

## Be part of the Solution to Stormwater Pollution

**November 20, 2010; Davie, FL** - Volunteers with Youth Environmental Alliance and staff members from Allstate Resource Management teamed up to install 300 "No Dumping – Drains to Waterways" placards on the storm drains around the community of Forest Ridge.

Stormwater is rainwater that runs off of roofs, lawns and paved surfaces into the storm drain system. This runoff may contain pollutants such as motor oil, yard clippings, pet waste, litter, lawn chemicals, anti-freeze, or other toxins, which can pollute our water supply, as well as clog pipes and culverts which can lead to flooding. Known as "Non-Point Source Pollution," it is the largest threat to our waterways today. Sometimes pollutants are dumped directly into storm drains by neighbors who don't know any better. Contrary to popular belief, most storm drains are not connected to treatment systems. Whatever enters the drain is discharged directly, untreated into local waterways which can harm the aquatic environment and create public health issues.

"It was exciting to see so many residents take an active interest in improving the overall quality of their community," said Cindy Davidson, Executive Director of Youth Environmental Alliance and Wendy Shaw, Stormwater Division Manager at Allstate Resource Management, Inc.

### How can you help?

You can help by using the following tips to prevent pollution:

- ✓ Properly dispose hazardous waste and recycle used motor oil
- ✓ Use fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides sparingly and follow the manufacturer's instructions
- ✓ Keep yard waste, trash and dirt off the street and out of the gutters
- ✓ Clean up after your pets
- ✓ Wash your car at a carwash facility or park your car in the grass before you wash it
- ✓ Spread the word about protecting our waterways from polluted runoff

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*YEA provides South Florida youth with all-inclusive educational programs that focus on Florida's unique ecosystems and wildlife. The programs highlight the importance of outdoor ethics, safety, and environmental stewardship, while providing a fun learning atmosphere.*

*Allstate Resource Management, Inc. headquartered in Davie, Florida, has been a leader in aquatic resource management for more than 10 years. Allstate Resource Management specializes in cultivating a healthy ecosystem for South Florida's aquatic plants and wildlife. The company provides lake management, wetland management, stormwater service, erosion control, fish stocking and native wetland planting to communities throughout South Florida.*

For more information about YEA or to volunteer please contact:

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