

Community Partners for Clean Streams Monthly eMonitor



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*A Publication of the Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner's Office
Janis A. Bobrin, Drain Commissioner*

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Up Front

The eMonitor is designed to keep our Partners and friends updated on CPCS, stormwater management issues, provide helpful information to reduce stormwater and nonpoint source pollution, recognize new Partners, highlight upcoming events, and create networking opportunities. We hope you enjoy each edition of the Monthly eMonitor and welcome any comments, concerns, or suggestions.

Prescription Drug and Personal Care Product Disposal

Prescription Drug and Personal Care Product Disposal is the newest brochure in the Community Partners for Clean Streams' arsenal of educational materials. We can provide a moderate supply of our brochures to our Partners free of charge. If you would like copies of our new brochure, please contact Vicki Kalkirtz or Michelle Bononi and let us know how many!

Recent studies have found small levels of prescription drugs in our waterways. Previous protocol was to "flush" excess prescriptions and care products to avoid accidental exposure. However, sewage treatment plants are not designed to remove these products from waste water. This brochure clearly demonstrates how to properly dispose of your PPCPs and protect waterways.

There is also a short video available for download and viewing at:

<http://innercirclemedia.com/clients/eWashtenaw/PSA-SafeDisposalOfMedications/>

The video was created by the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Reduction Department. It clearly explains why PPCPs should not be flushed down the toilet, and why it is safe to put them in the trash. Check it out!

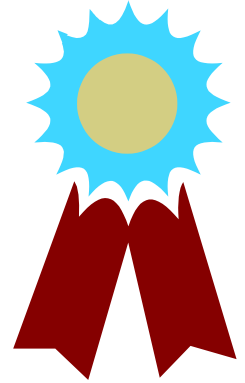
Prescription Drug and Personal Care Product Disposal

Janis A. Bobrin
Office of the Washtenaw
County Drain Commissioner

2006 Environmental Excellence Awards

The Environmental Excellence Awards is one of the ways Washtenaw County recognizes those businesses, institutions and multi-family residential associations for going above and beyond mandated measures to protect the environment. There are three categories, and one overall winner. This year's 8th annual awards ceremony was held at the Washtenaw County's Board of Commissioner's meeting on September 20, 2006. Pollution prevention and waste recycling awards were also presented at the ceremony.

We at Community Partners for Clean Streams would like to extend our congratulations to the winners of this year's awards. All of this year's winners are stewards of the environment and helping to keep Washtenaw County's ecosystem healthy. Profiled below are the winners that are also Community Partners.



The 2006 Overall Environmental Excellence Award:

The Ann Arbor News

Their production facility is exemplary in its pollution prevention efforts, commitment to protecting and improving water quality and waste management.

The Ann Arbor News employs several environmentally sound policies that go above and beyond the standards and regulations. They use only soy based inks in all of their publications. Low maintenance native plants are incorporated in their landscaping scheme. The production facility also recycles as much material as possible in each step of their operations.

THE ANN ARBOR NEWS



Environmental Excellence in Water Quality Protection:

Kaiser Optical Systems, Inc.

For the many actions they take to protect water quality in Washtenaw County, Kaiser Optical has been honored with the Environmental Excellence Award in Water Quality Protection.

Just a few of the many actions they take for water quality include: Maintaining a 4000 square foot drain field landscaped with low-maintenance native plants, using only pest-resistant plant material, using vinegar to control weeds and a chemical storage locker that is bermed and fire protected to prevent spills. Kaiser Optical goes above and beyond mandated standards and requirements and shows a true commitment to the environment.

**KAISER
OPTICAL SYSTEMS, INC.**

A ROCKWELL COLLINS COMPANY



Environmental Excellence in Water Quality Protection Honorable Mention:

I-800-GOT-JUNK

Conserving resources and recycling are commitments that I-800-GOT-JUNK takes very seriously as a part of their day to day business. The success of their business relies on reducing the amount of items that are waste stream.

Additionally, they conserve water by using a light-pressure setting on their pressure washer. They plant wildflowers to address erosion issues on landscaped areas of their property. One important aspect of their business is their employee incentives to encourage waste reduction. Employees are dealing with trash everyday, by implementing incentives for waste reduction, they are true environmental stewards.



Excellence in Water Quality Protection Honorable Mention:

Angel Food Catering

As our newest FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease disposal) partner, Angel Food Catering and Banquet Hall located in Ypsilanti, go above and beyond the call of duty to protect water quality and our health. They do not fry any foods so they do not have fats, oils and greases to dispose of. This is excellent for our drains as well as our health!

Additionally, they do not use fertilizers, pesticides or irrigation systems on their landscaped areas. Instead, they irrigate by hand when necessary. They chose native plants to reduce erosion and the need for additional nutrient inputs. All vehicle maintenance is performed offsite, preventing wash water, oil and other vehicle fluids from entering the storm drain. These activities ensure that the Washtenaw County's water quality is protected.

[CPCS News](#)

New and Renewing Partners

We would like to welcome and thank our new and renewing Community Partners for this month. Thank you for your continuing commitment to water quality!

New Partners:

*Buhr Park
Fuller Park
Mack Indoor Pool
Ann Arbor Charter Township*



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