**Keeping Storm Drains Clear this Spring**

Storm drains (or catchbasins) are the main way stormwater gets into our underground pipes, or rather our stormwater management system. There are about 60,000 storm drains in Calgary which capture water off sidewalks, streets and roads. The City of Calgary has an online map that shows where storm drains are located. For more information and to view this map please visit [calgary.ca/stormdrains](https://www.calgary.ca/water/stormwater/storm-drains.html?redirect=/stormdrains).

To view more City of Calgary maps, please visit the Map Gallery at <https://mapgallery.calgary.ca/>.

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**Green Calgary rain barrel sales**With changing weather patterns in Calgary, capturing rainwater can help you, and our community build resiliency during times of hot and dry weather. Rain barrels also help to keep water on your property, so less dirt and contaminants wash into the rivers. Made locally with recycled material, Green Calgary rain barrels can be used to water trees, shrubs, lawns and flowers. Rain barrels are $78 for a limited time with pick-up and delivery options available.

Visit one of Green Calgary’s rain barrel sales events between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to get yours:

* Saturday, April 29 – IKEA Calgary
* Saturday, May 13 – The Genesis Centre
* Saturday, June 3 – Calgary Horticultural Society
* Saturday, June 10 – Vivo for Healthier Generations

Check [greencalgary.org](https://www.greencalgary.org/) for details on all sales event dates and locations. Join the thousands of Calgarians already using rain barrels. Pre-order yours at [greencalgary.org](https://www.greencalgary.org/), starting April 1, 2023.

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**Homeowner Water Guide – Spring checklist**Protecting Calgary’s precious water resources is a shared responsibility among The City, businesses and Calgarians. There are many actions you can take to ensure your home is using water efficiently.

**Inside**

As a part of your regular home maintenance, take the **Leaky Toilet Test** to find the most common cause of household leaks:

* Remove the tank cover.
* Put several drops of food colouring (or another coloured liquid, such as coffee or tea) into the tank.
* Wait 15-20 minutes.
* Look in the bowl. If the water changes colour, you’ve got a leak.

Most toilet leaks are silent and go unnoticed for long periods of time, so the sooner you find and repair leaks, the better.

**Outside**

With spring around the corner, it’s time to think about outdoor water efficiency. Add these items to your spring checklist:

* Check your outdoor taps, irrigation system and water features (e.g. ponds or fountains) for leaks.
* Consult the YardSmart plant list before planning this year’s garden.
* Set up your rain barrel.
* Clean and repair downspouts, directing stormwater away from your house, ideally towards your garden.

Being water efficient means you’re helping protect Calgary’s water resources by:

* Keeping our rivers healthy by removing less water
* Saving money and energy on treating and delivering water
* Extending the use of our water treatment plants
* Making drought less impactful to our homes and businesses
* Increasing our resiliency to climate change

To learn more about water efficiency, visit [calgary.ca/waterguide](https://www.calgary.ca/water/customer-service/homeowner-water-guide.html?redirect=/waterguide).

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**Registration is open for 2023 webinars**

Sign up for the City of Calgary’s home and small business webinars! Attending live webinars allows you to receive up to date information, learn from the experts, ask questions and get answers in real time. You can also check out the City of Calgary’s growing library of recorded webinars on [calgary.ca/webinar](https://www.calgary.ca/property-owners/maintenance-webinars.html?redirect=/webinar). Webinars are hosted through Microsoft Teams. Subtitles are available for Simplified Chinese, Hindi, Filipino, French, Spanish and Urdu.

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**Keeping storm drains clear this spring**Storm drains are a part of Calgary's [stormwater system](https://www.calgary.ca/water/stormwater/storm-drainage-system.html). There are about 60,000 storm drains in Calgary working to capture water and melting snow off sidewalks, streets and roads.

**Keep your storm drains free and clear of snow, leaves and debris**If it's safe and possible to do, remove debris or snow blocking the drain. Create a channel, if need be, to help water flow.

**Pooled water on your street**In communities built after 1990, The City installs devices in the storm drain to control how fast water flows into the system. During and after a rainfall event, these devices allow water to pool on the road (usually in a depression or low spot, called a Trap Low), until the stormwater system can accept the extra water.

**Take a picture**If the storm drain remains submerged for more than 90 minutes or you cannot safely clear ice and snow away, take a photo and submit it via the 311 App or a web request. Attaching a photo goes a long way in helping our crews respond on a priority basis.

**For more information** on storm drains and to locate the closest one to you, visit [calgary.ca/stormdrains](https://www.calgary.ca/water/stormwater/storm-drains.html?redirect=/stormdrains).