

City of Rockville, Maryland
Adopt-A-Stream Program

Safety Guidelines

1. The Adopting Group's Designated Representative shall survey the stream section the group intends to adopt to determine if stream conditions are safe and appropriate for the ages and abilities of the group's participants before applying to the Adopt-A-Stream program. Once adopted, the Designated Representative shall survey the stream section prior to any scheduled cleanups to ensure safe conditions for the group. If, at any time, the Adopting Group feels that the adopted section of stream or the surrounding upland areas have become unsafe for cleanups, the Designated Representative shall contact the City of Rockville representative and he/she will work with the group to identify a safer stream section or a different stream.
2. Individuals under 18 may participate in a stream cleanup only if supervised by an adult. Adopting Groups must provide at least one adult for every six children under 18 years old.
3. Cleanup participants shall wear gloves or some form of hand protection. Orange safety vests will be provided upon request.
4. Always work in groups of two or more.
5. Adopting groups shall avoid working on steep slopes or in confined stream stretches with limited ingress/egress.
6. Cleanup participants are encouraged to take breaks, drink fluids and avoid overexertion. Cleanup participants shall not drink water from any stream.
7. Cleanups shall be scheduled during daylight hours and during fair weather. Remember to schedule a "rain date" ahead of time.
8. Do **not** pick up materials that appear hazardous or unsafe. Contact the City of Rockville at 240-314-8570 to report such materials.
9. Cleanup participants shall provide the Designated Representative with emergency phone numbers and contacts.