

# FCPS Storm Drain Art Guidelines

## Introduction:

FCPS participates in the County's Storm Drain Art Program to help educate residents about water quality issues in our streams, lakes, rivers, and the Chesapeake Bay. Painting your school's storm drains with messages around watershed protection and environmental stewardship is a great way to engage students in an eco-art project while developing Portrait of a Graduate skills.

These storm drain art guidelines were developed in partnership between FCPS and the Stormwater Planning Division (SWPD) of Department of Public Work and Environmental Services (DPWES). Storm drain art is tracked as part of the County's stormwater and sewer permit through the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and helps the County fulfill the permit obligations around public outreach and education.

If you are interested in painting a storm drain at your school, follow these guidelines:

## Before Painting Your Storm Drain:

- Prior to painting the drain, verify that the Fairfax County "No Dumping" oval markers are on the drain. If no labels are present, contact Holly Moran at [hmmoran@fcps.edu](mailto:hmmoran@fcps.edu).



- *The Fairfax County Storm Drain markers must remain visible and unobscured after completion of the painting.*
- Walk around your school campus to identify potential curb inlets and yard inlets to paint and check them for no dumping labels. Consider the visibility of storm drain locations for sharing your message with the school community.
- You may paint storm drains that are behind a yellow curb (as shown in the photo below), but do not cover the yellow paint.
- You should get approval from your school principal to participate in the Storm Drain Art Program and for the specific storm drain(s) to be painted. You should also get approval for the design.
- Consider connections to science, art, math, and other content areas. See the Storm Drain Painting Art Lesson Guide below.



*Top row: examples of curb inlets. The curb inlet on the right with tree planter facility is eligible for artwork with added consideration placed on the tree's health. Bottom row: examples of a yard inlet. These are the two most common types of storm drains on FCPS campuses that can be painted.*

### **Designing & Painting:**

- Measure the storm drain you want to paint so you can design your art to match the space available.
- Design your art and message. The painting design for your storm drain should include an environmental or water quality-themed message.
- If you didn't get approval in the planning phase, attain approval from your school's principal to install the mural and for the mural design.
- Consider creating a template for the painting to ensure the final product turns out as intended.
- Use durable latex water-based paint. Oil-based paint is not permitted.
- Paint your storm drain mural!

### **Maintaining Your Painting:**

- The paint will fade and start to peel over time. The school is responsible for paint removal/restoration should the storm drain paint deteriorate. This is an opportunity for students to continuously paint the storm drains around your school.

## After Painting

- **Share your painting with FCPS Get2Green! [Complete this short form](#) to share your storm drain painting!** This helps us highlight your awesome work and supports reporting requirements for the County's sewer and stormwater MS4 permit.

There may be assistance available to provide paint for this project on a case-by-case basis. Paint colors may vary depending on availability at the I-66 Solid Waste Transfer Station. For more information, please see the Scavenging and Salvaging Policy to understand the process of scavenging and salvaging paint from Solid Waste. Please contact Luis Terán ([Luis.Teran@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Luis.Teran@fairfaxcounty.gov)/(571) 460-8803) at Stormwater Planning to submit the Scavenging and Salvaging Request Form to Solid Waste for paint.



## Storm Drain Painting Art Lesson Guide

### Art indicators addressed in this unit

*Indicator shorts are provided. Check the POS for the given course for specific indicator language.*

- 1.b.2 Generate and document ideas for artmaking
- 1.b.3 Research and experiment in the creative process
- 2.c.2 Manipulate art principles
- 2.c.3 Explore approaches to arranging composition
- 3.b.2 Apply painting processes
- 5.b.4 Collaborate with others
- 5.c.1 Apply interdisciplinary knowledge when creating art

### Portrait of a Graduate

Ethical & Global Citizen skill: Promotes environmental stewardship.

See [skills and attributes](#) for grade level-specific language.

### Sample Resources

[Gaithersburg Storm Drain Art Project](#)

[Richmond Storm Drain Art Project](#) video

[RVA-H2O Storm Drain Art Entries](#)

## Artmaking Challenge

Promote environmental stewardship by creating an original design for a stormwater drain at your school.

### Delivery Notes

*Identify the number of class sessions you will spend on this lesson select, sequence, and chunk the learning activities below into appropriate sessions each including an opening, mini-lesson, active learning, catch, and reflection.*

- Introduce and explore prior knowledge of stormwater runoff and water pollution. (PoG)
- Research (1.b.3):
  - Where water runoff goes and what ecosystems, plants, and animals are impacted by water pollution in your area. (5.c.1)
  - Examples of painted storm drains in the community
  - Storm drains at your school. (*How many are there? What do they look like?*)
  - Go onsite to observe, measure, and document the types of storm drains at your school
- Explore types of persuasive artworks (posters, billboards, PSAs)
- Discuss and generate words/text to included in the design to communicate a message of environmental stewardship (2.c.2)
- Brainstorm/sketch ideas for the message and image (1.b.2)
- Discuss the materials used to paint a storm drain, and the benefit of using areas of bold colors in the design to facilitate installation and readability.
- Explore student interest in working individually or in groups to create a design.
- Chunk and pace class time to support individuals or groups as they design a composition appropriate to the site specifications of a selected storm drain. (2.c.3)
- On paper proportionally sized to the specifications of the selected storm drain, use/choose art media to represent your design in an artwork.
- Facilitate peer feedback on in-progress designs.
- Collaboratively review and select one or more designs to propose for installation at a school site. (5.b.4)
- Seek approval from the principal to install the selected design(s) on storm drains on school grounds.
- Review the Storm Drain Painting Guidelines provided in this document.
- Gather parental approval for installers if any materials are not pre-approved for the grade level. (See [Art Room Safety Charts](#).)
- Organize painting the selected design on the storm drain. *Consider providing service hours to students who help paint the final site.*

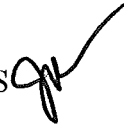


# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 2016

**TO:** All Employees  
Solid Waste Management Program

**FROM:** John W. Kellas, Deputy Director, DPWES   
Solid Waste Management Program

**SUBJECT:** Scavenging/Salvaging Policy

### Policy:

Scavenging is strictly prohibited at any location under any circumstances. Salvaging is only permitted upon the expressed, written approval of the appropriate complex manager or operator on duty. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

### Definitions:

*"Scavenging" means the unauthorized or uncontrolled removal of waste materials from a solid waste management facility (Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)).*

*"Salvaging" means the authorized, controlled removal of waste materials from a solid waste management facility (VDEQ).*

For the purposes of this memorandum, when referring to scavenging/salvaging, this policy applies to scavenging/salvaging at or from solid waste management facility complexes such as I-95 and I-66. This policy applies equally to scavenging/salvaging from trash collection containers such as residential refuse carts, dumpsters, and compactors, or material that has otherwise been placed out for refuse collection by our residential, commercial, and/or county agency customers. **Even in cases where customers have expressly advised you that you may keep what they have discarded, if it has been placed out for collection or brought to a facility for disposal, removal of the item shall constitute scavenging/salvaging.**

### Background:

Scavenging is a violation of our Safety Policy and our Operations Plan and could lead to a VDEQ permit violation and/or safety violations. In addition, refuse is a commodity that is owned by Fairfax County. The county generates revenue from the sale of certain materials and has contracts that are affected by how we dispose of collected material. Scavenging ultimately removes revenue from the county and **is considered theft of county resources.**



Department of Public Works and Environmental Services  
Solid Waste Management Program  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 458  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
Phone: 703-324-5230, TTY: 711, Fax: 703-324-3950  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes)



As an employee of the County of Fairfax, your responsibility is to protect the interest of the county and abide by the employee Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct.

Salvaging may be permitted, upon written authorization of a complex manager/operator on duty at I-66, I-95 or Newington, under certain circumstances. Goods may only be salvaged for use by a County or Governmental Agency. As an example, the Fire and Rescue Department may desire to use salvaged material in a fire suppression training exercise. Prior to salvaging any material, the attached form must be completed and approved by the complex manager/operator on duty.

The scavenging prohibition also applies to customers. Signage has been installed warning that the removal of materials is considered theft. It is your responsibility to protect the county interest and intervene in the event you witness theft of county resources by private citizens or other county employees.

**Policy Violation:**

The severity of disciplinary action for violating this policy will be determined by the severity of the misconduct and review of the employee's work record in accordance with Personnel Regulation 16.5. Violations of the scavenging/salvaging policy may result in action up to and including termination. Where appropriate, criminal prosecution for theft will also be pursued.

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Print Name/Employee Signature

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Date

Attachment: SAMPLE-SWMP Salvaging Documentation Form



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

## SWMP SALVAGING DOCUMENTATION

<b>Date</b>	
<b>Time</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>*Agency</b>	
<b>Description/Quantity of Materials Salvaged</b>	
<b>Purpose for Salvaging Materials</b>	
<b>Facility Used</b>	
<b>I-66</b>	
<b>I-95</b>	
<b>Newington</b>	
<b>Authorization by Operator on Duty</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>REVIEWED BY COMPLEX MANAGER:</b>	
*Original: Requesting Agency	
Copy 1: Complex Manager	
Copy 2: Deputy Director, DPWES Solid Waste Management Program	



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