Storm Sewer - Manhole Cover Imprinting Requirements:

According to Adams County Development Standards and Regulations, all new storm sewer manhole covers placed within Unincorporated Adams County on publicly owned storm sewer systems shall have the following Adams County’s Public Standard Manhole Cover:

All privately owned storm sewer manhole covers shall be permanently imprinted with the image of a fish and must incorporate the following information (or equivalent):

```
STORM SEWER
NO DUMPING << Fish image >> FLOWS TO RIVER
```

Marking requirements also apply to manholes placed to access public or private catch basins/inlet boxes.

Customized message and image must be specified on the construction plans. Lettering should be of sufficient size to be easily readable, minimum height of lettering shall be ¾”. 

Storm Sewer - Inlet Grate Imprinting Requirements:

All public and private iron grate inlets (Type 13 and Type 13-Combo) shall be permanently imprinted with the image of a fish and must incorporate the following (or equivalent) statement:

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NO DUMPING << Fish image >> FLOWS TO RIVER
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Marking requirements also apply to grate manholes placed on public or private infrastructure.

Note: Marking does not apply to hot dipped galvanized metal grates (CDOT Type C)

Why?

1) **Public awareness.** Unlike sanitary sewer, stormwater is not treated before entering local waterways. Runoff water is directly discharged into our local creeks or river. Adams County imprinting requirement emphasizes the link between stormwater run-off and our natural waterways. By imprinting the educational message on storm sewer manhole lids and grate inlets, the County is alerting local residents that everything that enters the storm sewer system will end up in our local river affecting the aquatic environment, as well as the quality of our water supply.

2) **Durable and Effective.** Unlike stenciled messages or other short-lived approaches, casting will last longer. This approach is more effective and will discourage illicit dumping in the long term. Casting will also reduce maintenance efforts, paint cost and possible paint spillage associated with stormwater stenciling programs. The Adams County Storm Marking Program is only focus on placing medallions on existing unmarked storm structures.

When?

Adams County has been requiring the standard MH cover (“A”) on public infrastructure since June 2011. As of August 2017 developers are now required to include the educational message on private systems.