



## CLEANUP ACTION PLAN

### GOAL

Coordinate stream cleanups for the adopted stream segment and engage citizen volunteers in the cleanups.

### INTRODUCTION

Each adopter is responsible for organizing cleanups for their adopted stream segment. Per the program goals, the adopter is expected to remove trash from the stream and its banks four (4) times a year (winter, spring, summer, and fall).

## PLANNING FOR THE CLEANUP

### SELECTION OF DATE

At this time, the spring and fall cleanups do not have a designated date. It is up to the adopter to select the date for each cleanup at least four weeks in advance. Cleanups are held on Saturday or Sunday and last 1½ to 4 hours, depending on the number of volunteers and amount of trash to be removed. Cleanups are to be held in the spring, summer and two in the fall, but can take place other times of the year weather permitting.

### COORDINATION OF SUPPLIES

The County will provide materials for the cleanup. At least one week prior to the day of stream cleanup, the designated representative should contact the Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) to coordinate pick up of the following items:

1. Appropriate number and sizes of work gloves;
2. Appropriate number of trash bags;
3. Copies of the stream cleanup tally sheet;
4. Adopt-A-Stream Informed Consent: Liability and Hold Harmless; Public Permission sheets; and
5. Copies of Student Service Learning reporting sheets for Prince George's County Public Schools.

### VOLUNTEER OUTREACH

Adopters are encouraged to seek other volunteers to help at the cleanup. Both student and adult volunteers are welcome. Students can earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours at the cleanup.

Volunteers are encouraged to promote their cleanup activities using the following sources:

- The Prince George's Sentinel newspaper or other media outlets;
- Advertise the event to your friends, family, neighbors, civic and HOA associations;
- Post flyers in neighborhoods and other communities; and
- Post flyers in local grocery stores, Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Community Centers, Schools and Libraries

## STREAM CLEANUP PROCEDURE AND SAFETY MEASURES

As volunteers arrive, the Adopting Group's Designated Representative will provide each volunteer with an informed consent form that needs to be completed and signed prior to participation in the cleanup.

At the start of the cleanup, a brief introduction will be provided to describe the limits of the cleanup site and guidelines for procedure.

**Safety Guidelines:** All children under 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Closed-toed shoes and long pants are recommended. Excavation of the stream banks is prohibited. Volunteers are expected to stay within the cleanup project limits.

Volunteers will collect trash and recyclables throughout the stream valley. This includes the immediate stream bed as well as the overbanks. All volunteers will be given trash bags and gloves. Trash is to be collected by hand. If participants wish to enter the stream, waterproof boots or stream waders are recommended. Volunteers should keep track of specific items, such as plastic bags or bottles, as outlined on the tally sheet. Additionally, volunteers should look out for unusual trash items in the streams such as tires and home appliances. As trash bags are filled, they are to be tied closed and placed in a central area for pickup by the County.

Cleanup will continue until the scheduled end time or until the stream is free from trash. If necessary, any SSL hours documentation will be provided at the end of the cleanup. The stream cleanup tally sheet will be completed by the Adopting Group's Designated Representative. The tally sheet and signed informed consent forms should be turned in to DoE after the event.