



ADOPT-A-STREAM PROGRAM

CITY OF BELTON
520 Main Street
Belton, MO 64012
816-331-4331
www.belton.org

General Conditions

1. The City of Belton encourages residents, local businesses, civic organizations, watershed groups, academic institutions, and scout groups to adopt local streams, rivers, and lakes for the purpose of managing litter along streambanks, shorelines, and waterways.
2. Typically, a team of two people can cover one mile of a lightly-littered stream channel in about one or two hours. The City suggests groups adopt no less than a half-mile of a stream, river, or lake. Remember the number of volunteers needed for the clean-up event will depend on the length of the stream, river, or lake adopted.
3. Adopting organizations will be awarded an Adopt-A-Stream sign that will include the organizations name to place at a location of their choice.
4. Each group must include a participating adult of 18 years of age or older designated as the Voluntary Group Leader. Individuals under 18 years of age can participate in a stream clean-up event if supervised by an adult and granted permission by parent or legal guardian. The City recommends one adult per four youth.
5. The Volunteer Group Leader for the adopting group must conduct at least one safety meeting per year to review City-supplied safety information. No one may participate in a clean-up event unless he or she has attended a safety meeting in the last 12 months. The Volunteer Group Leader may conduct the safety meeting immediately before a clean-up event; however, this meeting must be held in a safe, appropriate area. At the safety meeting, the group leader should review the program's Safety Guidelines with all volunteers.
6. The Volunteer Group Leader is responsible for notifying the City if any of the adopting group's participants has a condition that might require special safety precaution or provisions covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act.
7. Adopting groups agree to collect litter on both sides of the stream if possible at least twice a year. The City recommends that groups conduct one clean-up event in the late spring/early summer and one in the fall. Traditionally, the amount of litter is greatest during these timeframes because of spring runoff and the beginning and end of the water recreation season. Groups that conduct clean-up events more than once a year should notify the City (necessary for the adequate provision of supplies). Please return Request for Clean-Up Event at least two weeks prior to waterway clean-up event.
8. Participants must adopt a stream for a period of two years. After two years, the adopting organization may renew their designation and agreement, modify their designation (choose a different stream), or terminate the agreement.
9. Adopting group members shall not trespass on private property. Permission from the property owner before entering private property must be secured.
10. The City will provide a recognition placard or up to two (2) signs for each adopting organization depending on location and visibility.
11. The adopting group is responsible for the pickup of all collected litter. Prior to the clean-up event, the group shall coordinate with Public Works on a designated location that is easily accessible to leave the litter bags. Public Works will be responsible for disposing the litter bags.
12. The City encourages participants to separate and recycle materials to maximum extent possible.
13. Within two weeks of the clean-up event's completion, the Volunteer Group Leader for the adopting group must send completed copies of the **Volunteer Informed Consent and Release forms, Minor Participating Permission forms, Completion form, and Recognition Sign Request form** to the Public Works department at City Hall Annex, 520 Main Street.
14. The City encourages adopting groups to coordinate clean-up events with other community events.
15. The City reserves the right to deny an adoption request or cancel the adoption agreement of any group at any time.