



Adopt-a-Waterway



For more information or to sign up, contact:

To get involved, call (803) 733-1139 or e-mail AAW@keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org to request a list of waterways that are available for adoption. Groups may propose a section of waterway to be approved.

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Serving Lexington and Richland Counties, South Carolina

What is Adopt-A-Waterway?

As a common source of pollution, litter threatens the health and beauty of far too many of our treasured lakes, streams, and rivers. The Adopt-A-Waterway program gives volunteer groups an opportunity to address water-based litter issues in Richland and Lexington Counties. Adopt-A-Waterway is an opportunity to invest in and protect the beauty and wellbeing of Midlands waterways, including creeks, rivers, lakes, boat landings, and islands.

How does the program work?

Volunteer groups select an island, boat landing, or section of river or creek and conduct litter pickups at least two times a year for two years. Groups are encouraged to conduct one pickup on the third Saturday of September in conjunction with Beach Sweep/River Sweep sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources and the Sea Grant Consortium, with which Keep the Midlands Beautiful partners. The second pickup should take place during the spring. Additional pickups can take place at the convenience of the adopting group.

Keep the Midlands Beautiful supplies trash bags, gloves, grabbers, and a safety briefing for volunteer groups.

How will my group be recognized?

All volunteer groups are recognized on the Keep the Midlands Beautiful website. When possible, permanent signs acknowledging volunteer groups will be placed at or near their adopted section of waterway.

Who can participate?

Anyone who has an interest in cleaning up and protecting Midlands-area waterways is encouraged to take part in Adopt-A-Waterway.

Volunteer groups may include*:

- Student clubs, classes, scout troops, or organizations with an adult leader
- Local businesses and corporations
- Fishing, boating, or paddling clubs and other outdoor organizations
- Civic organizations
- Churches and faith-based organizations
- Sports teams
- Any group of individuals that wants to improve the environment

*We would love for people of all ages to volunteer to clean up our waterways. Due to the terrain around some waterways, this program may not be suitable for those with physical ailments or are prone to injury. For those who are interested in participating but cannot due to health reasons, please inquire about our other Core Programs so that you, too, can help keep the Midlands beautiful.



How do I get involved?

To get involved, call (803) 733-1139 or e-mail AAW@keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org to request a list of waterways that are available for adoption. Groups may propose a section of waterway to be approved.

- Once your waterway selection has been approved, you will move forward by submitting an agreement form that your group agrees to conduct litter pickups on your designated shoreline at least two times a year for two years.
- Before receiving supplies and conducting the first pickup, group leaders must attend a safety training and will receive waivers for each group member.
- After each pickup, group leaders must submit a report card online and fill it out with the requested information. The online report card can easily be found under the "Adopt-a-Waterway" link on our website.