

How to Adopt a Spot or Adopt a Creek:

- Select the location and develop a plan for the type of work you would like to do, including any plans for planting.
- Complete an “Adopt a Spot / Adopt a Creek” application.
- Discuss location and project plans with an Alameda County Public Works Adopt-A-Spot/Creek Coordinator.
- After the application is approved, notify Alameda County five days before each work event.
- Review and follow all safety requirements.
- Perform all work satisfactorily.
- Call the Maintenance and Operations Department at (510) 670-5500 to arrange removal of all trash and debris bags filled (either in advance or after completion of your work.)



Public Works Agency
— Alameda County —

Contact Us

Maintenance and Operations

Department

951 Turner Court
Hayward, California 94545

510-670-5500

Email: info@acpwa.org

www.acpwa.org

Alameda County Public
Works Agency

Adopt-A-Spot



Adopt-A-Creek



Program

The **Adopt-A-Creek / Adopt-A-Spot Program** is a partnership between the Alameda County Public Works Agency and its residents and merchants.

This program is designed to enable individuals, community groups, businesses, churches, schools and other organizations to play an active role in maintaining the beauty and cleanliness of their neighborhoods, while allowing them to set their own schedule. This is also a great opportunity for students to obtain community service hours.

Volunteers, including school age children under the supervision of an adult, come together for projects such as removing litter from roadways, sidewalk and, when approved, creek trails. Adopt-A-Spot / Adopt-A-Creek projects can also include removing weeds and other unwanted vegetation, painting over graffiti, and maintaining plants and wildlife habitats.

Areas that can be adopted include County streets, County-owned vacant land and some creeks and flood control channels, where ACPWA staff have determined it's safe for volunteers to work.

Other adoptable areas include storm drain inlets, gutters and sidewalks. Removal of debris in these areas are particularly important prior to and during winter storms to ensure proper storm water runoff and help prevent localized flooding.

What You Can Expect From Us:

- Safety gear (orange vests, gloves and safety glasses) for your estimated number of participants annually.
- One color of paint, rollers and basic painting supplies necessary for graffiti abatement.
- Trash bags and disposal of the trash collected.
- Installation of signs recognizing you and/or your group.*
- Technical assistance with authorized and approved planting projects.

You're encouraged to separate recyclables and take them with you.

Recognition Signs:

The Public Works Agency may install signs near project locations recognizing individuals or groups.

- Signage may vary in size according to the location.
- Recognition signs are limited to your group's name and/or logo.* No products, phone numbers or addresses will be identified.

**You will need to provide weather-proof decals of your organization's logo for inclusion on the sign.)*

- The decision to place signs, the sign size, and sign location are the sole discretion of Alameda County.

What We Expect From You:

- Each volunteer should read, understand and conform to the provisions in your noted on the form or in discussions.
- Provide a copy of the safety requirements to each participant.
- Conduct a safety meeting and discussion before you begin your project.
- Each work group must have a copy of the application and safety requirements with them on the work site.
- All participants are required to sign and return a Hold Harmless Release.
 - The Public Works Agency does not require insurance for volunteers.
- Follow all safety requirements.

Safety and Clothing:

This program depends on the common sense and responsibility of individual participants.

- Participants must realize that they are working in a potentially hazardous environment and must diligently follow all safety requirements.
- Wear orange safety vests provided by Alameda County Public Works Agency, gloves, and safety glasses whenever you are at the work site. Put them on prior to beginning any work.
- Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots; light-colored clothing, long-sleeved shirts, and sunscreen are recommended.