

FRIENDLY REMINDER: CLEAR YOUR STORM INLETS

Residents Asked To Help Reduce Neighborhood Flooding By Clearing Leaves From Inlets

INDIANAPOLIS –With up to five inches of rainfall expected during the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend, the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) is asking residents and property owners to do their part to rake leaves away from the curb and regularly check and clear storm inlets.

“To avoid drainage problems, it’s very important that property owners keep storm inlets clear of any type of debris,” said DPW Director David Sherman. “Every little bit helps and by clearing your inlet, you’re not only doing the right thing for your street and neighborhood, you’re doing the right thing for our City.”

Clogged storm inlets can lead to numerous problems. Leaves can block proper water flow into storm inlets resulting in drainage problems, flooded streets and dangerous driving conditions. Additionally, standing water on streets can work its way into the sanitary and combined sewers, taking up needed capacity and contributing to raw sewage overflows and backups at homes and businesses. On rare occasions, too many leaves in the storm sewer have also led to blockages at the wastewater treatment plants.

There are more than 10,000 miles of drainage facilities in Marion County. Approximately 6,000 of those miles are on private property and must be maintained by property owners, according to Sections 431-506 and 561-211 of the Revised Code of the City and County. For these property owners, drainage responsibilities include clearing storm inlets.

DPW will provide sandbags free of charge throughout the weekend for personal and business use. Residents and business owners interested in picking up sandbags can do so at the DPW Snow Command Center located at 1725 S. West Street.

For further information, please call the Mayor’s Action Center at 327.4622 or visit www.indy.gov/dpw.