



Yellow Fish ROAD



healthy environment healthy community healthy economy

If your group is interested in participating in the Yellow Fish Road program and you are in the Moira, Napanee or Prince Edward Watersheds you can contact Quinte Conservation to book a date to paint storm drains in your municipality. Quinte Conservation will work with local municipalities to schedule the Yellow Fish Road programs. Quinte Conservation Partners with Trout Unlimited Canada to offer this program. For more information please contact the Conservation Education Coordinator at 613-968-3434.

WHAT IS YELLOW FISH ROAD?

Yellow Fish Road is a nation-wide environmental education program designed and managed by Trout Unlimited Canada. The Yellow Fish Road program's goal is to help Canadians understand that storm drains are the doorways to our rivers, lakes and streams. Preventing pollutants from entering our storm drains is critical to protecting and improving water quality and aquatic habitat.

WHY THE YELLOW FISH ROAD?

In most municipalities, storm drains flow directly

into the local water body without being treated. Almost anything other than clean rainwater is harmful to fish and other aquatic life. This includes soap used to wash your family car (that is not biodegradable), excess fertilizer on the lawn that washes into the storm drain, dirt and oil from your driveway, and construction materials. These materials have an impact on all aquatic life, including plants, insects, fish and animals, as well as the humans that depend on the local water body.

HOW DOES YELLOW FISH ROAD WORK?

The Yellow Fish Road program has two main components, painting and door hangers. Participants learn about their local water supply and how to protect it from hazardous wastes. They then begin the program's active component by painting yellow fish near storm drains to serve as a reminder that any materials going down storm drains affects us all. Some municipalities currently adhere plastic information discs next to or near the storm drain.

The participants also leave "fish hangers" (information pamphlets printed on yellow fish-shaped brochures) on doors in the community to inform residents of why yellow fish have appeared in their neighbourhood.

Other Yellow Fish Road components include:

- Grade Four Activity Booklet (available in English and French)
- Grade Nine Activity Booklet (available in English and French)

WHAT IS A STORM DRAIN?

Storm drains are the grates found on the street by the curb. Runoff and rain water drain into these grates, go through a network of underground tunnels, and usually ends up in the local water body. The stuff that goes through a storm drain is usually not treated to remove pollutants before they reach the local water body.

Often, people simply do not realize that storm drains do not go to the sewage treatment plant, or that simple activities, such as allowing soapy water to enter the drains, can be harmful to aquatic life. People may also be unaware of alternatives, such as pouring soapy water down their own

household drains (which are treated at the sewage treatment plant before entering the river) or using biodegradable cleaning products.

WHAT IS TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA?

Trout Unlimited Canada (TUC) is non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that present and future generations have the opportunity to enjoy Canada's freshwater resources. TUC and its member chapters work on a variety of stream habitat enhancement/stream restoration projects across Canada and help inform and educate the public about coldwater conservation issues and their local watersheds.

