



# Stormwater

A Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2008

## Colorado Water Quality Survey

The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture contracted with Corona Research to conduct a statewide survey of Coloradoans' knowledge of and opinions about water quality issues in the state. Here are some of their findings:

- More than one third of Coloradoans do **not** know where storm or rainwater runoff goes when it enters a storm drain in their community.
- Another one-quarter of residents believe runoff goes directly to lakes, streams, or reservoirs without treatment.
- Most Coloradoans believe that grass clippings and runoff from car washing do **not** have an effect on their local water quality. Forty percent of people say grass clippings have **no** effect on their local water quality, and only seven percent (7%) say clippings have a major effect.
- Fifty-two percent (52%) think pesticides used on lawns and gardens have a major effect on water quality.
- Sixty-seven percent (67%) say automotive fluids dumped down the drain have a major effect on local water quality.
- Only 16% say runoff from car washing has a major effect.
- Eighty percent (80%) of people living in the mountain regions believe their local ponds, lakes, and streams are clean enough to swim in, and the fish caught in them are safe to eat.
- Only 60% of those living along the Front Range believe their local water bodies are safe enough for swimming and fishing. Interestingly, people in many regions are more likely to believe that fish caught in their local waters are safe to eat than believe that those same waters are clean enough for swimming.

**Do you know where storm drains go?**  
(see back page for the answer)

## Are ALL Your Employees Trained about Stormwater?

All new employees and any current employees who need a refresher course (every 1-2 years) should attend stormwater training. Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE) staff will come to your shop or office and can tailor the training to meet the specific needs of your staff. We take custom photos at your site and can provide training **during your regularly scheduled meeting time.**

PACE stormwater training includes:

- Identification and reporting of illegal discharges
- Review of best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater pollution prevention
- Review of proper spill cleanup
- Review of standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Instructions about how to be in compliance with stormwater regulations

PACE retains a record of all employees who have attended the training. We can provide this information to your department, as required by your city's stormwater permit.

*Please call PACE today to schedule your training before it's too late !! (12/30/08)*

## Pollution Prevention Help Available

The PACE Program is a voluntary, non-regulatory program that offers free pollution prevention education and technical assistance to Boulder County businesses. PACE is a partnership of local governments and businesses to encourage and recognize environmental achievement. Look for our logo at restaurants, auto repair and auto body shops, printers, dental offices, retail stores, and some small manufacturers.



## Nominate a Stormwater Hero

Once again, the PACE Program is asking for nominations of “stormwater heroes” in your department or municipality. A “stormwater hero” is anyone who has reported, prevented, or cleaned up an illegal or threatened discharge, implemented best management practices (BMPs) or good housekeeping practices, and/or has taken other actions to prevent stormwater pollution. PACE will recognize those employees in each quarterly *Stormwater* newsletter and will enter nominees into a raffle for a chance to win 1 of 4 \$50 gift certificates to be awarded in December. Please e-mail your nominations to Erin (ecourtney@bouldercounty.org) or Bonnie (bsgreenwood@bouldercounty.org).



### The nominees for the 3rd Quarter 2008 are:

- Rocky Milano, City of Boulder
- Molly McLaughlin, Town of Superior
- Jeremiah Vigil, Town of Superior
- Richard Lackner, City of Boulder
- Ken Overs, City of Boulder
- Peter Rosato, City of Boulder

(Some municipalities may choose to reward these employees separate from, or in addition to, the PACE Program’s recognition. City of Longmont employees will be recognized through an internal city program.)

## Stormwater Discharge of the Month!



This illegal discharge was reported at a Boulder grocery store. A construction crew washed out concrete into the parking lot, and ultimately to the storm drain at the curb. Thanks to Rocky Milano and Brian Campbell of the City of Boulder’s Planning/Development Review Department the discharge was cleaned up and the storm drain was blocked.

## Take the Pledge!

The Keep It Clean Partnership (KICP) and PACE have developed a Stormwater Pledge Program. Municipal employees can take the pledge following stormwater training programs or anytime online at [www.pacepartners.com](http://www.pacepartners.com).

### Take the Stormwater Pledge to:

- **Locate & block** storm drains near your worksite
- **Recognize & report** any materials (other than rainwater or snowmelt) that may enter storm drains
- **Cover & contain** any materials stored outside

Employees who pledge will be eligible for prizes and gift certificates through the *Stormwater Heroes* Program. PACE will be tracking and following up with each department to see if reports or actions have increased.

**Remember: Stormwater pollution prevention is YOUR responsibility!**

### Do You Know? Answer:

All storm drains flow untreated to creeks or rivers.

## Resources

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### Websites

[www.PacePartners.com](http://www.PacePartners.com)  
[www.KeepItCleanPartnership.org](http://www.KeepItCleanPartnership.org)  
[www.BoulderCountyHealth.org](http://www.BoulderCountyHealth.org)