

Junior Watershed Explorers

Stormwater Edition

JUNIOR
WATERSHED
EXPLORER

9 MILE CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT



Created for pre-k to 1st grade


Name: _____



Hello, this booklet will help you on your
journey to become a

JUNIOR WATERSHED EXPLORER.

Here's what you need to do—

- 
1. Complete this booklet.
 2. Go to <https://ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/junior-watershed-explorer/> to request your Junior Watershed Explorer sticker and water bottle!
 3. Share what you have learned with your friends and family!

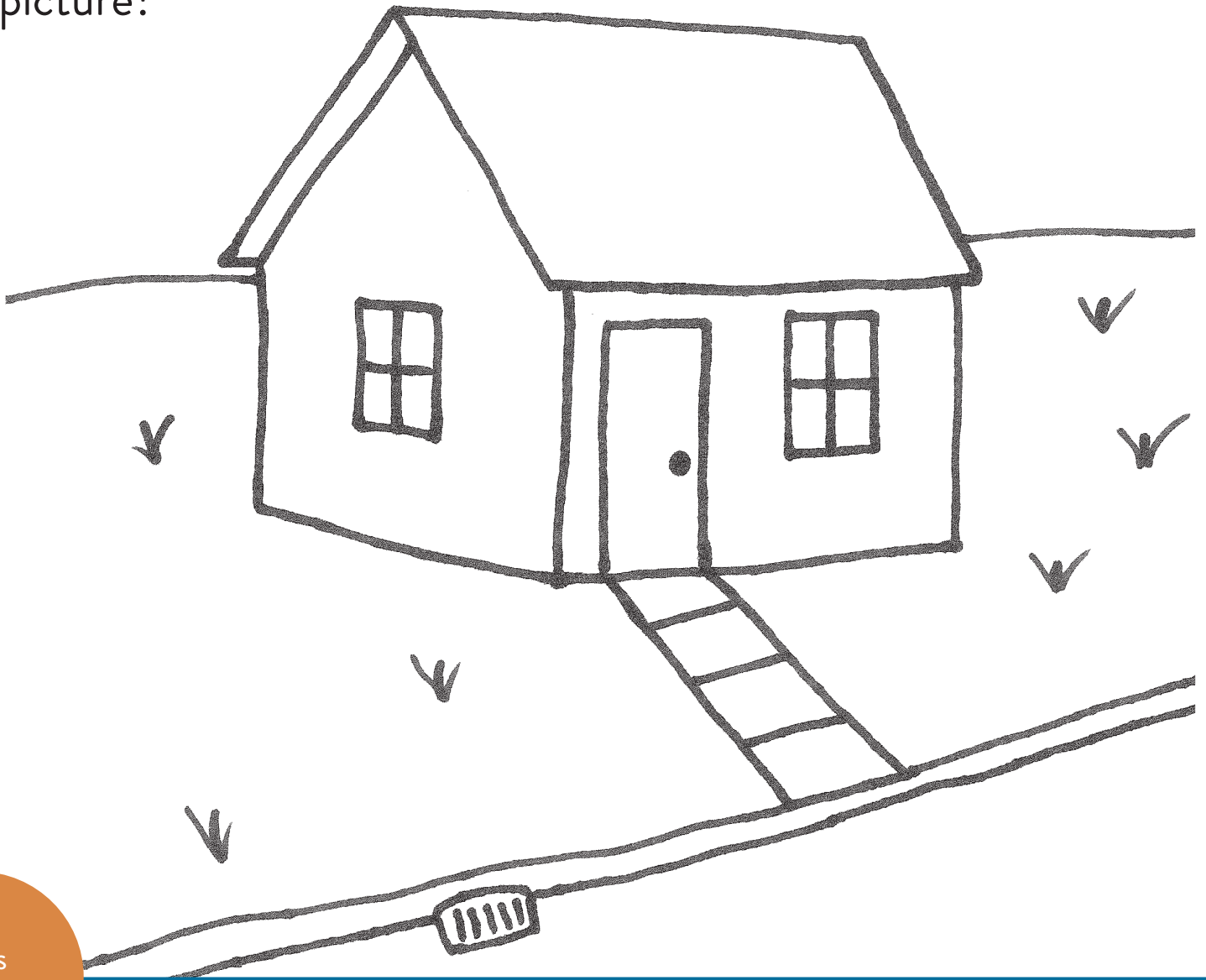
Let's learn about stormwater!

Photo by D. Bergstrom

Ask an adult for help if you need it!

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rain or melted snow that runs off lawns, roofs, and streets. Can you draw stormwater flowing in this picture?



Let's
Think...

Where does stormwater go? Write a few words or draw your answer:

Out for the Count

Stormwater goes down **storm drains**, which lead to lakes and streams. But not all storm drains look the same. Take a walk around your neighborhood with an adult. What do the storm drains look like? Count how many you see of each kind below.



Did you find a different type of storm drain?
Draw it here:

Add them all up!
How many storm drains are in your neighborhood?

Does the Rain Drain?

Take some water with you to pour on the surfaces below. What happens to the water? Does the water soak in, flow over the surface, or puddle? Is it a mix? Write some words below each picture to describe what the water does. Example words: soaks in, puddles, flows.



Lawn



Asphalt



Wood chips



Concrete



Leaves



Gravel

What happens if you pour more water on each surface? Does the water behave differently? Where do you think the water on the asphalt and concrete will go? Write a few words or draw a picture:

Only Rain Down the Drain

What pollutes our lakes and creeks? Be a storm water detective to figure out what gets washed into our lakes and creeks when it rains. Can you use the pictures to figure out what the pollutants are? Fill in the missing letters once you do!



Changing Lands

When there are lots of hard surfaces like roads and parking lots, more water and pollutants flow to storm drains and to our lakes and creeks. Color in the squares to match the key and see how the land around Nine Mile Creek has changed over time.

What differences do you see?

1960s land use

A	F	F	F	M	C	M	M
A	M	M	M	F	C	F	M
M	F	F	F	F	M	C	M
A	M	F	F	F	C	M	M
A	A	A	A	F	C	M	A
A	A	A	A	C	M	A	A
A	A	A	A	C	C	A	A
A	A	A	A	A	C	A	A

Today's land use

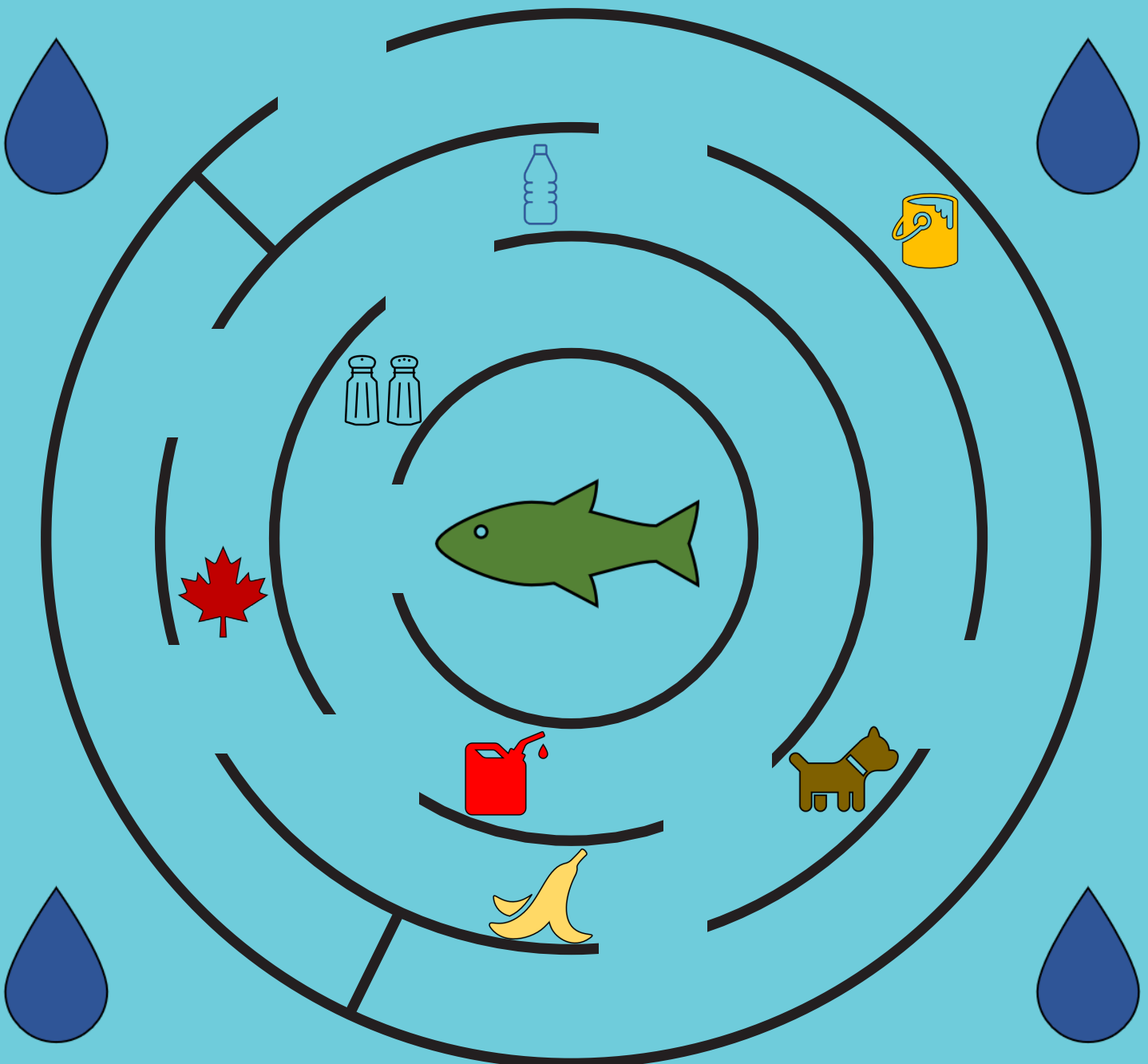
R	B	B	F	M	C	M	P
R	M	M	M	F	C	F	P
R	R	R	R	R	R	C	R
R	M	F	F	F	C	M	P
R	P	P	P	F	C	M	P
R	P	P	P	C	M	P	B
R	P	P	P	C	C	P	B
R	P	P	P	B	C	P	P

Key

A	Agriculture
F	Forest
M	Marsh
C	Nine Mile Creek
R	Road
B	Building
P	Parking Lot

Wally the Walleye

Wally the Walleye is on a journey to explore Minnesota's rivers and lakes. She needs your help to guide her safely to her destination. Wally can only survive in clean, cool, oxygen-rich water. Help her swim around all the pollutants!



You Can Help!

There are lots of things you can do to protect the lakes and rivers in Minnesota and the animals that live in them! You can pick up trash on your next walk or plant a tree. You and your family can even adopt a nearby storm drain and keep it clean of trash and debris. What will you do to keep the water bodies near you healthy? Draw a picture:



Congratulations!

has completed the activities in this booklet and is a certified Junior Watershed Explorer of the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. They have earned their Junior Watershed Explorer Sticker and water bottle.



Junior Watershed Explorer Pledge: As a Junior Watershed Explorer, I pledge to appreciate and protect the lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater resources in the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. I will learn about the natural world around me, do what I can to protect clean water, and encourage others to do the same.

Go to <https://ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/junior-watershed-explorer/> to request your bottle and sticker

Contact Us
and find out how you can
get involved

DISTRICT OFFICE
12800 Gerard Drive,
Eden Prairie, MN 55346

CONTACT INFO
952-204-9691
gzembal@ninemilecreek.org
www.ninemilecreek.org