



# Adopt-A-Stream Program

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

### MISSION AND GOALS

**The Adopt-A-Stream program serves to enhance the quality of our local waterways through citizen action and education. The program aims to reduce the amount of trash in and along our waterways, increase citizen awareness of water quality issues, and train citizens on how to monitor stream health .**

### WHAT DO ADOPT-A-STREAM PARTICIPANTS DO?

**Any organization, company, or group can volunteer to adopt a creek, or section of a stream, for a one year period. In this period, the participants will pick up and remove litter in and around the creek at least once every six months. During the clean-ups, volunteers will fill trash bags with litter and place them on the shoulder of a nearby roadway for the City crews to remove the following day. Additionally, participants will perform a visual stream assessment at each stream clean-up.**

### HOW DOES THE CITY SUPPORT ADOPT-A-STREAM PARTICIPANTS?

**The City of Oak Ridge will provide safety and stream assessment training for each volunteer group's Coordinator and Co-Coordinator. The City will also provide trash bags, gloves, safety vests, and warning signs for the groups to use during each clean-up event.**

### HOW ARE PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZED?

**Participation allows the organizations to publicly demonstrate their concern and dedication to clean, healthy water. This dedication will be recognized with an official Adopt-A-Stream sign highlighting the organization's name. The sign will be erected on the roadside next to the stream after the first stream clean-up. Also, upon completion of the first year of commitment, the City will present participants with a Certificate of Appreciation.**