

Fall Leaves &

Storm Drains

WHAT IS A STORM DRAIN?

Storm drains are grates with slats that are normally near the edge of a street. These grates collect water from the street to prevent localized flooding in the area. The storm water then flows to the nearest stream or lake. Although not all city streets have a storm drain. Some areas have wet-wells which just hold additional storm water until the ground can absorb it.

WHY SHOULD I HELP CLEAN THE LEAF DEBRIS AND/OR STORM DRAINS ON MY STREET?

Cleaning storm drains or catch basins ensures they work properly to prevent localized flooding in the area.

City & county crews work to keep all the storm drains clear, but with thousands of drains in Columbia County, a little help could go a long way and could help reduce property damage caused by localized flooding.

DO NOT BLOW or RAKE LEAVES ONTO THE ROADWAY;

Blowing or raking your leaves onto the street is not permitted. The street sweeper is not able to sweep large piles of leaves as it causes equipment failures & your section of street could be skipped. Leaves on the street could also flow to a STORM DRAIN and clog the drain.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Check storm drain grates frequently to make sure they are free of leaves & debris.
- Do not remove grates from the drain opening – this does not unclog the system & creates a hazard.
- Rake leaves & yard debris away from storm drains near your home or business.
- Help keep leaves off the street.

If you noticed severe flooding on your street; call Public Works (503-543-8404).

There are several streets in Scappoose maintained by the Columbia County Road Dept. (503-397-5090);

~Eastside: Westlane Rd., E. Columbia Ave, North Rd, Bird Rd., Miller Rd. & SE Elm St.

~Westside: Scap-Vern Hwy., Smith Rd., JP West Rd., EM Watts Rd. & Dutch Canyon Rd.

TIPS FOR PROPER LEAF DISPOSAL:

- Dispose leaves in a compost bin
- Order a Waste Management yard-waste container (1-800-808-5901)
- Mulch leaves w/ lawnmower to spread on your garden or flowerbeds for winter nutrients
- Take your leaves to the following locations;
 - ~ Columbia County Transfer Station 503-366-2613 (call for rates; avg. truckload = 2-3 yards)
 - ~ Scappoose Senior Center @ 33342 SW Meadow Dr. (off SW 4th); will take leaves for **FREE** as compost on their community garden. But it can only be leaves. --NO grass clippings-- NO garbage-- NO tree trimmings or branches. *They also accept soda cans & newspapers in the appropriate bins which helps the Senior Center raise funds.*

NEED MORE INFO: Scappoose Public Works office: 503-543-8404



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