



Parks and Recreation

1300 15th Ave N | Moorhead, MN 56560 | 218.299.5340

moorheadparks.com | parkandrec@cityofmoorhead.com

City Beautification Volunteer Opportunities

The City Beautification committee has developed an ongoing comprehensive plan to help keep Moorhead clean and beautiful by encouraging community volunteers to adopt various areas throughout the city.

Why do we need your help?

- Litter is unsightly. It destroys the aesthetics of our beautiful City
- Litter is expensive. The City hires seasonal workers to pick up litter and empty trashcans throughout the year, and we still cannot keep up with the problem.
- Your help will save tax dollars and allow our maintenance team to devote time and effort to other important City projects.
- A litter-free and beautiful community is inviting to visitors, prospective new citizens and businesses.

Areas for volunteers to adopt (maps available online at www.cityofmoorhead.com/departments/parks-recreation/volunteering):

1. **Adopt-a-Park:** Volunteer April-October on a bi-weekly basis to maintain our parks through litter pick-up and raking leaves (44 parks to adopt).
2. **Adopt-the-Red:** Volunteer May-October on a monthly basis to pick up litter along the river corridor trail (11 zones to adopt).
3. **Adopt-a-Flowerbed:** Volunteer end-of-May through fall by planting and maintaining a flowerbed in downtown Moorhead (27 flowerbeds to adopt).
4. **Adopt-a-Street:** Volunteer April-October on a monthly basis to pick up litter along City streets. Priority areas have been identified on the Adopt-a-Street Map (19 sections to adopt).
5. **Adopt-a-Pond:** Volunteer once in May/June and again in September/October to pick up litter around a storm water pond (30 ponds to adopt).



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How to Get Involved

1. Fill out the Volunteer Application on the City website. Or, contact parkandrec@moorheadmn.gov or call 218.299.5340.
2. Identify an area you are interested in adopting. Full-season or one-time groups are accepted! All opportunities can be found at moorheadparks.com
3. Complete the appropriate agreement form and schedule a cleanup date with the Recreation Coordinator.
4. Contact the Recreation Coordinator to arrange a time to pick up any garbage bags, gloves, rakes, pickers, etc. on site.
5. Please return any unused supplies, rakes, pickers and evaluation forms to Parks and Recreation.
6. Complete the provided evaluation form and return to the Recreation Coordinator.
7. Volunteers will be recognized through signage and/or on our website.



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Adopt-The-Red Agreement

Volunteer monthly in May-October

___ **Adopt** ___ **One Time Group**

River Reach I would like to Adopt: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please recognize my efforts as: _____
(ex: Smith Family, Bill and Sue Johnson, Arbor Park Neighbors, Neighborhood, Church Youth Group)

☐ The City of Moorhead is allowed to recognize volunteer efforts on the City Website/publications.

What are the adopter's responsibilities?

Watch a safety video by scanning the code or going to:
<https://youtu.be/RErbcno5UP4>



What to Wear:

- Closed toed flat shoes or boots with ankle support.
- Long pants.
- Gloves – disposable or heavy leather gloves.

What to Bring/Not Bring:

- First aid kit. Inform all participants who is carrying the kit
- A cell phone for each sub group. Provide leaders cell phone number to participants.
- Sunscreen and/or bug repellent.
- Water.
- Plan a carpool to the clean-up site (park one car at the beginning and one at the end).
- Knives, machetes, axes, saws, etc. should not be carried by crew members.

Handling Trash:

- Leave garbage bags alongside the road, trail or garbage cans for Park Maintenance to pick up.
- Be mindful of what you are picking up and do not pick up anything you cannot clearly see.
- Make sure you can see your fingers and palms of your hands.



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- Do not attempt to compact (squeeze) trash sacks to gain room for more trash. Injuries from broken or jagged objects often result from this practice. Fill the sack with what goes in easily and then get another bag.
- Do not open any containers, including plastic water or soda bottles as they may contain hazardous material.
- Do not attempt to remove suspected toxic/hazardous substances, needles, sharp objects or objects too heavy or large to move – note the location and notify Public Works.
- Do NOT enter the Red River from land to pick up trash.
- Be aware of where you are walking and watch your footing, especially when close to the river, on steep or muddy banks, and near the dams.

Outdoor Safety:

- Avoid Poison Ivy, Stinging Nettle and Wood Nettle. Recognizing these plants and avoiding them can help save hours of discomfort long after a successful and fun clean-up day.
- Be aware of vehicle and pedestrian traffic on the recreational paths and in the parks.
- Discontinue work in inclement weather, especially in times of reduced visibility, wet/icy roads, lightning storms, and when it is getting dark.
- Use the buddy system.
- Avoid overexertion. Drink plenty of water, especially on warm, humid days.
- Volunteers under the age of 18 must be supervised by a responsible adult. Suggested ratio: 1 adult to 10 youth (ages 12 and under).
- Check for ticks after the clean-up

Homeless Camps:

- Leave alone but note location using as much detail as possible by taking a photo of the camp from a non-intrusive and safe distance. In addition, use a map app on your phone to screenshot a photo of your location. River Keepers works with partners to try and work with these folks to get them connected to much needed resources such as housing, healthcare etc.

Waiver:

- The adopter or one-time group shall be considered as independent contractors and not as employees of Moorhead Parks and Recreation for any purpose, such as worker's compensation, medical insurance, nor any job benefits normally provided to Moorhead Parks and Recreation employees.
- Each adopter or one-time group does hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City, River Keepers, their agents and employees from all costs, including attorney fees, as a result of any personal injury to any individual and/or group, or other person, or property damage to City property or any other person's property caused by, or as a result of his or her actions while performing the responsibilities under this Adopt-the-Red Program.



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- The adopter or one time group representative shall provide a copy of the “Responsibilities” to each and every volunteer/participant performing clean-up activities.

Emergency Numbers:

- Moorhead Parks and Recreation 218.299.5340
- Red River Regional Dispatch 701.451.7660
- Emergency 911

Contact Parks and Recreation, 1300 15th Ave N, Moorhead, at 218.299.5340 to:

- Schedule your pick up time to get garbage bags, rakes and disposable gloves.
- Call when clean-up is completed so staff can promptly pick up garbage bags the following day.
- Return unused gloves, garbage bags, rakes, and pickers to Parks and Recreation.

If, in the judgment of Moorhead Parks and Recreation, it is determined that the Group had failed to perform the clean-up in a manner acceptable to Moorhead Parks and Recreation, or it otherwise did not follow the spirit and intent of this agreement, Moorhead Parks and Recreation may terminate this agreement upon notice to the Group.

By your signature below, you hereby agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement and the Adopt-the-Red responsibilities. By your signature, you are the designated Adopt-the-Red Representative to represent yourself and your group of volunteers.

Signature

Date

Steve French
Recreation Events Specialist – Riverfront and Downtown
City of Moorhead
218.299.5446
steve.french@moorheadmn.gov

Date