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# WELCOME DRAIN DEFENDERS

AN INFORMATIONAL PACKET ON HOW TO BE  
THE BEST DRAIN DEFENDER YOU CAN BE

**Welcome to the City of Naperville  
Adopt-a-Drain program!  
We appreciate your dedication to  
keeping Naperville clean and safe.**

We want all of our Drain Defenders to succeed, so we have created an informational packet to help you care for your drain. We strongly encourage you to read this packet as it includes recommended materials, safety guidelines and other beneficial tips for cleaning your drain. We will also send out occasional reminders to clean your drain, particularly when heavy rain is expected, and after snow starts to melt.

Again, thank you for your support and participation in this program!

If you would like to speak with a member of the Adopt-a-Drain team, please contact:



[adoptadrain@naperville.il.us](mailto:adoptadrain@naperville.il.us)



(630) 420-6095

Cleaning your drain? Share a picture on social media and use our hashtag.



DrainDefender

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# MATERIALS

A LIST OF ALL THE SUPPLIES YOU'LL EVER  
NEED TO CLEAN YOUR DRAINS

**Cleaning your drain is easy with a few household items you may already have at home. Here's a list of materials that will make it easier than ever to clean your drain.**

The first 100 participants to sign up to become a Drain Defender will receive a free reflective vest, rake and gloves to perform cleaning duties.

## **Gloves**

To protect your hands and keep them clean.

## **Rake / Broom**

To clear the debris.

## **Yard Waste Bag**

For leaves, grass and other organic materials.

## **Trash / Recyclables Bags**

For garbage and litter.

## **Reflective Vest**

For your safety, especially when working on busy streets.

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# WHEN TO CLEAN YOUR DRAIN

A HELPFUL GUIDE FOR WHEN AND HOW OFTEN TO CLEAN YOUR DRAIN

**You'll only need to clean your drain a few times and year, and we'll send out email reminders to make sure you don't forget.**

In addition to when heavy rain is expected, we also suggest cleaning your drains four times a year. Use the following schedule to keep you on track:

## March

Ice and snow will begin to melt, leading to water in the streets, and hopefully down the drains.



## April

April showers will typically bring heavier rainfall.



## June

The grass is starting to grow and people are starting to mow. Grass clippings often clog drains.



## October

The leaves are starting to fall and they can quickly clog the drains.



# HOW TO CLEAN YOUR DRAIN

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE

**Cleaning your drains is simple. Here's a step-by-step guide.**

**By volunteering, you will be responsible for:**

- Inspecting the area around the adopted drain.
- Removing leaves and other debris from both the drain grate and the surrounding area near the drain using proper equipment.
- Disposing of any leaves and debris in the appropriate waste receptacle.

## 1. Gather your materials.

Use the provided materials list. Be sure to wear gloves and reflective clothing.



## 2. Pick up any garbage and put it in the trash bag.

Plastic items can be recycled and other garbage can go in the trash.



## 3. Clear off the top of the drain and the area surrounding it.

Try not to push the leaves or grass into the drain. Clear a 10 ft. radius around the drain.



## 4. Put the organic materials in a yard waste bag.

Grass clippings and leaves can go into a standard yard waste bag for collection.



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# SAFETY GUIDLINES

## TIPS AND TRICKS FOR STAYING SAFE WHILE CLEANING DRAINS

**While cleaning the drains is important, safety is our utmost priority.**

- Wear appropriate clothing and shoes, including a reflective safety vest at all times.
- Avoid items that are hazardous or may cause injury to you or others.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- DO NOT lift the drain grate.

**Please contact the Department of Public Works if:**

- There is a drain you are unable to clean.
- Discover items that are hazardous to you or others.
- Suspect illegal dumping.
- There any other issues you are unable to handle.

### Contact



(630) 420-6095



adoptadrain@naperville.il.us