

ON STENCIL DAY

Try to choose a dry, sunny day. The Pavement should be dry and warm. Avoid windy days as spray paint can drift onto nearby cars. Temperatures between 50 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit ensure the best results.

1. Volunteers can be instructed to record the locations of all storm drains labeled during the project, so that the city can keep track.
2. Use wire brush and whisk broom to sweep dirt away from drain so paint will stay on the pavement.
3. Position stencil next to (not over) the storm drain inlet where message will be most visible. Avoid areas where dirt and leaves will collect over the message.
4. Consider using a “triptych”, or large cardboard box cut open as a shield from drifting paint overspray (especially near cars).
5. Spray paint the message, taking care the paint doesn’t go down the drain. Two light coats are better than a thick single coat that puddles around the letters. Stenciled messages last for approximately two years on a paved surface.
7. Make sure to fill out the Data Card. We will use this information for our records and the cards will be sent to the Ocean Conservancy at the end of the year.
6. While some team members are stenciling, have others visit with local residents or businesses to hand out door hangers explaining where the storm drains go, plus tips on how to prevent pollution their river, stream or groundwater.
7. Clean up. Place stencils in a plastic bag for transportation.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Since stenciling projects take place on city streets, volunteer safety is of utmost importance.

- 🐟 The city might wish to designate lower-traffic residential areas as targets for volunteer stenciling and should provide safety equipment.
- 🐟 Stenciling should be done in teams, with at least one person designated to watch for traffic.
- 🐟 Adult supervision is needed when volunteers are school children or members of youth groups.
- 🐟 You may be required to sign a waiver of liability.