

## Help Prevent Pollution

- Store yard waste, grass clippings, compost, wood, landscaping materials, etc. above the high water elevation.
- Do not dispose of yard waste, grass clippings, brush or debris into open drainage channels or ravines.
- Never dump anything down the storm drains.
- Properly dispose paints, solvents, cleaners, weed killers, insecticides, and other chemicals.
- Collect oil and other automotive products, and recycle or dispose of them properly.
- Keep cars and other machinery properly maintained so that there are no leaks. Clean up spills and properly dispose of clean up materials.
- Wash cars on the lawn so that soapy water can't quickly run into the storm drain.
- Clean up pet wastes.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.



## How Do I Obtain More Information?

For additional information regarding open drainage channels or other city programs, please contact the Public Works Department at 309-732-2200 or visit the City's website at [www.rigov.org](http://www.rigov.org)



Rock Island, Illinois 309.732.2200 [www.rigov.org](http://www.rigov.org)

**Rock Solid. Rock Island.**

## Open Drainage Channels

City of Rock Island

Public Works Department



## Open Drainage Channels

An open drainage channel is a river, stream, creek, brook, gully, ravine, ditch, swale, natural or artificial depression or natural or manmade drainage way in which surface or ground water flows either permanently or intermittently.

You cannot block or unreasonably impede the flow of water in an open drainage channel. Modifications to an open drainage channel require a Grading and Drainage permit issued by the Public Works Department. Routine maintenance and cleaning of the open drainage channel does not require this permit.

The storm water control ordinance does not allow yard waste, grass clippings, stones, earth, concrete, wood, sediment, trash, etc. to be released into the storm drainage system.

## Help Keep the Storm Water Flowing

Rainstorms pick up yard waste, grass clippings, compost piles, wood, mulch, landscaping and other debris and carry it into the storm drainage system (open drainage channels, pipe, culverts, etc.). This debris can restrict the storm water flows and cause flooding.



Store all materials that could float or wash away during a rainstorm above the high water level. If you need help to determine where to store your materials, please contact the Public Works Department.



## Proper Disposal

One way to properly dispose of natural material is to utilize the City's Yard Waste Drop Off Center located at 1309 Mill Street. The Drop Off Center is open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please contact the Public Works Department for additional information.

If your neighborhood is planning on having a stream/ravine clean up day, contact the Public Works Department to coordinate how the City can help. The City can make a special pick up to collect and properly dispose of the debris.

Use the Scott County, Iowa household hazardous waste collection facility to properly dispose of yard care chemicals, paints, household chemicals and automotive chemicals. This facility will accept Rock Island County residents' materials at no cost. For more information call (563) 381-1300.

## Maintenance

If an open drainage channel passes through your property, you must keep it free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate or unreasonably retard the flow of water through the drainage channel.

In addition you must maintain the channel to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. Maintenance includes sediment removal, bank erosion repairs, maintenance of vegetative cover and removal of debris.

The City maintains City owned pipes, culverts, open drainage channels and structures.

If you see a pipe, culvert or structure that is partially or fully blocked, please contact the Public Works Department at 732-2200.

