

THE LAKE MERRITT INSTITUTE

A Center for Urban Runoff and Watershed Research

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VOLUNTEER LETTER

VOLUNTEERS: CHEER UP – YOU’VE GOT HELP: A lot less trash is coming from outfall 56 into Glen Echo cove since Oakland installed this CDS storm drain filter upstream in the watershed. A large unit, it receives runoff from (as you can tell from the trash) commercial areas with lots of fast food restaurants that pass out Styrofoam containers.

Use of such containers by restaurants will be restricted by a recently passed City ordinance, but (as those of us who clean up know) there will still be plenty of trash for the filter to capture, like plastic bags, bottles, cans, cigarettes, chip bags, newspapers and candy wrappers. The filter captures such things, but they are hidden below the Styrofoam, which floats higher.



Looking down into the storm drain filter at Valley and 22nd Streets.

Four such filters have been installed since 1999. Measure DD funds are available, and if similar devices could be installed on all of our 60 drains, we wouldn't have much trash to remove from the Lake.

SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER:

- 2.02 inches of rain
 - 3,060 pounds of trash
 - 155 people
 - 153 bags of trash.
 - Clean ups were conducted on 21 out of 30 days.

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