

STORM DRAIN ART PROJECT 2024 CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Keep OneSpartanburg Beautiful (KOSB) and the Spartanburg Soil and Water Conservation District (SSWCD) are implementing another environmental art project centered around local water heritage and water quality. KOSB and SSWCD seek design concepts from Spartanburg County artists to enhance selected storm drains at each Spartanburg County Library for 10 locations altogether. Selected artists will turn their concepts into reality in the form of small-scale, semi-permanent, outdoor murals that will adorn Spartanburg County storm drains, raising awareness and educating the public about the effects of stormwater runoff on water quality.

Why Storm Drains?

Storm drains lead directly to our waterways. Each time it rains, trash and pollutants on our streets are washed into the storm drains and are carried into our creeks, rivers and lakes. Stormwater pollution can significantly degrade our fish and wildlife habitat, our drinking water, and recreational opportunities. By painting Spartanburg County storm drains, we are reminding residents that we are all connected to our creeks, rivers, and lakes.

Locations

All Spartanburg County Libraries

City of Spartanburg (Headquarters), Landrum, Chesnee, Cowpens, Boiling Springs, Inman, Pacolet, Woodruff, Middle Tyger, and Westside Spartanburg.

See attached site maps for complete details.

Themes

Stormwater Pollution: Leading source of non-point pollution. Contaminants such as: fertilizers, pesticides/herbicides, gasoline and oil

Environmental Protection: The importance of clean water, non-point source water pollution

Only Rain Down the Drain

Help Keep It Clean

All Drains Lead to the River

Spartanburg County/Tyger and Pacolet River Ecosystems: Local wildlife/habitats and natural beauty

Timeline

January 1st, 2024 | Contest Opens

March 1st, 2024 | Contest Ends

March 8th, 2024 | Judges Review Deadline

March 15th, 2024 | Winning artwork announced.

March 18th, 2024 | Drains cleaned and prepared, supplies gathered.

March 23rd - March 31st, 2024 | Artists schedule to paint drains and complete work.

Eligibility

Open to all residents in Spartanburg County. Minors will need guardian supervision. Entry is Free.

Submit artwork to: spartanburgstormdrainart@gmail.com

Criteria

- All submissions will be scored on aesthetics, originality and educational message.
- Design must be original to the artist, and one-of-a-kind.
- Design cannot include any breach of intellectual property, brands, trademarks, or depictions of illegal activities.
- Designs may not incorporate any physical objects attached to the drains.
- Computer-generated designs will only be considered if accompanied by examples of your work as a painter.
- The submitting artist must also be the artist who paints the storm drain. More than one artist may work together. The artist payment will be shared by the team.
- You may submit multiple conceptual sketches for consideration, but only one design per artist or group will be selected.
- You may sign your work, but it must be no taller than **2 inches**.
- Designs cannot contain business promotions or advertisements.

Submission Information

Full name and best way to contact

Sketch of your design idea (pdf, jpg or png)

- Up to 5 images that accurately represent the artwork in scale and color.
- Include at least one image showing design within provided drain schematic.

Title and Brief concept description of artwork

Spill response plan: how will you clean up a spill to prevent paint or other materials from entering the storm drain (e.g. drain buddy/inlet guard), and how will you dispose of the dirty water. (300 word max)

Please use the specific site dimensions provided to propose design concepts. Be mindful that some changes to designs may be required to accommodate the specific location. We encourage artists to submit a design that can be easily adjusted and/or scaled to match the specific dimensions of the site.

Proposed work must fit within the designated space, and utilize all parts of the drain, including the mouth of the drain, the slatted metal grate. All artwork must remain within the confines of the storm drain structure and should not extend to adjacent areas of decorative pavers, concrete, asphalt, or surrounding landscape. It may not be possible to fix all cracks in the storm drains, so artists should plan to incorporate surface imperfections into their design as needed.

Review and Selection

A committee of judges will select 10 designs that are graphically bold with clear messages relating to the suggested themes, and with the potential to engage a wide range of audiences. All artwork will be evaluated on artistic merit and unique storm drain integration.

Materials Provided

Safety cones

Fluorescent orange safety vest.

Water based acrylic paint (Primary Colors, plus Green, Black and White)

Set of paint brushes

Paint roller and tray

Plastic containers to mix paint colors

Drain sites will be cleaned and primed with white non-slip paint before artists will paint on the sites. KOSB and SSWCD will erect temporary signage to direct pedestrians away from the area on painting days, and will coordinate with adjacent property owners and businesses to minimize disruptions.

Artist Responsibilities

- Artists will take reasonable precautions to ensure they are visible and out of the path of vehicular traffic while painting and are not creating hazardous conditions for pedestrians.

- Artist will communicate with the planning committee regarding their preferred painting windows well in advance to allow adequate time for sidewalk closure signs and barricades.
- Artists are expected to complete their work within 3 consecutive business days, provided there are no weather delays.
- Artists should plan for variable weather conditions and be prepared to postpone work during rain events.
- Artists should wear appropriate clothing and stay hydrated.
- Artists are encouraged to begin work early in the morning to avoid the heat of the day.
- Artists will take precautions to ensure no paint is spilled into the storm drain inlet or on the surfaces outside of printable areas. Artists will properly dispose of waste/rinse water (i.e. Not on the ground or down the storm drain).

Terms & Conditions

Each participating artist agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the County of Spartanburg, Spartanburg County Library, SSWCD and KOSB from any loss or damage, any and all third-party claims, demands, actions, legal fees, or costs for which the Artist is legally responsible, including those arising out of negligence, willful harm, or crimes by the Artist or the Artist's employees, agents, or subcontractors. This "hold harmless" agreement shall survive beyond the term of the Artist's service contract. The County of Spartanburg, Spartanburg County Library, SSWCD and KOSB will not be liable or responsible for any bodily or personal injury or property damage of any nature that may be suffered by the Artist, their employees, agents, or subcontractors in the performance of this Project, except to the extent of any negligence or misconduct on the part of the County of Spartanburg, Spartanburg County Library, SSWCD and KOSB.

The County of Spartanburg and the Spartanburg County Library reserves the right to remove artwork at any time for any reason without warning. The project committee reserves the right to remove any final design that does not meet the criteria above or does not hold true to the original conceptual sketch submitted by the artist.

Vandalism and Maintenance

Artists should understand that the finished works will be on working drains, and that time and weather will eventually cause artwork to fade. Artists should also be aware that vandalism could occur. Artists must accept the possibility that their artwork may be altered, removed, or damaged at any time after completion.

Copyright

Each artist further grants the County of Spartanburg, Spartanburg County Library, SSWCD and KOSB the following exclusive rights: (a) Reproduction (including electronic images) for fundraising, educational and promotional purposes. (b) The right to remove the artwork or selections of the artwork from the site for any reason, including but not limited to:

1. Endangerment of public safety,
2. Damage to the drain (including vandalism) requiring repair or maintenance,
3. Replacement or maintenance of the drain.
4. Wear and tear of the design.