



Adopt-the-Red/Park

Taking care of rivers is everybody's business.

What is Adopt-the Red/Park?

- Groups pick up trash and enjoy a reach of the Red River or a local park. With individual actions, through Adopt-a-River/Park programs, many rivers that were once blemished have again become valued local resources. Cleanup crews may consist of a few friends or a large network of volunteers.

Why Adopt-the-Red/Park?

- The greatest threat to the Red River today is from non-point source pollution. Keeping the banks of the Red River litter-free is one way to reduce non-point source pollution. The Adopt-the-Red program stresses prevention of litter accumulation and rubbish removal by recruiting people to "adopt" reaches of the river.
- Rubbish accumulation is one of the single greatest factors that degrades the recreational value of the rivers. Nearly 90% of the items collected during a river cleanup are non-degradable trash such as metal and plastic, with many pieces containing rotting food and chemical residues.
- Cleanups remove trash and litter while increasing community pride.
- Cleanups educate participants about the values of watersheds for recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Group Responsibilities

- Conduct 2 clean-ups each year, following the "Adopt-the-Red Procedures" as written.
- Notify appropriate agency two weeks prior to the cleanup date.
- Cover "Information for a Safe and Enjoyable Cleanup" before participating in clean-up.
- Provide gloves and trash bags.
- Notify appropriate agency of the location of objects to big to handle.
- Notify appropriate agency of hazardous substances, such as car batteries or partially filled farm or garden chemical containers.

Moorhead Parks and Recreation/Fargo Park District Responsibilities:

- Provide removal of filled trash bags.
- Provide removal of large, heavy, or hazardous items discovered by the group.
- Provide information about the Adopt-the-Red program and the adopted reach.
- Provide an information sheet on how to conduct a safe clean up.

After the clean-up:

Contact River Keepers if you are interested in becoming involved with other river service projects such as:

- Storm Drain Marking Program - Protecting the Red River by linking human actions to pollution problems.
- Planting native vegetation.
- On-the water cleanups.

After a cleanup, you gain satisfaction from a job well done!

For more information:

Fargo Park District
Jeff Haberman
jhaberman@johnson.fargoparks.com
701- 241-8161

Moorhead Parks and Recreation
Kim Wangler
kim.wangler@ci.moorhead.mn.us
218-299-5340

River Keepers
325 7th St. S
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 235-2895
info@riverkeepers.org
www.riverkeepers.org