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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Storm Water Management Program Implemented in Washington Township

Dublin, OH – Washington Township has applied 61 storm water markers which read “No Dumping, Drains to Our Stream” on all storm water drains in the unincorporated areas of the township.

The markers, which were placed on Baldwin Road, Fishel Drive, Holiday Lane, Shier Lane, in the town of Amlin and in Homestead Park, are part of the township’s plan to increase awareness and educate its residents about what they can do to help reduce water pollution caused by storm water runoff. Storm water runoff is Ohio’s most common source of water pollution.

Storm water pollution is caused when rainwater and snowmelt run off streets, lawns, farms and construction and industrial sites and pick up pollutants (oil, grease, pesticides, fertilizers etc.) on its way to rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. Contaminated storm water discharges can result in fish kills, the destruction of habitat, a loss of aesthetic value, and contamination of drinking water supplies and recreational waterways that can threaten public health.

To prevent contaminants from entering rivers and streams through storm water runoff, township staff are advising residents to never dump trash, leaves, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, detergents, automotive fluids such motor oil, paint, solvents, or other hazardous materials in to storm drains. “Storm drains are ‘pipelines’ to ecosystems that support many of the fish we eat and the places we visit for recreation,” said Township Administrator Tom Spring. “We want to make sure our residents understand the importance of keeping our waterways clean, which depends, in part, on keeping contaminants out of the storm drains.”

Washington Township is required to comply with Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program because part of its jurisdiction is located in an urbanized area, as defined by the 2000 United States Census. Authorized by the Clean Water Act, the NPDES program was initiated to control water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. This national program is administered in Ohio by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Washington Township’s marker program is part of a county-wide educational initiative by Franklin County townships to help prevent illegal dumping of pollutants into storm drains.

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Washington Township encompasses parts of Union, Delaware and Franklin Counties, including the City of Dublin. The Township's Parks and Recreation Department manages three parks, a community center, and a variety of year-round educational programs. The Fire Department provides fire prevention, fire suppression, and emergency medical services for township residents and businesses.