



Adopt-a-Park & Public Areas Program

Adopt-a-Wash: Additional Guidelines

- Clean-Up in washes may only take place between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. with the participation of at least 2 volunteers. Participants under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Volunteers should work in pairs.
- Clean-Up should be postponed or stopped immediately if any of these conditions are present:
 - Any amount of flowing water in the wash, or a flash flood warning or watch
 - Rain, lightning, or heavy winds, greater than 30% chance of rain, or severe storm warning
 - If any of these conditions develop while the project is in progress, volunteers should immediately leave the wash and any adjacent low-lying areas
- Please park outside of the wash channel to ensure safe volunteer access. Off-road motorized vehicle traffic in wash channels is prohibited.
- **Closed-toe shoes/boots and leather/thick rubber gloves are required.** It is highly recommended to wear long pants, long-sleeve shirts, hat and sunscreen, and insect repellent.
- Be appropriately aware of the potential of desert wildlife or domesticated animal encounters including dangerous insects, reptiles, and mammals. If dangerous wildlife is encountered, immediately leave the area and inform group members. Call 911 immediately if necessary for any injuries or to report unsafe conditions.
- Do not walk into areas of cactus, tall, dense grass or weeds, or thick, thorny brush or trees. Likewise, do not reach into holes, undergrowth or other areas to remove litter. If litter grabbers are available, use these for any difficult to reach or see areas.
- Do not enter tunnels/culverts without an immediately visible exit, areas with a drop in elevation that cannot be easily traversed by normal hiking, or areas with standing water or thick mud.
- Please use existing entrances to washes at streets or gently-sloped wash banks, avoiding steep natural and concrete slopes. Do not create new trails that disturb vegetation or encourage erosion.
- Removal of natural vegetation and soil on wash banks should generally be avoided to comply with appropriate laws and local ordinances regarding riparian habitat and wash conservation. Certain designated invasive plants (i.e. buffelgrass) may be removed by trained volunteers.
- Do not pick up any of the following: medical waste, condoms, chemicals, dead animals and other items posing health and safety hazards. Please immediately alert group leader and others in the area and notify TCB about the specific location of the items. **If drug paraphernalia (hypodermic needles, etc) is found, do not remove, but do contact 911 immediately.** Sharp objects such as broken glass may be collected with a broom/pan or shovel by an adult, or can be reported to TCB
- Report maintenance concerns including graffiti, illegal dumping, large items, fallen trees or overgrown vegetation to TCB. Large-scale maintenance concerns requiring vehicle access or mechanized equipment may not be undertaken by volunteers.
- If proper disposal options are not available at the project site, please contact Tucson Clean & Beautiful with at least one week prior notice for removal of bagged litter and debris collected by volunteers. Place the collected bags/debris outside of the wash at a location accessible by vehicular traffic, such as a street intersection. Do not block sidewalks to ensure pedestrian and wheelchair accessibility. Please call at least three weeks in advance for larger public area cleanups that may require a temporary dumpster. (Removal of bags/dumpsters is based on availability of staff and equipment from partnering agencies, and is subject to change without notice.)
- If additional bags or other supplies are required at any time, or for questions about the program, please feel free to contact Tucson Clean & Beautiful at **837-6834**.