

# Volunteer Guidelines

[www.NashvilleH2o.org/adopt](http://www.NashvilleH2o.org/adopt)

Thank you for stepping up for clean water!

Your safety and enjoyment are important to us. All volunteers are urged to participate in a safe, courteous and legal manner. Please follow these guidelines\* for a successful Storm Drain Adoption experience.



*in cooperation w/*



## Debris Removal

- When possible, clear your storm drain prior to, and following, any rainfall.
- Always sweep, rake or shovel glass. Never pick up sharp objects with your hands.
- Never touch hazardous or medical waste (including automotive fluids and hypodermic needles). Report odd items to Metro Public Works at (615) 862-8750.
- Garbage bags, buckets, brooms and landscaping gloves are generally helpful in any situation.
- Sweep material away from the storm drain, not into it — and capture it for disposal as you can.
- To the extent possible, place recyclables and garbage into your residential bins (or commercial bins if you're adopting near your workplace).
- Clear surface debris only; let Metro crews handle garbage or hazards inside the catch basin.
- Clear debris within several yards along each side of the storm drain, especially the uphill side.
- Please send a [Field Report](#) after any notable service to your drain.

## General Safety

- Call 911 for emergencies. If injured while volunteering, please seek necessary medical attention first, then notify us at [drains@NashvilleH2o.org](mailto:drains@NashvilleH2o.org).
- Wear appropriate footwear, gloves, clothing, sunscreen, and eye protection at all times.
- Always stay hydrated.
- Clear your drain only when safe. If a drain is still clogged after you removed the surface debris, send a Drain Report through this link: <http://arcg.is/0qy99e>
- If children are helping, make sure adults are present and supervising.
- Do not attempt to lift storm drain grates. They are very heavy and can cause injury.
- Always be courteous to fellow volunteers and neighborhood residents; never use vulgar language or engage in threatening or disruptive actions or conversation.

## Traffic Safety

- Where possible, stay out of the street. Work from the sidewalk or curbside and watch for traffic. Do not clear drains in the middle of any street.
- If working near traffic, wear a bright reflective work vest or bright-colored clothing.
- Walk across streets at signals and crosswalks, not mid-block. Always work with a partner.

*The Nashville Clean Water Project reserves the right to immediately withdraw any volunteer from this program if, at the discretion of the organization, the volunteer's conduct is determined inconsistent with these Volunteer Guidelines or violates any local, state or federal law while participating. Withdrawal may include repossession of loaned supplies/tools and revocation of any Storm Drain Adoption Agreements.*