

# CLEAN Marin



## Adopt-A-Spot Program Overview Template

The **Adopt-A-Spot Program** is a partnership between the municipality/Clean Program and residents and merchants.

### **Program Information**

This Program is designed to enable individuals, community groups, businesses, churches, schools and other organizations to play an active role in maintaining the beauty and cleanliness of their neighborhoods, while allowing them to set their own schedule. This is also a great opportunity for students to obtain community service hours.

Volunteers, including school age children under the supervision of an adult, come together for projects such as removing litter from streets, sidewalks, and storm drain openings. Adopt-A-Spot projects can also include removing weeds and other unwanted vegetation, and maintaining plants and wildlife habitat.

Adopted areas include streets, sidewalks, storm drain inlets, gutters, and publically-owned vacant land. Removal of debris in these areas prevents pollution from reaching our creeks, bays, and ocean and is particularly important prior to and during winter storms to ensure proper storm water runoff and to help prevent localized flooding.

### **WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM \_\_\_\_\_ (municipality/Clean Program):**

- Safety gear – orange vests and gloves– for your estimated number of participants annually.
- Free trash bags and disposal of the trash you collect.
- You're encouraged to separate recyclables and take them with you.
- First aid kit and hand cleaner.
- Technical assistance with authorized and approved planting projects.

### **WHAT WE EXPECT FROM YOU:**

- Each volunteer should understand and conform to the safety requirements.
- Provide a copy of the safety requirements to each participant.
- Conduct a safety meeting and discussion before you begin your project.
- Each work group must have a copy of the application and safety requirements with them on the work site.
- All participants are required to sign and return a Liability Waiver.
- Follow all safety requirements.

## **SAFETY & CLOTHING:**

This program depends on the common sense and responsibility of individual participants.

- Participants must realize that they are working in a potentially hazardous environment and must diligently follow all safety requirements.
- Wear orange safety vests provided by the municipality/Clean Program and gloves whenever you are at the work site. Put them on prior to beginning any work.
- Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots; light-colored clothing, long-sleeved shirts, and sunscreen are suggested.

## **HOW TO ADOPT A SPOT:**

- Select the location and develop a plan for the type of work you would like to do.
- Complete an “Adopt-A-Spot” application and submit the form (Forms are available online at \_\_\_\_\_).
- Discuss location and project plans with a municipal/Clean Program Adopt-A-Spot Coordinator.
- After the application is approved, notify \_\_\_\_\_ before each work event.
- Review and follow all safety requirements.
- Perform all work satisfactorily.
- Call \_\_\_\_\_ to arrange removal of all trash and debris bags filled (either in advance or after completion of your work.)