



# Partners in Parks program

## Short-term stewardship activity: Stream enhancement

### Stream clean-up

Stream clean-up is sometimes required in streams that have man-made materials introduced into them from various activities or sources. These materials could cause problems such as obstruction to fish migration, siltation of fish spawning habitat and alteration of the natural flow of the stream which may affect water velocity and stream bank erosion (Resource: Stream Clean-up, Department of Fisheries and Oceans). This stewardship activity involves collecting litter in garbage bags from wadeable streams and removing large items. Waste materials are loaded directly onto a City truck and disposed of at the local landfill.

### Stream assessment

Stream assessment activities provide educational learning opportunities of aquatic ecosystems. The *Laurel Creek Citizens working group* in partnership with the City of Waterloo provide stream assessment activities such as dip-netting for aquatic insects and their identification based on pollution sensitivity, basic water quality testing (pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity), and use of an interactive watershed model. A complimentary component, the Yellow Fish Road™ program painting activity and presentation, may be included.

### Stream rehabilitation

Stream rehabilitation activities may involve moving river rock, installing log deflectors or brush bundles, or other tasks depending on the project and location. Stream rehabilitation activities are organized by the City of Waterloo based on an identified rehabilitation project requiring volunteer assistance. A timeframe of a minimum three months is required to complete the approval process and coordination of the activity.





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### Responsibilities

City of Waterloo and Group Leader work together to determine the extent and timing of the project. Responsibilities include:

- City of Waterloo coordinates staff, equipment, hand tools, debris disposal and orientation
- Group Leader engages community involvement and ensures participants are wearing personal protective equipment (outlined below), have read, understood and signed the Informed Consent Agreement and are directly supervised with suitable project tasks. Transportation to the activity site is the sole responsibility of the participants.

### Group participants

- Group Leader must be 18 years of age or older to coordinate the activity with City staff
- ideal group size of 10 to 15 participants; appropriate for participants age 14 and older
- moderate physical exertion required such as bending, walking, digging, lifting

### Direct supervision

Group Leader directly supervises group participants during the activity. Parent or guardian of any under-age-18 participant must sign the Informed Consent Agreement for the minors' participation and supervise them with suitable project tasks.

### Orientation

City of Waterloo will provide instruction, a tool safety talk and monitor the activity to ensure tasks are completed safely and of highest standard

### Time and place

- wadeable streams which are less than one metre deep on public parkland in Waterloo
- timing: July to Sept. 30 to reduce impacts to fish spawning (Ref: Fisheries Timing Window)
- weekday evenings directly after 4 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (no statutory holidays)

### Personal protective equipment

All group participants shall wear:

- closed-toe footwear which must be fully laced to provide full support and to prevent accidents
- clothing appropriate for outdoor weather and natural area conditions including long pants, hats, sunglasses, as well as sunscreen, insect repellent and bottled water, as required
- cloth gloves, supplied by the City, where they may be exposed to hazard of injury from contact of skin with a sharp or jagged object which may puncture, cut or abrade the skin

### Acceptable tools and supplies

chest waders (men's size 7-12)	rubber or cloth gloves	wheelbarrows
garbage bags and recycle bins	short-handled shovels	garden rakes