



GENERAL PROGRAM CONDITIONS

1. Prince George's County Government encourages local businesses, civic organizations, watershed groups, academic institutions, scout groups and other neighborhood groups to adopt local streams for the purpose of managing litter along stream banks, shorelines and in waterways. Stream cleanups directly benefit us by enhancing the aesthetics of our natural areas, removing potential pollutants in our drinking water supply and reducing litter accumulation at stream outfalls and shorelines. Stream cleanups also benefit aquatic plants and animals through improved habitat and water quality.
2. Adopting Groups are also encouraged to survey their stream section for signs of pollution or illegal dumping and report this to the County. Citizen reporting is often the only way many of these illegal discharges can ever be discovered and stopped.
3. Each Adopting Group must specify a Designated Representative to act as the point of contact with the County. The Adopting Group must include a participating adult of 18 years or older. Individuals under 18 can participate in a stream cleanup if supervised by an adult. Prince George's County Government requires one adult per six youth.
4. The Adopting Group and/or Designated Representative should walk the section of stream valley they plan to adopt prior to applying for the Adopt-A-Stream program to determine whether the site conditions are appropriate for the abilities of the group's members.
5. Adopting Groups agree to collect litter on both sides of the stream at least four times a year. The County recommends that groups conduct two cleanups in the late spring/early summer and two in the fall. Traditionally, the amount of litter is greatest during these times. And don't forget about cleaning the trash out of the upland areas! It won't take long for any trash found anywhere within the watershed to wind up in the stream.
6. Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons are popular stream cleanup times. Please expect to spend two to four hours on the cleanup activity depending on the length of adopted stream segment and the number of volunteers.
7. The Adopting Group is encouraged to adopt a stream for a period of at least one year. After that year, the Adopting Group may renew their designation and agreement, modify their designation (choose a different stream section), or terminate the agreement.

8. The Designated Representative must contact Prince George's County Department of the Environment at least one week before a scheduled cleanup. At that time, county staff will provide the Designated Representative with safety information, gloves, safety vests (if requested), trash bags for every participant and other support as needed.
9. Adopting Group participants shall not trespass on private property. Permission must be secured from the property owner before entering private property.
10. The adopting group will stockpile litter collected in a centralized location designated by the Prince George's County Government for subsequent removal. The County encourages participants to separate and recycle materials to the maximum extent practical, recognizing that highly degraded collected materials would be unsuitable for recycling.
11. The County encourages Adopting Groups to coordinate cleanups with other regional events, such as Prince George's County Clean-Up Green-Up events or annual Earth Day events.
12. Prince George's County Government reserves the right to deny an adoption request or cancel the adoption agreement of any group.
13. Each adopting group participating in the Adopt-A-Stream Program, including all participants working under the auspices of the adopting group, must sign the Informed Consent; Liability and Hold Harmless; Publicity Permission form.
14. Please inform Prince George's County Department of the of Environment if there are any students that are interested in receiving Student Service Learning hours for their stream cleanup participation.