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# *November Tip of the Month*

## *Storm Drains/Flooding*

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### **Why should I clean storm drains?**

Clean storm drains or catch basins help prevent localized flooding. City crews work to keep storm drains clear, but with hundreds of drains in Poulsbo, we could use your help! With your assistance, we can keep streets safe and clear and can reduce property damage caused by flooding.

### **What is a storm drain?**

Storm drains are rectangular grates with slats and are normally near the edge of the street. These grates collect water which then flows into Liberty Bay. Please remember, storm water only!



***Clogged storm drains can lead to destructive flooding of streets and homes!***

### **How can I help?**

- Check storm drain grates to make sure they are free of leaves and debris.
- Do not remove the grate from the opening - this does not unclog the system.
- Rake leaves away from storm drains near your house or business.
- Do not rake or blow leaves from your property into the street.
- Dispose of leaves in your yard waste container or compost bin.

### **What if flooding happens?**



- Sandbags can be useful in redirecting storm water and debris flows away from your home.
- Be sure sandbags are properly filled.
- Sandbags will not seal out water
- Sandbags deteriorate when exposed to continued wetting and drying for several months.

**Thank you for your assistance!**

City of Poulsbo Public Works

[publicworks@cityofpoulsbo.com](mailto:publicworks@cityofpoulsbo.com)

