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City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: City of Duluth invites residents to protect Lake Superior by adopting a storm drain with new Adopt-A-Drain initiative

BY: Kelli Latuska, Public Information Officer

City of Duluth invites residents to protect Lake Superior by adopting a storm drain with new Adopt-A-Drain initiative

[Duluth, MN] The City of Duluth is announcing a new way for residents to do their part to protect Lake Superior and all its rivers, streams, creeks, and waterways from pollution. As a part of its Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program, the City joins other Minnesota cities and regions across the nation in the Adopt-a-Drain program. Adopt-a-Drain encourages residents to sign up to adopt a stormwater drain of their choosing and provide periodic care for the drain, ensuring that none of the matter and material that routinely muck up the stormwater sewer system contributes to pollution of our water sources.

Residents can log on to <https://adopt-a-drain.org> to select a drain near their home or workplace and adopt it. From there, they can name the drain whatever they like, learn about what kind of activities will best benefit their anti-pollution efforts, and log the maintenance they provide. The data collected by the program will be reported back to the City so that Public Works and Utilities can track the engagement and impact the program has on protecting our region's bodies of water from pollution.

"The impact Duluthians can have on preventing water pollution through the Adopt-a-Drain program is absolutely measurable," says Ryan Granlund, Utility Programs Coordinator. "If every resident regularly did their part to remove the dead leaves, dirt, trash, and pet waste from the immediate vicinity of the storm drains near their homes, it can't get into the storm drain the next time it rains or snows, and therefore won't wash through the stormwater utility system and into the Lake and River. We can continue to have high quality water resources in our area if we all continue to do our part, and this program is a fun and engaging way to make certain we're all doing so."

Residents who participate in the Adopt-a-Drain program will receive an informational packet along with a small yard sign that reads, "We protect Lake Superior," so they can boast to their neighbors about the great work they're doing for the water sources in the Northland.

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