

Trash-Catcher Contest

The Stormwater Environmental Programs are holding a contest to give away five trash-catching devices to interested pond or lake residents. The device is a net system that floats in the water near a pipe to catch trash that enters the pond or lake. It collects the trash into an area where you can easily clean it out. The additional benefit is that this design has no chance of causing obstructions to drainage since it's placed downstream of the pipe. A Right-of-Way Use permit is not required since the device doesn't attach to the drainage structure. This concept was brought to us by an Adopt-A-Pond volunteer and the design was refined by our staff with help from other volunteers. It's lightweight and unobtrusive.

To enter this contest, you must be part of an Adopt-A-Pond group or live on a lake that participates in the Lake Management Program. Recipients must agree to collect trash from the device and report how much is collected monthly. The contestants are also required to e-mail or write to us describing (1) the water body and address on the water body where you will place the device, (2) who will install and maintain the device, (3) why you think your location should receive the device, and (4) how this device fits into your overall management strategy.

Entries will be evaluated based on the applicant's overall participation in the appropriate program, demonstration of need and commitment to monitor and report. Submit your entry by email to mcgeej@hillsboroughcounty.org or by mail to:

Trash Catcher Contest, attn: John McGee
2420 Falkenburg Road
Tampa FL 33619.

Entries must be received by 5:00pm March 24, 2011.