

Greater Vernon Adopt-A-Trail Program

The Regional District of North Okanagan encourages residents, community organizations and businesses to become directly involved in improving our city trails and other landscaped areas through an Adopt-A-Trail Program.

The purpose of this program is to build community spirit and a sense of civic responsibility. By supplementing Regional District resources, this program will enhance the condition and beauty of our trails and other landscaped areas and will improve the quality of life in Greater Vernon for the entire community.

The Regional District will recognize the contributions of the adopting groups and individuals by making and erecting signs bearing their names and logos, if feasible, in the adopted trails.

The goal of the Adopt-A-Trail Program is to have many of the Greater Vernon trails and landscaped public areas adopted by as wide a range of community organizations, neighborhood groups and individuals as possible.

Adopting a trail can take many forms, including establishing a presence in the trail to be on the look-out for vandalism and maintenance problems and reporting these to the Regional District; providing maintenance assistance in the form of general trail clean-up, such as picking up litter, painting, weeding and minor planting (e.g., flowers, replacement shrubbery); providing direct monetary assistance for trail enhancements; leading by example as a Dog Ambassador; and providing input to the Regional District on trail use.

Regional District staff will assist by providing training and supervising the progress of the work of each individual or group who adopt a trail or other area.

Mail application to:
Regional District of North Okanagan
9848 Aberdeen Rd
Coldstream, BC V1B 2K9
(Attention – Adopt-a-Trail)
or fax 250-550-3701

Adopt-A-Trail Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Individual Organization

Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Trail to Adopt:

check if you would be willing to adopt an alternative trail

Briefly list your intended contributions, as described on the back of this form:

Number of Participants:

Under 18 years _____ Over 18 years _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The adoption of a Trail or Greenway will be in effect as long as the adopter is actively participating. Regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance of the trail shall be reported to Regional District of North Okanagan Trails, Recreation and Culture **at least once a month**. The participant, or the contact person for the group, must submit an ADOPT-A-TRAIL Application and agree to a terms of the program. The Regional District may videotape or photograph the events or activities of participants for the purpose of promoting the trail system or ADOPT-A-TRAIL program. It is understood that no compensation of any kind will be paid to the participant(s). Participants will be recognized by a sign in the trail.

Please sign this form, print a copy and mail to the address to the left.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions above.

For office use only:

Date received:

Trail / Greenway:

Training Date:

Start Date:

Adopt-a-Trail

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Opportunities

Litter Control:

This task is appropriate for someone who may only visit the trail 2-3 times/month or a group looking for a yearly project. Keep in mind litter control involves some bending and a lot of walking. Garbage Bags and an area map are provided.

Dog Ambassadors:

This task is appropriate for a dog owner who will lead by example. This duty involves picking up dog feces found in the trail, talking to trail users about the program, and handing out doggy-doo bags and dog related literature. This is a task for someone who is an excellent communicator and who will encourage appropriate trail use. **Your role is not that of Bylaw enforcement.** A supply of doggy-doo bags, dog related literature, regular garbage bags and trowel will be provided.

Painting:

This task is available to volunteers who are interested in painting trail benches and picnic tables. If painting has been approved, we will provide you with the paint, brushes and signage to do the job, as well as instruction on how to complete the task.

Plant Inventories:

Identifying and recording the plant species that exist in the natural areas. This is appropriate for groups or individuals knowledgeable on native plant material

Planting - Trees and Shrubs or flowers:

Planting or restoring trees or shrubs in the Trail; plant stock and training provided. Plant material also needs to be watered on an ongoing basis after planting; this is considered the most important part of the planting project. Flowerbed planting may also be undertaken on a site by site basis.

Restoration Work:

Volunteers may be called on to seed trails or plant materials in order to restore a site as required. Other tasks may include monitoring snow fences and matting to check for vandalism. Training and supplies provided.

Trail Ambassadors:

These volunteers must be excellent communicators and are in a public relations role. The information relayed to trail users would be the rationale behind trail closures, trail use etiquette and/or bylaws information. Training and information packages are provided.

Vandalism Watch:

This task is appropriate for someone who walks through the trail very frequently. Their responsibilities are to report any damage to signs, trees, shrubs, pathways, garbage cans, or benches, etc. **If witnessing an act in progress, volunteers are required not to intervene but contact the RCMP;** their sole responsibility is to report.

Weeders of the Wild:

Weeders of the Wild are a group of dedicated volunteers who are interested in eliminating alien invasive species of plants throughout regional trails and natural areas. Volunteers will have the opportunity to either work alone or in groups to tackle weeds that are best eliminated by hand pulling. Volunteers can also assist by mapping other sites that can then be submitted for treatment. Training is available to groups or individuals who are interested in this opportunity.

Surveyor / Observer:

Observers track trail use and visitor behaviour in Trails. This role does not interact with the public. The focus of this task will depend on what analysis is needed and will take place on a quarterly basis with varying shifts being offered over a three or four day period. Observers will often work in conjunction with a Surveyor, whose duty involves interviewing trail users in order to complete survey questions.

Trail Builders:

This is a task that would be appropriate for volunteer/volunteers in good physical condition. When trail work is required a volunteer may be asked to cut down bush, prepare a trail base, shape paths, or transport and dump gravel.