

Nature

...Where You Are!

Tale of a Raindrop

Next time it rains, head outside and see the water cycle in action! When rain falls in a built environment such as a neighborhood or a park, it moves through a combination of storm drains and concrete culverts, as well as creeks and other “green infrastructure” such as rain gardens and retention ponds. Pick a starting point, and see if you can figure out where a raindrop would travel next. Would it roll off of a street and into a storm drain? Would it flow into a gulley or ditch that is normally dry? This activity will help you explore your own neighborhood in a new way and understand how we interact with our environment!



Water flowing into a culvert from a small tributary in Midwood Park



A few questions to think about:

- 1) Does the water flow that you are following seem like a good habitat for aquatic animals?
- 2) What kinds of stuff could get into our water supply from runoff?
- 3) Does the water seem to be more often above ground or below ground?

Once you've followed the water as far as you can go, head home and continue your search on Google Maps!

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