

Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block Business Program



Volunteers help clean sidewalks, curbs and gutters

Remember, it is the property owner's responsibility to keep these areas clean.

The Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block Program is designed to help businesses take the necessary actions to be **everyday environmental heroes** and better stewards of their adopted City stream or block.

The program is part of a neighborhood cleanup, with a primary adoptee who works closely with the Storm Water Quality Branch of the City and County of Honolulu, in coordination with the Refuse Division and Road Maintenance Division. The team aspect provides the support and motivation to carry out specific actions while establishing the relationships with other interested individuals and groups that are necessary to create a more livable neighborhood. The format consists of four meetings and follow-up between meetings to track behavior changes, fine tune future plans and provide support to and inspiration to see positive results in their cars, yards, and neighborhoods.

Businesses get involved for a variety of reasons; the program is well laid out, interest in taking individual actions to cleanup a portion of a City stream or block, getting together with their neighbors, and to make a pledge to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to storm water pollution.

Adopt-A-Stream Adopt-A-Block Storm Water Quality Branch

City and County of Honolulu
Department of Environmental Services
Division of Environmental Quality

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To be a part of the Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block Business Program, businesses:

- Complete the application and agreement. Forms are mailed to the owner/operator.
- Adopt a minimum of two square blocks of a residential or commercial area, including the alleys within the blocks and both sides of all streets that encompass the blocks.
- Or adopt a portion of a stream providing that the portion is a minimum of 200 linear feet.
- The Adoptee shall adopt the City block or stream or portion thereof for a minimum of two (2) years.

The Primary Adoptee will:

- Encourage residents and businesses in the adopted area to participate in maintenance efforts
- Conduct a twice-weekly litter pick up and weekly gutter sweeping within the area.
- Agree to clean the adopted area at least 4 times a year for a 2 year period in collaboration with an Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block cleanup day that includes the community.
- Sweep the sidewalks and the area 18" from the curb into the street. Please note that nothing should be swept into the storm drain.
- Distribute Everyday Environmental Hero pollution prevention tip cards to residents and businesses in the adopted area.
- Remove weeds, overgrowth, and leaves from the sidewalk, street and public space.
- Call the City's Environmental Concern Line at 768-3300 to report illegal discharges into the storm drain and bulky items.

The Storm Water Quality Branch of the Department of Environmental Services will support your efforts as follows:

- Review the potential City stream or block. The review will include a joint walk and agreement on the scope of work and boundaries. Before the first cleanup, hold an initial safety orientation for the group and provide release forms and everyday environmental hero tip cards. Please check the activities you are currently practicing and decide which new action you would like to adopt. The tip cards are available both electronically and in paper form for you to distribute in the neighborhood you are adopting.
- Place scheduled community cleanup on the clean water website at www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com. We encourage you to take before and after pictures of the cleanup site and forward the pictures with captions and a short write up about the event to isato@honolulu.gov.



CAR

1. Don't Be An Oil Drip—identify and fix oil leaks on your vehicles; purchase used oil change box, soak up spilled oil and dispose appropriately

2. No Phos-For-Us—Use plain water or cleansers sparingly

YARD

3. Cover Up—Prevent soil and debris from leaving your property

4. Read The Label—Use only the amount needed of pesticides and fertilizers; keep household cleaning products from becoming hazardous waste

5. Yard Care—Gather grass and tree cuttings and dispose as green waste; compost your yard Trimmings

6. Scoop Poop—Remove and dispose of pet waste before you leave an area

NEIGHBORHOOD

7. Keep It Clean—Keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters in front of your property clean

8. Get Involved—Stencil storm drains with the message, “Dump No Waste, Protect Our Waters For Life, E Malama I Ka Wai Ola”, participate in Adopt-A-Stream, Adopt-A-Block cleanups, join a committee dedicated to healthy water

9. Do It Right—Use water based paint and discard properly

The Program will provide a free basic cleanup kit for businesses that includes:

1 reusable bag and safety vest for the leader, t-shirts, gloves, trash bags, safety guidelines, vehicle litter bags and educational materials. Cleanup kits will be dropped off to your place of business.

The Storm Water Quality Branch will sponsor an annual awards event in March where volunteers from all groups will be welcome to attend and share accomplishments.



Annual Earth Month Awards sponsored by the City Storm Water Quality Branch
Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Department of Environmental Services
and Department of Facility Maintenance present award

Adopt-A-Block Program Benefits

- Adopting a block helps to reinforce the importance of litter control. This program targets litter and illegal discharge into the City's storm drain system.
- Litter-free, more attractive communities that help deter unwelcome illegal activity.
- An enhanced quality of life. The appearance of your community contributes to the quality of life we all share.
- Increased economic development. An attractive, clean community is a great asset in attracting new businesses, jobs and customers.



Stenciling storm drain with message,
“Dump No Waste, Protect Our Waters ... For Life”



Volunteers remove graffiti from City bridge

If more information is required, please do not hesitate to contact the Storm Water Quality Branch of the Department of Environmental Services at isato@honolulu.gov or 768-3248.