

City Beat

OCTOBER 2008

Main Menu Recording
(209) 577-5200
TTD
(209) 526-9211
Website
www.modestogov.com

MODESTO STORM DRAIN SYSTEMS

Modesto's storm drain system receives storm water from City streets, guides it through underground pipes and releases it into nearby rivers, catch basins or the underground water table. The City's storm drain system consists of Rock Wells, Positive Storm Drains and Retention/Detention Basins.

To better understand the Storm Drain System, it helps to understand the many components. Catch Basins are openings that capture storm water, then filter out solid materials before it flows into one of the following:

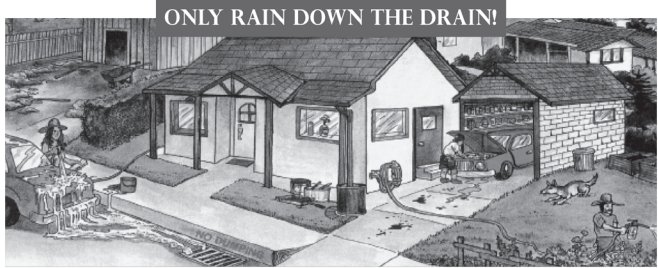
- **Rock Wells** are deep holes in the ground that are filled with rocks. The catch basin system allows water to seep slowly into the ground. Rock Wells make up more than two-thirds of the City's storm drain system and are designed to drain untreated storm water runoff by letting it percolate directly into the shallow underground water table. Rock Wells usually drain fully within 24 to 36 hours, however, a heavy or sudden down-pour can result in standing water or flooded streets.
- **Positive Storm Drains** are underground pipes connected to a catch basin. Untreated storm water collects in catch basins and flow through these pipes until released into nearby creeks or rivers.
- **Retention/Detention Basins** also process storm water. Untreated storm water collects in catch basins and flows through underground pipes to large enclosed basins (open grassy areas). Water collects in the basin over time, then soaks into the ground through a Rock Well. Storm water from these basins may also be pumped into nearby canals, creeks or rivers.

Here's how you can protect the City's storm drain system and prevent street flooding:

1. Steam clean your car's engine at a professional car wash, not in your driveway.
2. Clean oil spills or drips with an absorbent material, such as cat litter or sand, instead of hosing oil into the street.
3. Recycle your used oil at a nearby Certified Collection Center or have it picked up through Curbside Collection. Contact the City of Modesto Used Oil Recycling Hotline at (209) 577-5493.
4. Dispose of antifreeze and other hazardous materials at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located at 1716 Morgan Road. Call (209) 525-4123 for details.
5. Rinse your latex paint, brushes, rollers and pans in the sink, not in your driveway.
6. Do not wash your garden pesticides into the gutter or the storm drain.
7. Keep leaves and yard clippings at least one foot from the curb or put them in your green waste can.
8. Place animal waste in your black garbage can.
9. Report polluters by calling (209) 577-6200.

For information regarding the type of storm drain system in your neighborhood, read more and look at the system map at www.modestogov.com/pwd.

Remember – Only Rain Down the Drain!




ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN!

Please Keep Our Water Clean!
NEVER POUR USED OIL, PAINT, GASOLINE OR CHEMICALS DOWN STORM DRAINS!

Report Pollution: (209) 577-6200
Recycle Used Oil & Filters: (209) 577-5493

Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board



* Due to the cyclic nature of mailing the City Beat with the water/sewer/garbage bills, some of the events/programs may have already occurred.

Utility Billing/Customer Services

Pay-by-Phone: (209) 577-5395

Press "2" for Spanish Translation

Have your account number ready

For Account Information, PRESS 1

For Payment History, PRESS 2

For Billing History, PRESS 3

To Pay by Visa/Mastercard, PRESS 4

To Repeat Message, PRESS 9

For General Information, PRESS *

To Speak with a Customer Service Representative, PRESS 0

America Recycles Day!

America Recycles Day is a nationwide event celebrated each November to promote the social, environmental and economic benefits of recycling and buying products made from recycled materials.

This year, the City of Modesto will partner with The Home Depot at 1617 North Carpenter Road, to celebrate America Recycles Day on **Friday, November 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Drop by the City of Modesto's America Recycles Day booth to see The Home Depot's display of items made from recycled materials. A representative from The Home Depot's building materials department will be available to answer questions about these products.

During this event, you can purchase compact florescent light (CFL) bulbs for only 77 cents! Did you know CFLs use 75% less energy, produce 75% less heat and last up to 10 times longer than standard incandescent bulbs? Each CFL equates to an approximate \$30 savings over its life-time!

Please join us for a fun and informative day.

**Remember to Reduce, Reuse,
Recycle and Buy Recycled!**



Halloween Safety Tips from the Modesto Police Department

1. Trick-or-treaters should wear reflective clothing on Halloween night.
2. Be sure to cross the street cautiously at the corners of intersections.
3. Motorists, please use extra caution during this time.
4. Parents are encouraged to accompany younger trick-or-treaters.

Water Conservation in Cooler Weather

The weather is starting to cool, and the days are getting shorter so cutting back your watering to only once per watering day should be sufficient.

Don't forget to turn off your automatic sprinkler system when it rains. Most systems have a rain delay position and will not lose any programmed watering information.

Remember: we are under year-round water restrictions.

| | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| IF YOUR ADDRESS IS... | ODD | DO NOT WATER | EVEN | ODD | EVEN | ODD | EVEN |
| MIDNIGHT TO NOON | WATER | | WATER | WATER | WATER | WATER | WATER |
| NOON – 7:00 PM | DO NOT WATER | | | | | | |
| 7:00 PM – MIDNIGHT | WATER | | WATER | WATER | WATER | WATER | WATER |

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 0, 2, 4, 6, 8

For more information,
or to report water waste call **209.342.4580**