



## Parks and Recreation

1300 15<sup>th</sup> Ave N | Moorhead, MN 56560 | 218.299.5340  
moorheadbarks.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. This committee is comprised of Josie Gereszek, Recreation Coordinator; Steve Iverson, Public Works Director; Mike Schroeder, Park Maintenance Manager; Forrest Steinhoff Assistant City Planner; Andrea Crabtree, Utilities Engineer; and Christine Holland, River Keepers.

#### **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](http://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. Contact Josie Gereszek - Recreation Coordinator
  - o Phone: 218.299.5078 or email [josie.gereszek@cityofmoorhead.com](mailto:josie.gereszek@cityofmoorhead.com)
2. Request an area that you are interested in adopting. Full season or one-time groups are accepted! All opportunities can be found at [moorheadparks.com](http://moorheadparks.com)
3. Complete the appropriate agreement form and schedule a cleanup date with the Recreation Coordinator.
4. Contact Moorhead Parks and Recreation to arrange a time to pick up the needed supplies: garbage bags, gloves, rakes, pickers, etc.
5. Once you complete your volunteering, contact Josie to alert her of your clean-up efforts. She'll arrange for pickup of any garbage bags left onsite.
6. Please return any unused supplies, rakes and pickets to Parks and Recreation.
7. Complete the provided evaluation form and return to the Recreation Coordinator.
8. Volunteers will be recognized through signage and/or on our website.

### **Flowerbed Information**

1. Request the flowerbed you wish to design, plant, and, maintain starting in May and throughout the gardening season.
2. Moorhead Public Works waters the beds at least three times a week. If you feel your flowerbed needs more water, please contact Nichole Parr at 218.299.5422.



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# Adopt-A-Park Agreement

*Volunteer bi-weekly in April-October*

**Adopt**                       **One-Time Group**

Park I want to Adopt: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### What are the adopter's responsibilities?

- Begin park clean up in April and continue to maintain through October on a bi-weekly basis.
- Assist with litter pick up, flowerbed weeding, raking leaves, and twig/small branch pickup.
- Bring a first aid kit.
- Encourage participants to bring a cell phone.
- Be prepared to move out of way of bicyclists, in-line skaters, and pedestrians on the recreational paths.
- Watch footings when close to river, on steep or muddy banks, or near dams.
- Avoid Poison Ivy (leaves of three - let them be).
- Discontinue work in inclement weather, especially during times of reduced visibility, during electrical storms, and during other daylight conditions.
- Avoid over exertion, drink plenty of water especially on warm, humid days.
- Volunteers under the age of 18 must be supervised by a responsible adult.
- Recommend wearing long pants, shoes or boots (no open toes or sandals), and sunscreen/bug repellent.
- Suggested ratio: 1 adult to 10 youth (ages 12 and under).
- Do not attempt to remove homeless sites or suspected toxic/hazardous substances, needles, sharp objects or objects too heavy or large to move – note the approximate location and notify Public Works.
- Leave filled garbage bags in the existing garbage cans or right next to them.
- 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.



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- Each adopter or one-time group does hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City, its 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-A-Park Program.
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Moorhead, at 218.299.5340 to:

- Schedule your pick-up time to get garbage bags, rakes, and disposable gloves.
- Call when cleanup 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 individual and/or 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-A-Park responsibilities. By your signature, you are the designated Adopt-A-Park Representative to represent yourself and your group of volunteers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Josie Gereszek  
Recreation Coordinator  
City of Moorhead  
218.299.5078  
[josie.gereszek@cityofmoorhead.com](mailto:josie.gereszek@cityofmoorhead.com)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date