

PRIVATE STORM DRAIN STENCIL PROGRAM



Stormwater and urban runoff are the largest contributors to coastal marine pollution. Wind and rain move trash and other pollutants into San Diego’s storm drain system that empties out along our coastline without treatment. By stenciling your private storm drains with a pollution prevention message, we can remind San Diegans that pollutants like motor oil, soap, food wrappers, and cigarette butts should be properly disposed of instead of flowing through our storm drain system and into our waterways.

WHAT IS THE STENCIL PROGRAM?

Many residential areas and local businesses have private storm drain inlets and catch basins that discharge to the storm drain system. To be in compliance with San Diego Municipal Code, these must be marked with pollution prevention signage (e.g., “No Dumping – Goes to Ocean”). Think Blue San Diego loans out stencils to residents, property managers, and businesses to mark their storm drains free of charge. You can obtain a stencil for your community or business using the information below.

LOCATION: 9370 Chesapeake Dr Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

HOURS OF OPERATION: M-F 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Return within 30 days

Please Note: Medallions, concrete stamps, signs or plaques are also acceptable ways to label storm drains. While the City cannot officially recommend a vendor, an internet search for “storm drain markers” should provide options on purchasing these alternatives.





WHY IS THE STENCIL PROGRAM IMPORTANT?

Unlike the sewer system which treats water, anything that flows into the storm drain system can go untreated into San Diego's creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean. By having a pollution prevention message near your storm drain, you can help your neighbors Think Blue and protect our water resources.

How to Apply a *Think Blue* Pollution Prevention Stencil:

- ◆ **Locate Private Storm Drain Inlets:** Locate all private storm drains on the property.
- ◆ **Obtain Pollution Prevention Stencil:** Visit 9370 Chesapeake Dr, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123, to pick up the Think Blue Pollution Prevention Stencil.
- ◆ **Prepare Application Surface:** Select a clean, flat surface for stencil placement.
- ◆ **Apply Paint:** Using non-toxic paint, carefully fill in the stencil's lettering to display the pollution prevention message.
- ◆ **Allow to Dry:** Let the paint dry for several minutes before moving or touching the surface.
- ◆ **Return Stencil:** Within 30 days, return the stencil to the Think Blue San Diego office so that others can utilize this resource.



Thank you for protecting San Diego's waterways!

Scan the QR code to learn more about water-saving rebates, upcoming volunteer opportunities, and how you can **Think Blue!**

