# DWAYNE

# storm drain



a drain for all seasons



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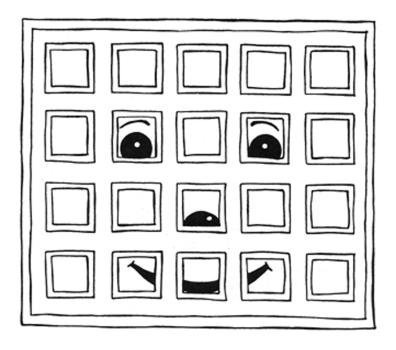
#### a drain for all seasons

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# DWAYNE

#### the Storm Drain

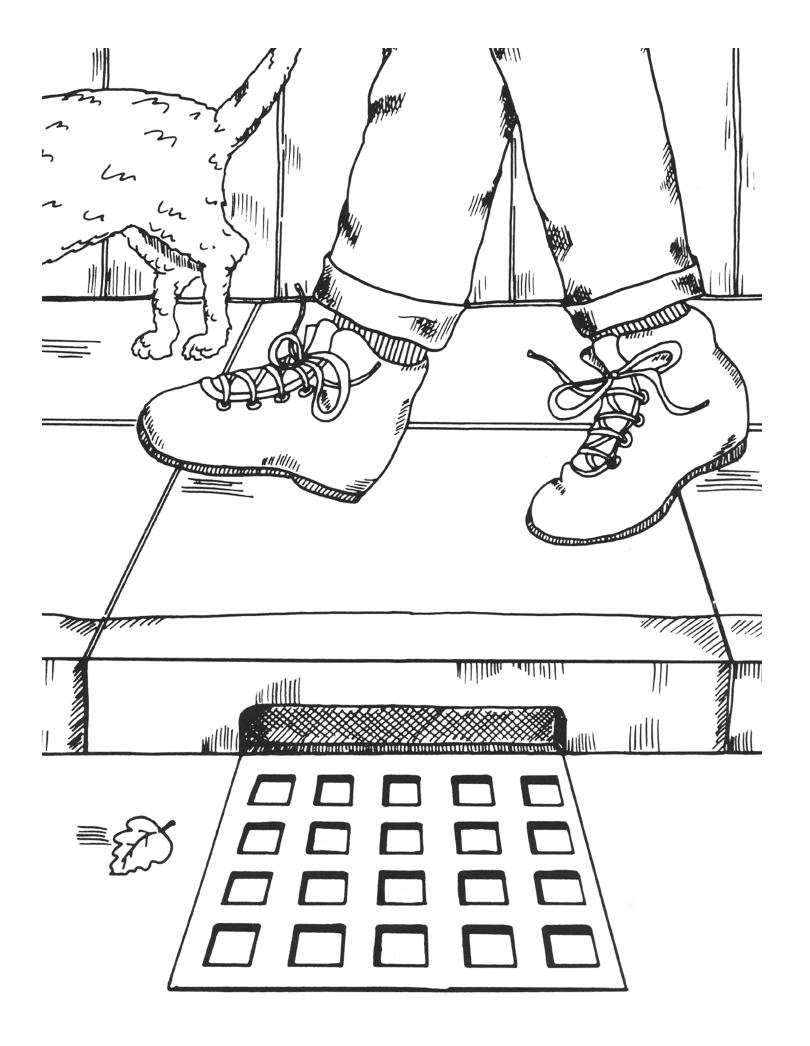


a drain for all seasons

written by Donna Papapietro illustrated and designed by Rita Berkeley for MWRA Wastewater School Education Program his afternoon as you are walking home,
Think back to right now and remember this poem.

Stay near to the curb keeping safe from the street. Look down by the road and just follow your feet.



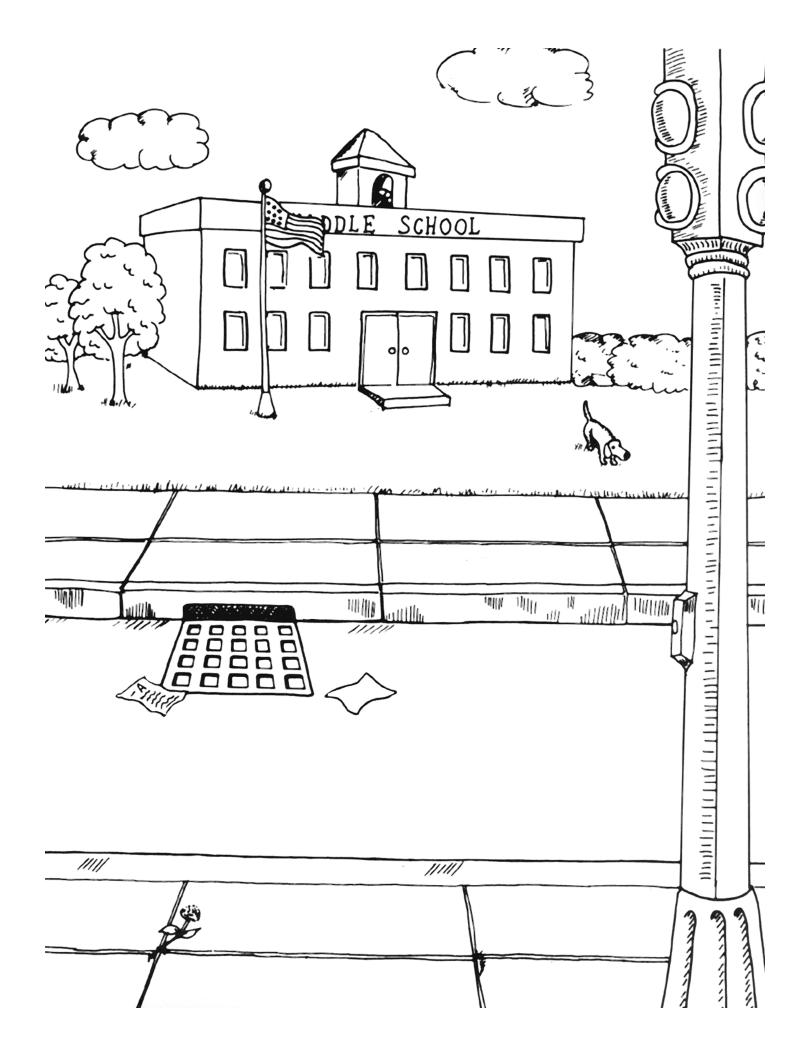


Maybe you'll see me if you carefully search.

Maybe you'll find me near a temple or church.

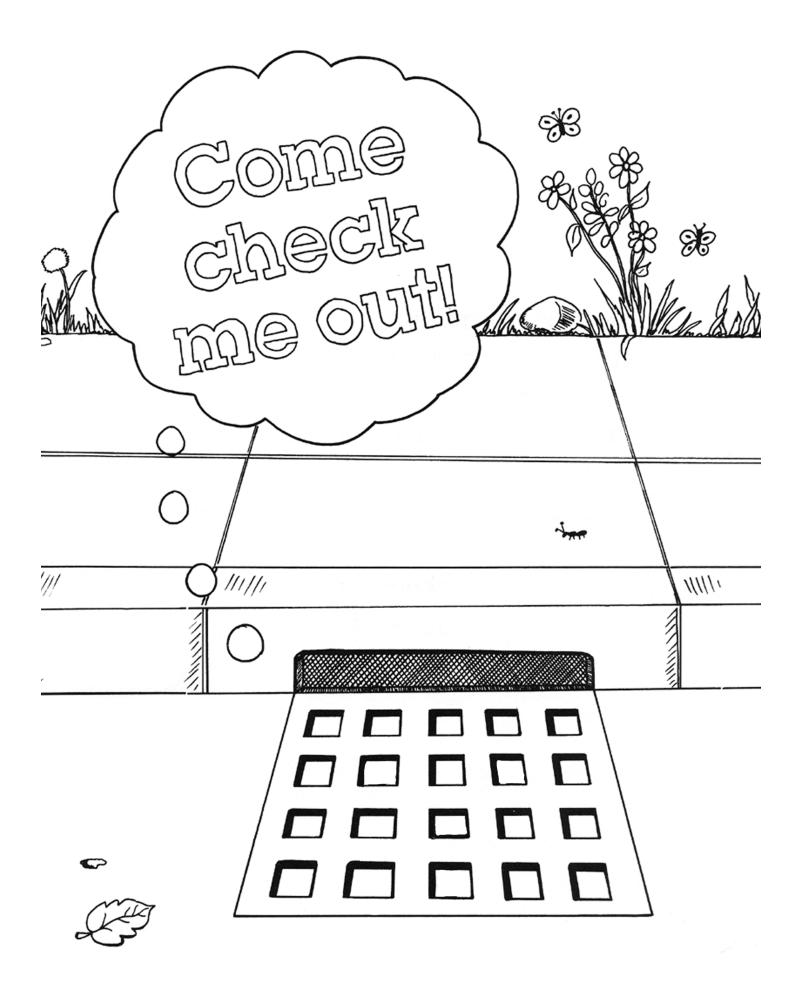
I am nothing quite fancy and my color is dark, "Psst, I'm over here near the school by the park."





Here I am! I'm hanging out in this gutter,
Watching people go by and not a word do I utter.

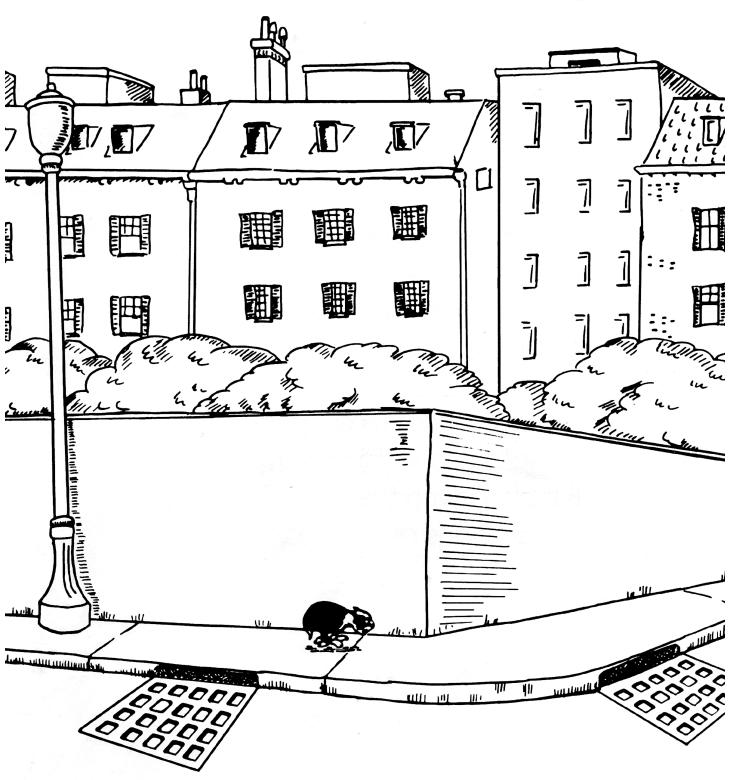
But, if I could speak
I'd look up and shout,
"I'm Dwayne the Storm Drain
come check me out!"



I'm made of cast iron and resemble a grate,
If you walk a few blocks you'll meet another fine mate.

I'm shaped like a square and have bars that are crossed, I keep objects from drain pipes that are littered or lost.

### المالية والمالية



Gutters are my business this street I dutifully drain, I am often overworked in times of heavy rain.

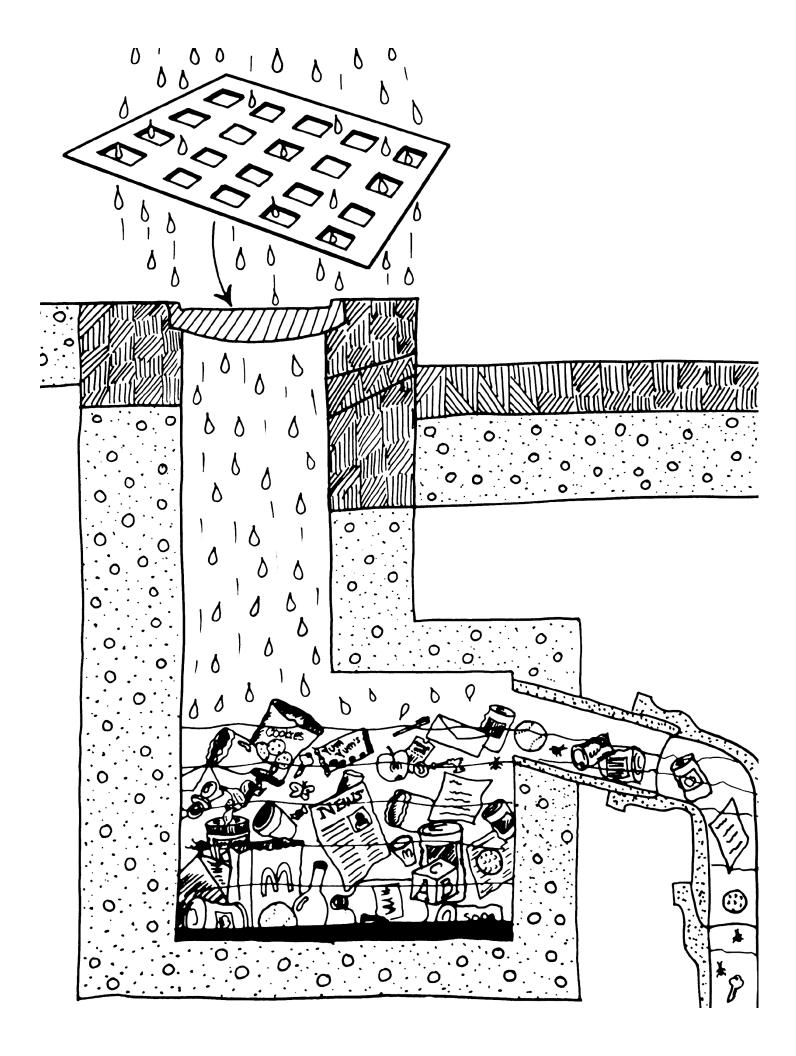
Rainwater runs through me travelling down to drain pipes, But along with the water I see garbage of all types.



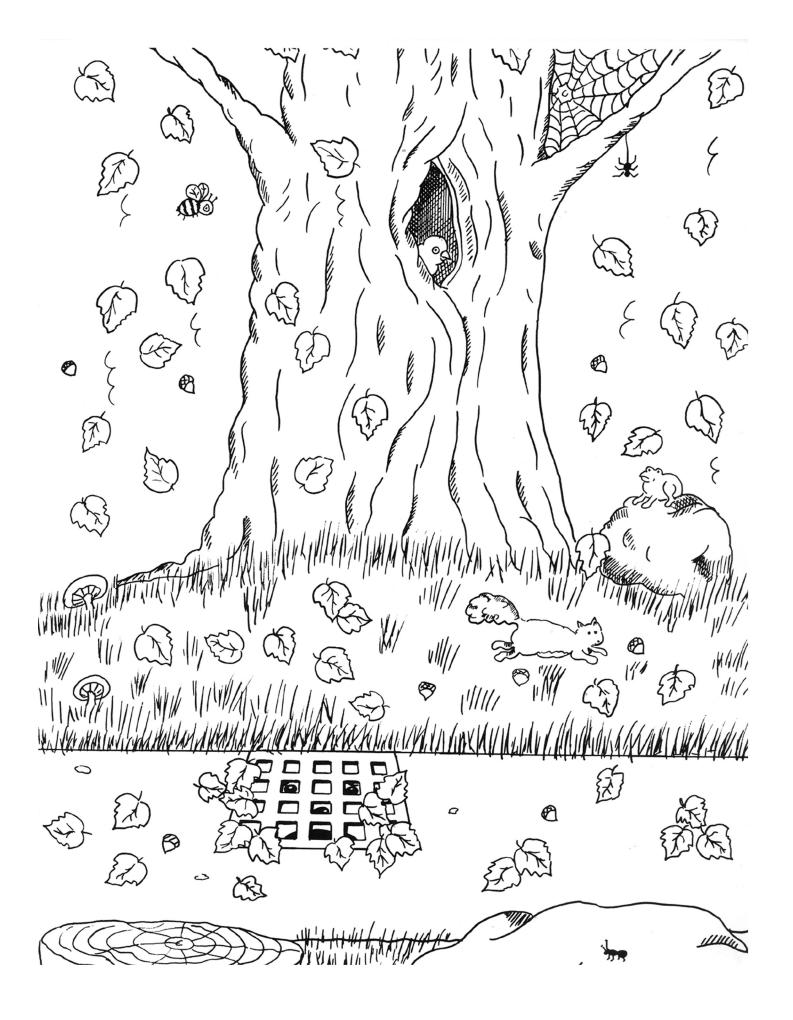


Don't use me for dumping
I've got a specific purpose,
I am here to drain streets of
rainwater that may surface.

BUT...

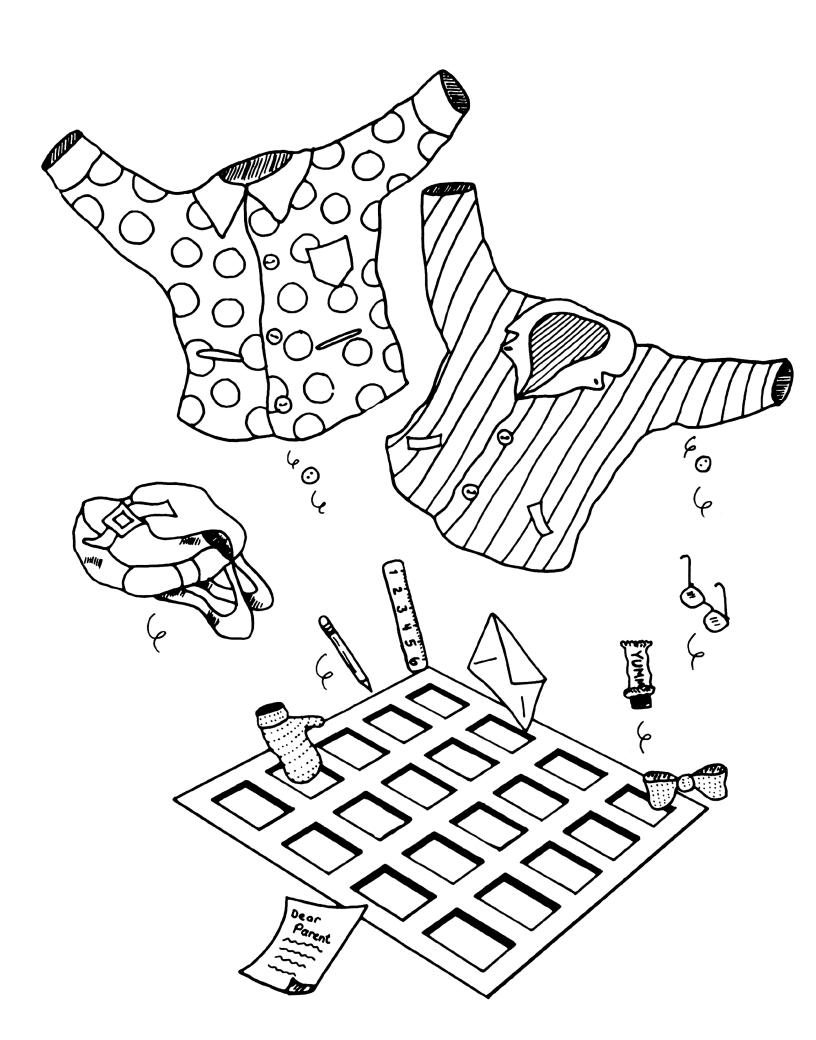


In autumn when school starts
I am loaded with leaves, 
Washing down with rainwater
when they fall from the trees.



Children start to wear coats made of flannel and wool,
I get lost buttons and bows when seams start to pull.

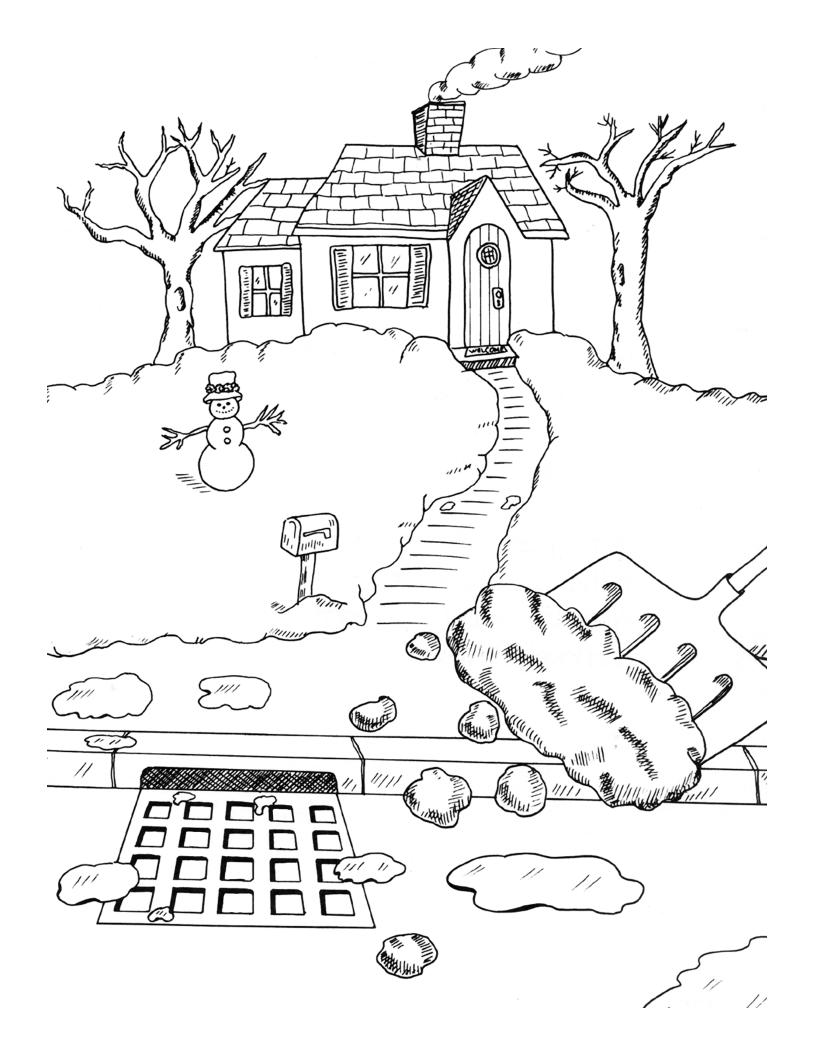
Pencils and rulers are swept through my grate, And notes to parents for homework that's late.



Winter begins and snow falls fluffy-white, It's beautiful at first then becomes such a sight!

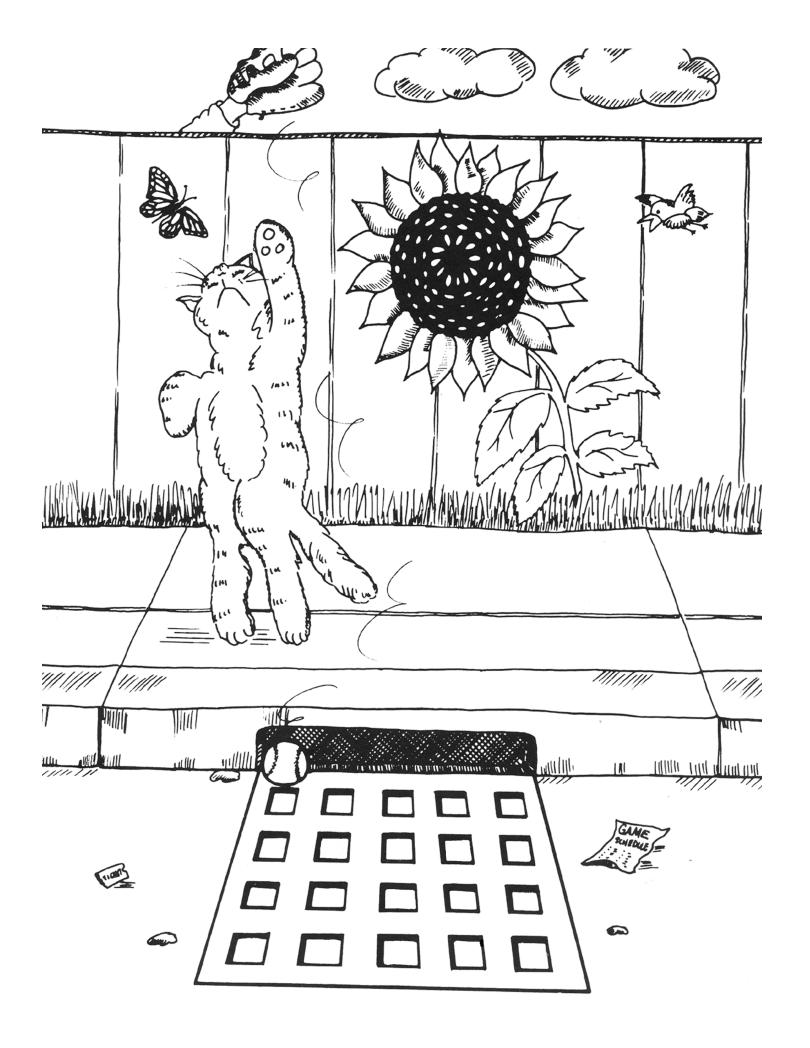
It mixes with salt that is thrown on the road,
To stop cars from sliding so they don't crash and get towed.

Snow shovels will clear the road nicey-nice,
Shoving me dirt, snow, and salt and big pieces of ice!



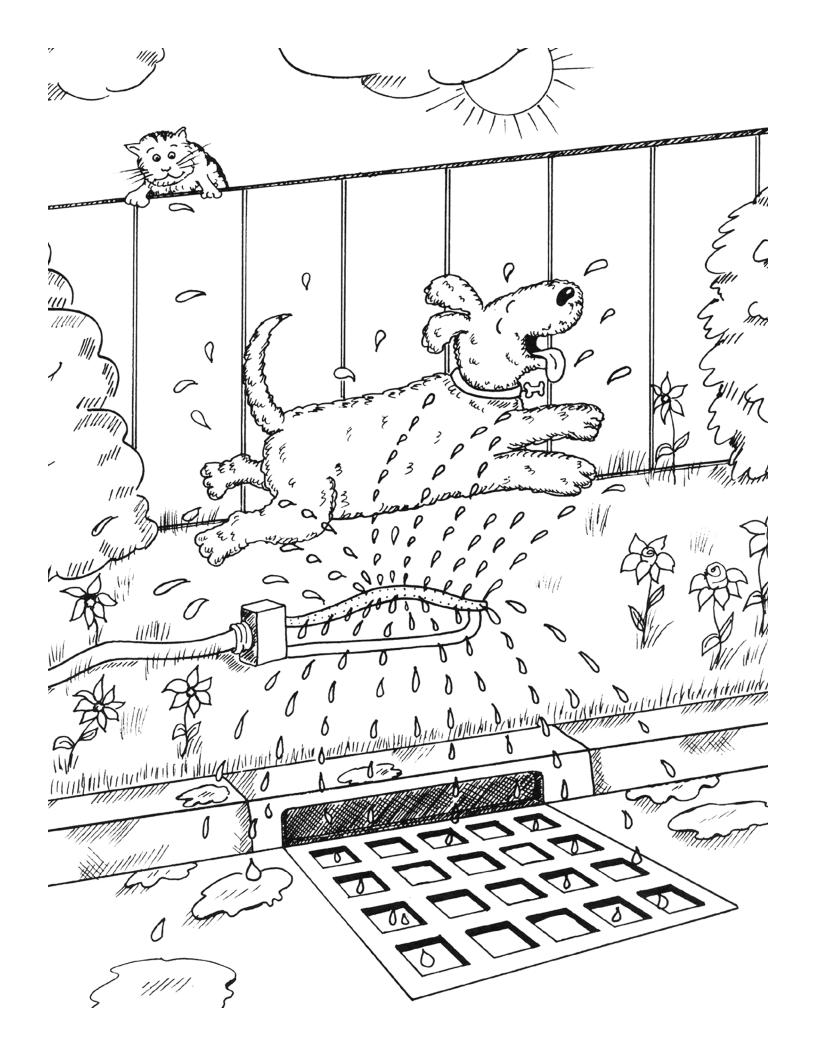
This stuff it gets through me all winter and fall, it's a sure sign of spring when down rolls a ball.

At the park children play more in the school yard as well, When the weather is warmer and lovely flowers I smell.



Spring has sprung to life and it rains a lot more, So into my grate flows water galore!

From hoses comes more water when sprinkling the lawn, In spring neighbors wake up to water at dawn.



When summer arrives the children leave school, And they move to the park where there is a big pool.

A lost towel and water toy swept through me today, Someone was wet and cold and without something to play.

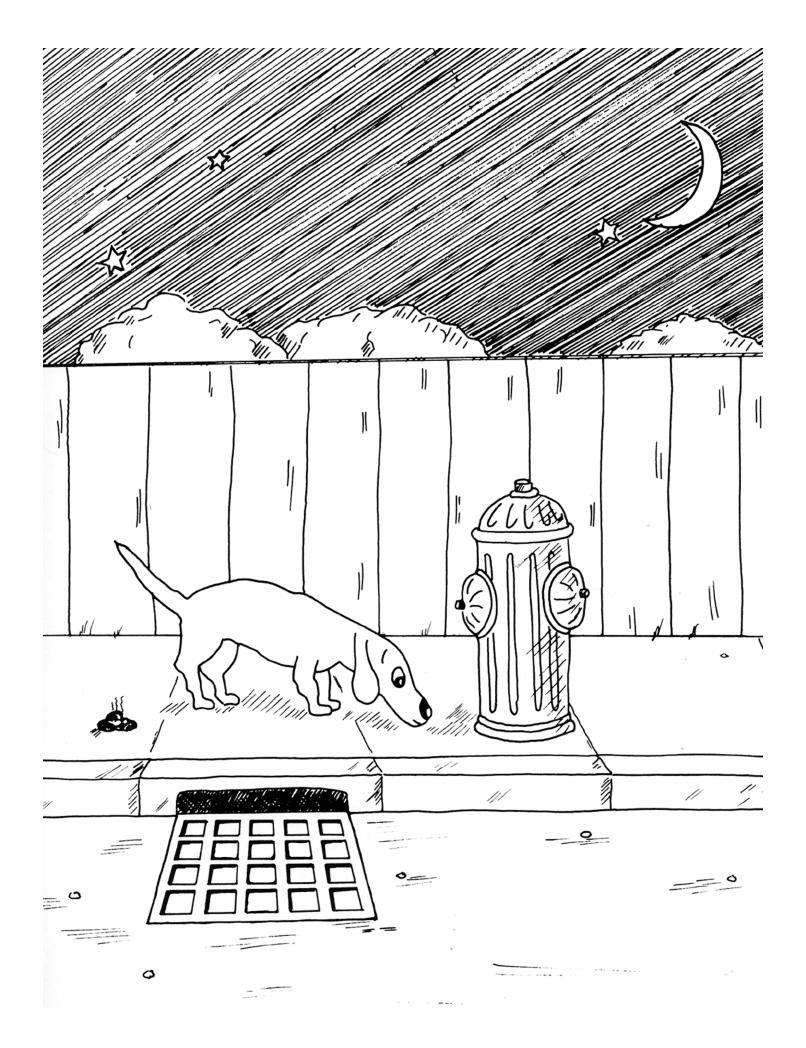




With the days growing longer dogs are walked up 'til nine.
There's more dog-poop curbside that's eventually mine.

So what's my point as I chatter on and on?
What does it all mean to you I now warn.

Where does it go?
I'm sure you will ask.
Explaining this now
is no easy task.



After rain and other items go down through my grate,
They travel through sewer pipes a journey clear and straight.

In some towns this all goes to a sewage treatment plant,
The water is chemically cleaned and becomes effluent.\*

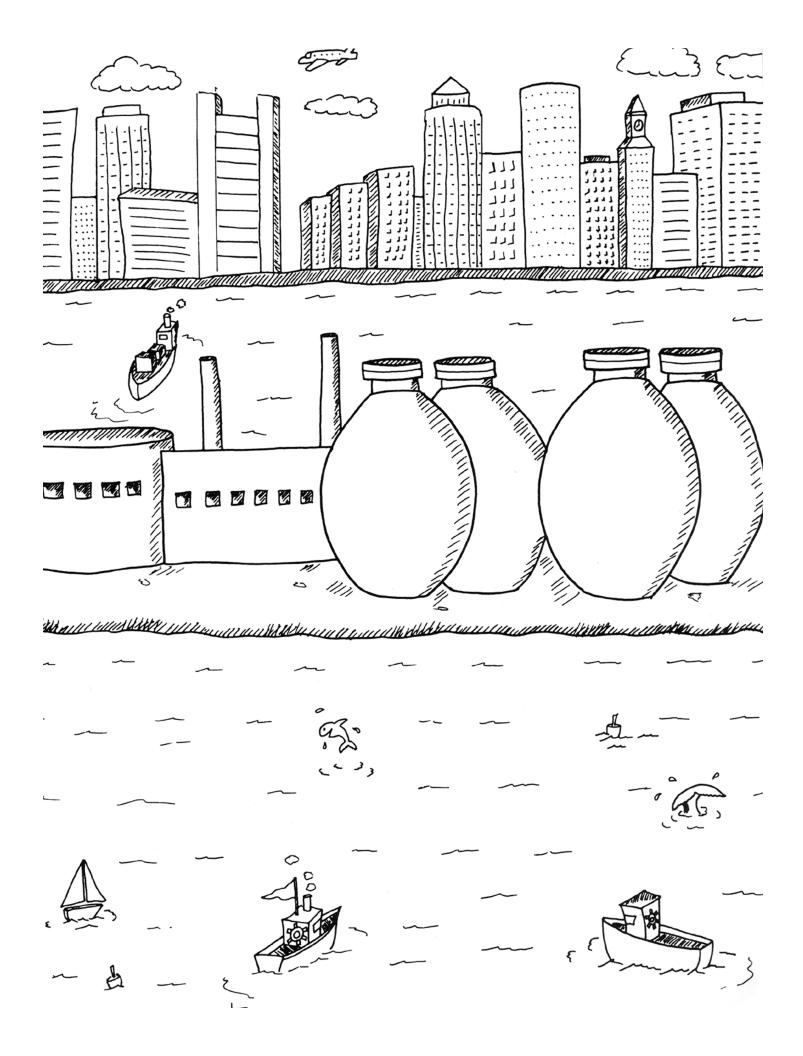
But in most cities and towns what I will tell you is true, All this water and gunk flows to water that's blue!

<sup>\*</sup>effluent-the "cleaned" wastewater or final liquid that flows out of a treatment plant.



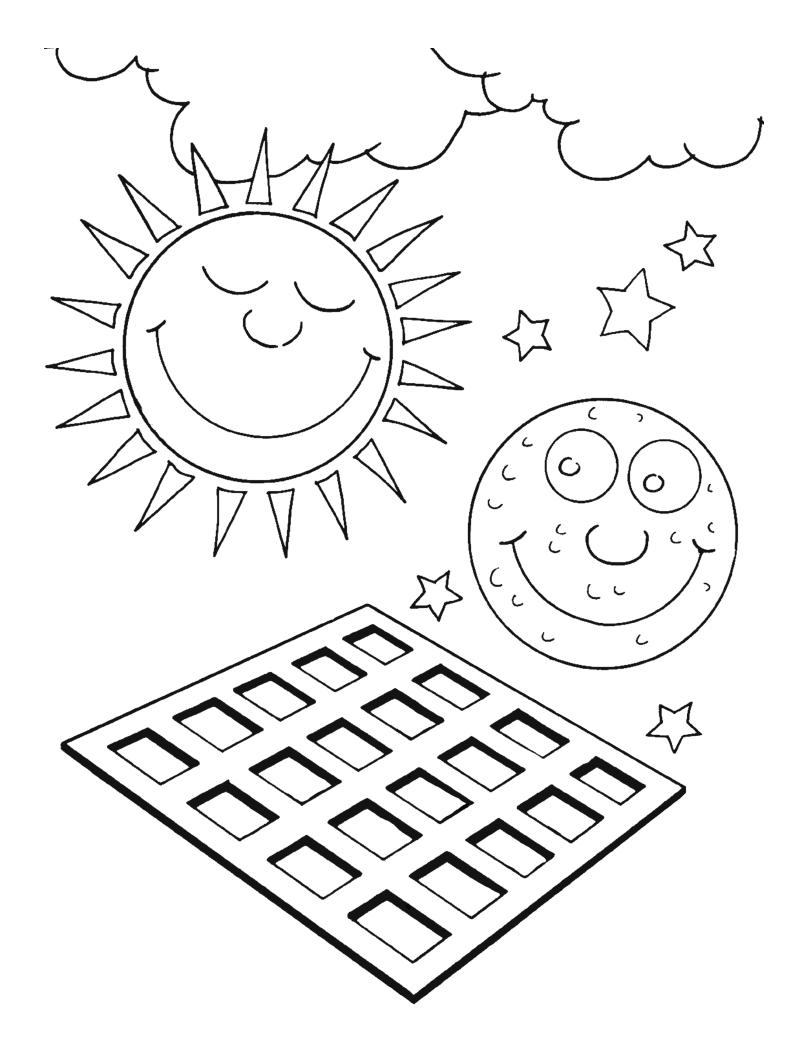
Near your home there's water either a brook, pond or lake,
That receive all the rainfall and other objects I take.

Things like dirt and leaves are recycled back to earth,
Things like litter and garbage have no rebirth!



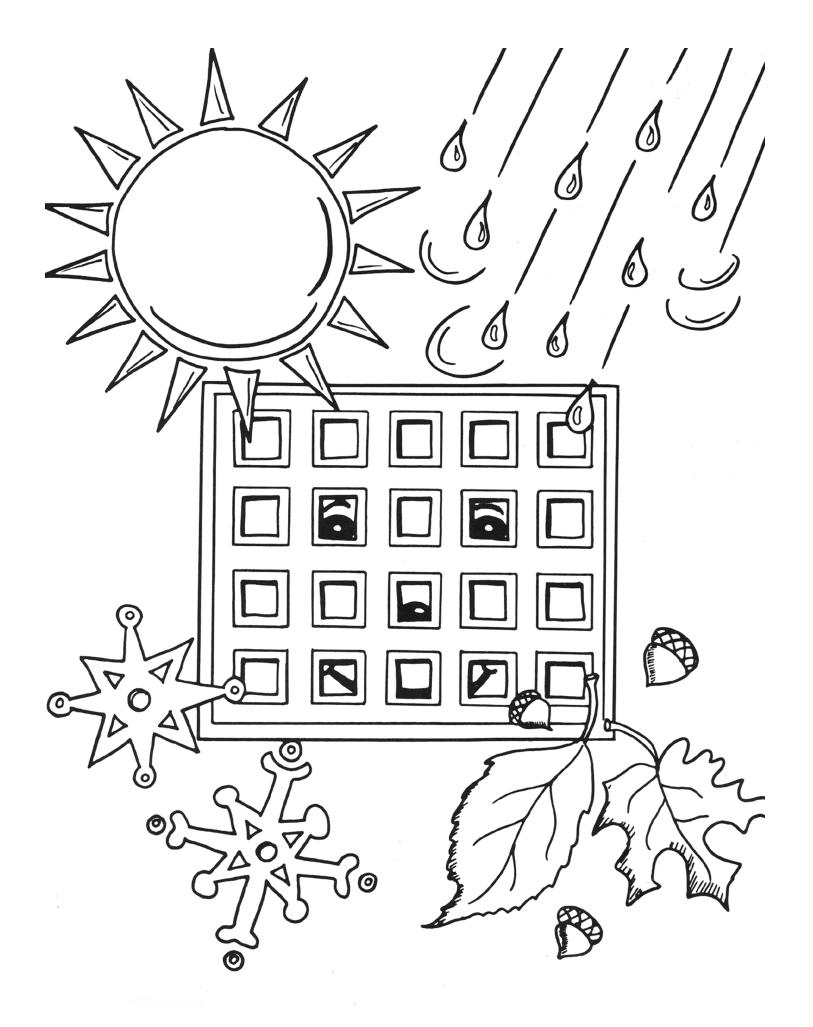
So next time you spy me show me you care,
After reading this poem you are surely aware.

My job is important whether it's January or June, By the light of the sun and the light of the moon.



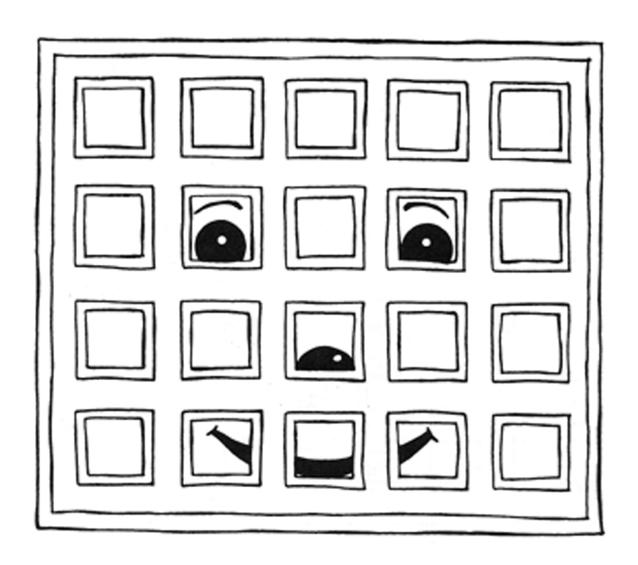
That's my story - I'm a drain for all seasons,
I keep streets clear and dry health and safety are my reasons!





## What shape is Dwayne?

Using familiar objects measure Dwayne's height and width. (paper clip, crayon, piece of string)

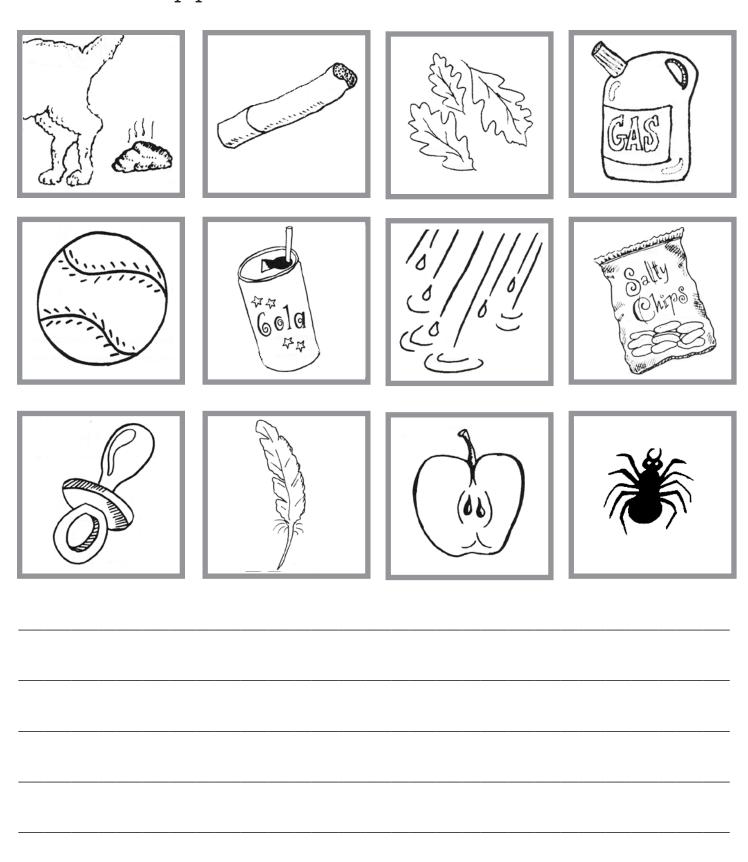


What did you discover about Dwayne?

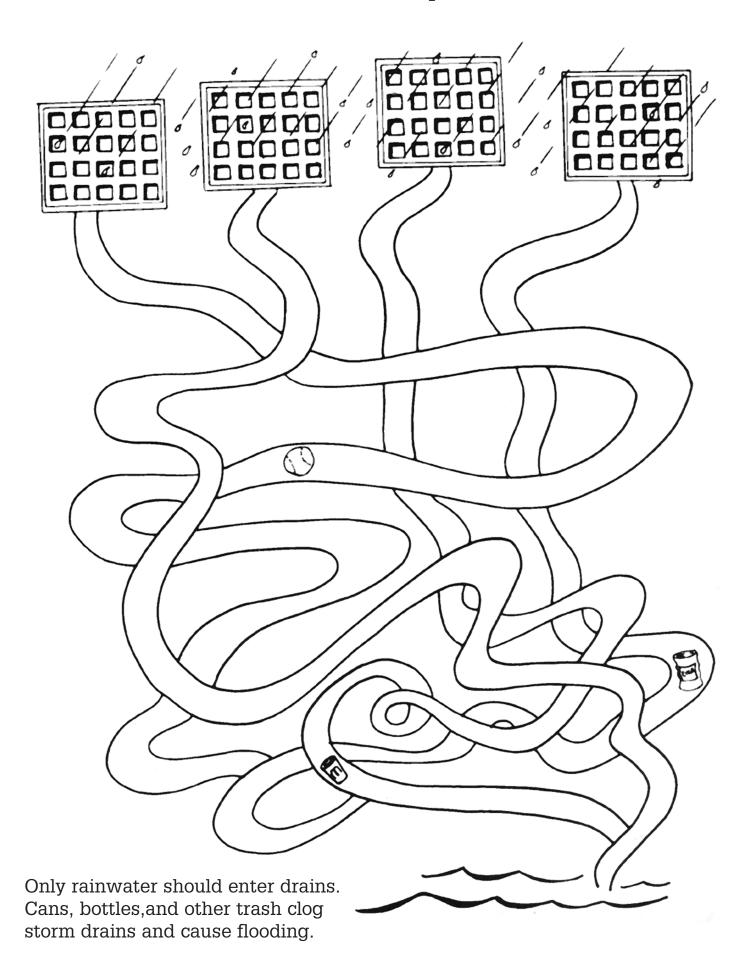
Here are some of the things that might end up in a stormdrain. Which ones are safe for Dwayne and the environment?



Pretend that you are one of the objects below. Tell or write a story about how you got through Dwayne the Storm Drain and into the drain pipes.



Find the storm drain that has clear path from start to finish.



Where does a lost toy go when it falls into a storm drain?

