

# MODESTO STORM DRAIN SYSTEMS

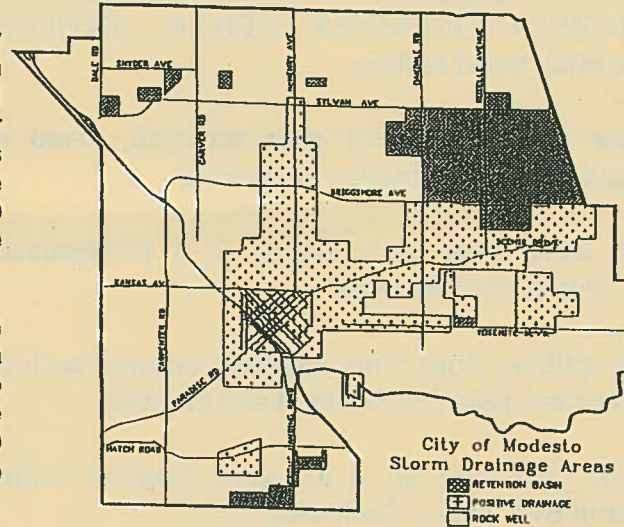
## How you can help:

- ✓ Recycle used oil
- ✓ Clean driveway spills with absorbent material, don't hose it off
- ✓ Steam clean your engine at a professional car wash
- ✓ Rinse latex paint in your sink
- ✓ Don't overwater or allow garden pesticides to wash into the street

## Report Polluters: 577-6200

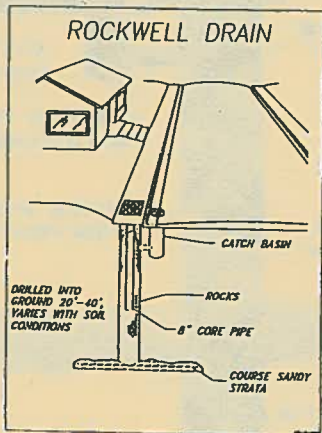
Storm drains provide a vital service in every community. Storm drains remove rainwater from the streets via underground pipe systems and send it directly to nearby rivers, catch basins, or the water table below. The City of Modesto has a variety of storm drain styles throughout the community, connected to approximately 14,000 catch basins. Check the map to see what type of system is in your area.

Keeping the drains clean and free from hazardous contamination is critical! Water is a necessity of life and we must work together to keep it clean for everyone's good health. Please **REPORT POLLUTERS** by calling 577-6200 whenever you see anyone illegally dumping into a storm drain.



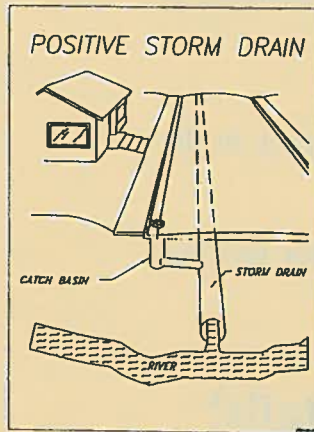
## ROCKWELLS

A rockwell storm drain is a deep hole filled with rocks that is connected to a catch basin. Rockwells range in depth from 20'-75' and allow **UNTREATED** stormwater to slowly seep into the ground to rejuvenate our drinking water. It may take as long as 40 hours after a heavy rain for the ground to absorb all the water. When a heavy downpour occurs, the result may be standing water and flooded streets. Rockwells make up more than two-thirds of the City's storm drain system. There are approximately 10,500 rockwells in Modesto. Please protect our drinking water for generations to come by keeping all contaminants out of the rockwells in your area.



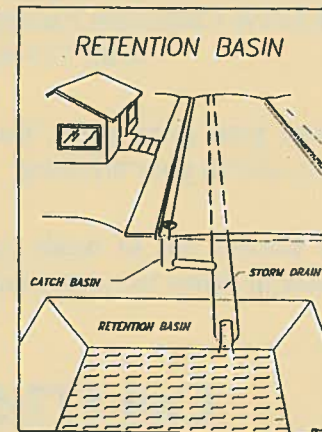
## POSITIVE STORM DRAINS

A positive storm drain system is composed of underground pipes connected to a catch basin. **UNTREATED** stormwater collects in the catch basin and flows through the pipes until it reaches the Tuolumne River or Dry Creek for direct discharge. Modesto has about 40 discharge locations along the river. Contaminants in this system directly affect the river's sensitive environment. Help us protect it by reporting polluters.



## RETENTION BASINS

A retention basin system is another type of positive storm drain system. However, in this system **UNTREATED** stormwater collects in a catch basin and flows through underground pipes until it reaches a large enclosed basin for direct discharge. The water collects in the basin until it soaks into the ground via a rockwell at the bottom or is pumped out into a nearby canal, stream, or river. Contaminants in this system affect our drinking water, irrigation water, and sensitive ecosystems. Please protect them by keeping pollutants out of the storm drains.



CITY OF MODESTO





City of Modesto

Rockwells are designed to drain **UNTREATED** storm water runoff by letting it percolate directly into the groundwater. Hazardous materials such as **ENGINE DEGREASERS, USED OIL, ANTIFREEZE, AND PAINT** are often found in them.

Here's how you can protect your rockwell, avoid unnecessary flooding, and protect the fragile environment...

- Steam clean your car's engine at a professional car wash...not in your driveway
- Clean spills or drips with absorbent material such as cat litter or sand instead of hosing it into the street
- Recycle your used oil at a nearby Certified Collection Center or by Curbside Collection
- Dispose of antifreeze (and other hazardous materials) at the HHW Collection Facility. It's FREE!  
(Call 525-4123 for details)
- Rinse your latex paint, brushes, rollers, and pans in the sink...not in your driveway
- Be careful not to wash your garden pesticides into the gutter or down the storm drain

**Call 577-5493 for details!**

**ROCKWELLS...**  
they're not just famous paintings!

