



Adopt-a-Block

Stream/Creek Clean-Up Guidelines

Adopted Creek Section: _____

Creek Classification: Fish bearing Non-fish bearing

Streamside Clean-Up

- Participants can conduct streamside clean ups at any time during the year. Streamside refers to the stream banks or any area adjacent to the stream bed/channel.

In-stream Clean-Up

- Participants should only conduct an in-stream clean up during the in-stream works window as designated by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). Typically this is from August 15 to September 15. The window is the time of year when the risk of negative impacts to aquatic organisms is low. In-stream clean ups can occur outside of the window if the stream is dry.

Removing Items from the Stream

- Remove only human produced material. Do not disturb natural material as they provide important aquatic habitat.
- Do not remove items that are imbedded in the stream bed, disturbing dirt and soil in the stream can cause stress to fish downstream.

Department of Fisheries and Oceans

- Contact **Corey Kahl at 604-814-1069** prior to conducting in-stream creek clean ups.

Safety

In addition to the safety checklist outlined in the Guide to Safe Litter Clean Up, the following are safety recommendations from the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation. Ensure that all participants are made aware of safety concerns.

1. Survey the area you intend to clean up.
2. Do not attempt to wade in fast flowing water or water higher than your knees.
3. Watch out for slippery stream beds, undercut banks, waterfalls and fast flowing areas.
4. Lift using your knees, not your back.

Safety Continued

5. Avoid foul smelling areas, spills of unknown substances, or containers of hazardous or unidentified materials. In these instances, contact Environment Canada's Observe Record and Report hotline at 604-666-6100 or DFO at 604-666-3500.
6. Beware of domestic animals and wildlife.
7. Do not drink stream water.
8. Do not expose cuts and wounds to stream water.

Collecting and Reporting Clean-Up Results

- If possible, take photographs before and after the clean up. Submit the photographs when you submit your Participant Record Form. Include on the Participant Record Form the types of garbage found.

Creek Clean-Up Guidelines Reviewed:

Date

Signature of AAB Representative

Signature of Adopter