



**The ARAMARK Tower
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Earth Day 2002: Volunteers Help Protect
Philadelphia's Waterways from Pollution**

To help celebrate the 32nd Anniversary of Earth Day, the Philadelphia Water Department and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary are hosting a kick-off event for a city-wide storm drain marking project on Monday, April 22 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cobbs Creek Environmental Education Center, 700 Cobbs Creek Parkway (63rd and Catharine Streets).

EPA Regional Administrator Don Welsh from Region III and Philadelphia Water Department Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand, will be joined by volunteers from the Cobbs Creek neighborhood and students from Grade 5 at the Pepper Middle School to mark the first storm drains in the City.

This spring, volunteers in neighborhoods across the city, including Cobbs Creek, will mark approximately 4,000 storm drains with the message "Yo! No Dumping. Drains to River," in an effort to protect local streams, creeks and rivers from pollution. Rainwater that washes litter, car oil, dog waste, lawn fertilizer, and other pollutants off the land, and into storm drains that flow directly to local waterways, is called stormwater runoff pollution. This type of pollution poses one of the greatest threats to the quality of our region's waterways.

For more information about the Earth Day 2002 Storm Drain Marking program, please call the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary at (302) 655-4990 extension 14.

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