

# Clean Water Action Program



The City of Omaha has a program called Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO!) that helps improve water quality in the Missouri River and local streams.

Until the CSO! Program began around 15 years ago, even a small amount of rain could overwhelm our sewers and cause pollution to overflow into our river and streams.

As the CSO! Program continues to reduce overflows, we can all help improve water quality by learning more and taking action, too!

## How it Works

These activities will help you learn what causes pollutants in our local waterways, what's being done to reduce those pollutants, and how you can help, too.

## The Sticker

Once you complete at least four of the six activities for your age level, have an adult confirm their completion and order the Clean Water Action sticker online to have it shipped directly to you.



# The Activities

## Ages 5-7:

- [Watch this video](#) to learn more about stormwater with Freddy the Fish
- Draw a picture of one way you've learned to keep our river and streams clean
- Make sure only rain goes down the storm drain by helping an adult clean up grass clippings or leaves
- Pick up three pieces of litter near your home to keep it from going down a storm drain
- Next time you're taking a bottle of water somewhere, use a reusable water bottle instead of a single-use plastic bottle
- Fill out the Clean Solutions for Omaha [coloring sheet](#)

## Ages 7-9:

- [Watch this video](#) to learn more about stormwater with Freddy the Frog
- Draw a picture of one way you've learned to keep our river and streams clean
- Find a storm drain near your home and pick up any litter around it
- If you have a dog, help an adult pick up dog poop in your yard so rain doesn't wash it down the storm drain
- Visit the pedestrian bridge on the Missouri River with an adult, then journal about why you think it's important to keep the river clean
- Track how much time you spend taking one shower, then take your next shower in half that time

## Ages 9-12:

- Learn about Omaha's water quality improvement program by watching [this animation](#)
- Take a stormwater walk around your neighborhood and [fill out this worksheet](#)
- Visit a river or stream near your home and journal about why you think it's important to keep it clean
- Record how many times/how many minutes a day you and your family use water resources at home with [this worksheet](#)
- [Type in your home address](#) on the Clean Solutions for Omaha map to see which water quality improvement projects have happened or are happening near your home.
- Find out what's wrong with [this picture](#) and talk with an adult about what you learned

## Ages 11-14:

- Learn about Omaha's water quality improvement program by [watching this animation](#)
- Take a five minute shower to reduce your water waste
- Pick up trash near your home to stop it from getting washed into our sewer system
- Learn about green infrastructure and [fill out the quiz](#)
- Visit the Adams Park wetlands to see the detention pond, then draw three different kinds of plants that are helping soak up stormwater in the area
- [Click around this picture](#) to find out what's damaging its environment

## Ages 14-16:

- Learn about Omaha's water quality improvement program by watching [this animation](#)
- Engineers are important for designing and implementing Clean Solutions for Omaha projects. Learn about what [environmental engineers](#), [civil engineers](#) and [earth resource engineers](#) do, then write down which one you like the most and why.
- Learn about green infrastructure by watching [this animation](#)
- Complete this green vs. grey comparison [relay activity](#) with a few friends or family members
- Read about green infrastructure [in this brochure](#) and fill out the quiz
- [Read this article](#) about Omaha's Spring Lake Park restoration project and write down three things you learned

## Ages 16-18:

- Learn about sewer separation projects by watching [this animation](#)
- Learn about green infrastructure by watching [this animation](#) and [filling out this brochure quiz](#)
- Visit Fontenelle Park and identify three types of native vegetation around the lagoon that help soak up stormwater in the area
- Type in your zipcode [on this website](#) to learn about the bodies of water near your home and find out what condition they're in. If any bodies of water are impaired, look them up on the [Clean Solutions for Omaha project map](#) and see if there are plans to help them.
- Learn more about rain barrels by [watching this video](#) and determine how much stormwater one could hold at your home
- Email an engineer at Clean Solutions for Omaha and ask a question about their job. Send your question to [info@omahacso.com](mailto:info@omahacso.com) with the subject line "Patch Career Question"

