sure to cut only a small opening at the tip of the adhesive.
- 5.4 Apply the adhesive glue to the back of the marker starting with the outside edge circling toward the center. Make sure the edge has approximately 1/8" bead of adhesive all around to seal the edge to the surface.
- 5.5 Place the marker onto the clean and gently abraded surface with a twisting motion. Push down firmly so the adhesive moves out around the entire edge of the marker to properly seal it.
- 5.6 Repeat this procedure for all of the identified storm drains. Take note of any new or previously unmarked locations to add to the map for future reference.