



Public Works Commission  
Parks and Waterfront Commission

ACTION CALENDER  
January 18, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Public Works Commission  
Parks and Waterfront Commission  
Submitted by: Margo Schueler, Chairperson  
Gordon Wozniak, Chairperson  
Subject: Adopt-a-Spot program development recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt a Resolution to support and fund two new full-time dedicated Volunteer Coordinators to run an expanded Adopt-a-Spot program and coordinate new programs for youth volunteers, and funding for operational expenses should be included.

The programs shall promote participation and civic pride by providing a unified portal for all programs across all departments, and incorporate many of the **Program Elements** outlined below. The Coordinators shall build on recent efforts by Public Works staff to fortify the existing programs for storm drains and traffic circles and incorporate existing programs from the Parks & Rec department. In addition, the Adopt-a-Spot program shall be expanded and improved upon to support additional community engagement opportunities that can include, but are not limited to, restoring native habitat to promote biodiversity (including a Bee City USA liaison), litter removal, vegetation maintenance, graffiti removal, tree planting/watering/monitoring, monitoring sidewalk conditions, adoption of homeless encampments, coordinating volunteers for emergency situations, beautification efforts, and other ideas that the Berkeley community may wish to support and organize around.

Some features of the program are beyond the scope of our Commissions' visibility and will need to be finalized by Council and Staff. However, the following recommendations are offered:

- **Budget Commitment** - to ensure success, the two new positions must be dedicated to volunteer coordination. Sharing of responsibilities across staff or financing only a single or half-time position should be avoided as it likely wouldn't meet the needs of the community. If at least one dedicated position cannot be

supported the role of Volunteer Coordinator should be given to a third-party or community non-profit group.

- **Program Design** - the Volunteer Coordinators may work with interns and the community to define program features and details of implementation, which could include a phased approach (alternatively, the City could hire a consultant to outline the program),
- **Reporting Structure** - options include Parks Rec & Waterfront, Public Works, Office of Sustainability, or the City Manager's office (alternatively, the position could be shared across departments)
- **Supporting Tools** - begin with the fewest but most necessary initial features. For example, policies and waivers, outreach tools such as a robust city webpage presence including dynamic maps and signage to recruit, volunteer reporting mechanisms to ensure compliance and track activity, volunteer appreciation events to build community, etc.

## BACKGROUND

### **Council Referrals**

City Council has expressed strong support for a robust Adopt-a-Spot program. Beginning in fall 2019 Council introduced the first of four separate Referrals to both the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions with the following dates: (1) April 23, 2019<sup>1</sup>, (2) September 24, 2019<sup>2</sup>, (3) November 12, 2019<sup>3</sup>, and (4) February 23, 2021<sup>4</sup>. The Referrals mentioned a range of goals for the Adopt-a-Spot program, including, supporting city cleanup and maintenance efforts, addressing Vision 2050 storm water and watershed goals, promoting a thriving volunteer force to adopt and maintain traffic circles, creating and maintaining pollinator habitat and funding a City Liaison as part of a Bee City USA program, adopting encampments and street campers/RVs, and more.

### **History of Adopt-a-Park and Grant program**

Berkeley has a history of supporting programs like Adopt-a-Spot and has even provided grants to incentivize participation. For at least ten years, beginning in FY93-94 with Resolution No. 57-557<sup>5</sup>, and in response to a \$1.5M refund from PERS, a popular mini-grant program was created and later supported by funds from the Park Tax<sup>6</sup>. Small grants were allocated to volunteer groups to assist in the development of small programs, not to exceed \$3,500. The program was implemented through a Joint Committee with representatives from the Parks and Recreation Commission, Berkeley Partners for Parks and staff from the Parks and Recreation department. This mini-grant program provided a method for involving citizens and stimulating their interests in the care of parks and open space. The funds were to be used for materials, supplies and

<sup>1</sup> City Council Agenda, Regular Mtg, [April 23, 2019](#), Item 33.

<sup>2</sup> City Council Agenda, Regular Mtg, [September 24, 2019](#), Item 24.

<sup>3</sup> City Council Agenda, Special Mtg [November 12, 2019](#), Item 1a.

<sup>4</sup> City Council Agenda, Regular Mtg, [February 23, 2021](#), Item 24.

<sup>5</sup> [Resolution No. 57,557-N.S.](#), June 28, 1994

<sup>6</sup> City of Berkeley webpage, "[Parks Mini-Grant Program](#)"

general assistance. It was a very popular program that generated enthusiasm and nourished the community spirit through wide-ranging activities such as the installation of chess tables at San Pablo park, the creation of Halcyon Commons, dog waste dispensers and trail improvements in Cesar Chavez Park, a cultural exhibit on the Ohlone Greenway, and many more.

At a regular meeting of the Public Works Commission on July 1, 2021, it was M/S/C to send this item to Council for consideration: (Schuler/Erbe/U): Ayes: Barnett; Constantine; Erbe; Freiberg; Hitchen; Napoli; Nesbitt; Schuler; Noes: None; Absent: None.

At a regular meeting of the Parks and Waterfront Commission on August 11, 2021, it was M/S/C to send this item to Council for consideration: (McGrath/Wozniak/U): Ayes: Cox; Diehm; Kamen; Kawczynska; Landoni; McGrath; Srioudom; Wozniak; Noes: None; Absent: None.

## CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

### **Updates in Progress**



As of June 2021 the City is working with UC Berkeley interns and currently interviewing for a CivicSpark<sup>7</sup> fellow to begin enhancing the Adopt-a-Spot program and unifying all volunteer opportunities within the City in one place. The table below outlines the current situation. However, several changes are in progress including website updates, creation of a GIS map showing all opportunities within the city (including Parks), updated volunteer agreement forms and procurement of safety vests and tools for volunteer use.

### **Current Volunteer Offerings**

Berkeley currently has a set of volunteer opportunities available to the community through Public Works and Parks & Rec. The information about available programs is located on the City's website, on three separate webpages, and through programs housed in three different divisions. Two programs have their own logo. The table below illustrates the current organization of the programs.

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<sup>7</sup> See the CivicSpark webpage for 2021-2022 Projects, "[Adopt-A-Spot: Enhancing Public Works' Community Outreach, Volunteerism And Stormwater Quality](https://civicspark.lgc.org/2021-22-projects/)" (https://civicspark.lgc.org/2021-22-projects/)

Public Works		Parks, Rec & Waterfront
<b>Adopt-a-Spot</b>		
<p><b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b></p> <p>General Information</p> <hr/> <p><b>Adopt-a-Spot Volunteer Program</b></p> <p><a href="#">Adopt-a-Traffic Circle</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adopt-a-Drain</a></p>		
<b>Traffic Circles</b>	<b>Storm Drains</b>	<b>PRW Volunteer</b>
<p><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></p> <p>Transportation Division</p> <hr/> 	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKS</b></p> <p>Department of Public Works</p> <hr/> <p><b><u>Adopt-a-Spot - Storm Drains</u></b></p>	<p><b>RECREATION</b></p> <p>Recreation Division</p> <hr/> <p>Become A PRW Volunteer!</p> 

As illustrated in the table above, the Adopt-a-Spot program lives within the Public Works Department at this time. The top-level webpage is found on a page marked “General Information”. From there the user can click on either of two links to navigate to a webpage for Traffic Circles (which lives on a webpage of the Transportation Division) or Adopt-a-Drain (which lives on a webpage of the Public Works Department). The many programs associated with our Parks, Rec and Waterfront Department can be found on a separate webpage within the Recreation Division. Links to these webpages are listed here:

- (General Adopt-a-Spot) <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/adoptaspot.aspx>
- (Storm Drains) <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/adoptadrain.aspx>
- (Traffic Circles) <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/adoptattrafficcircle.aspx>
- (Parks, Rec & Waterfront) [https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Parks\\_Rec\\_Waterfront/Recreation/Volunteer\\_Opportunities.aspx](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Parks_Rec_Waterfront/Recreation/Volunteer_Opportunities.aspx)

Looking at the two Adopt-a-Spot programs within Public Works, forms such as Volunteer Agreement and Waivers must be printed, scanned (or photographed), and then emailed to the address ([adoptaspot@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:adoptaspot@cityofberkeley.info)<sup>8</sup>). In addition, and in collaboration with the associated Task Force, helpful supporting materials are now

<sup>8</sup> This centralized email address, which includes a new logo, is a recent development after collaboration with the Traffic Circles Task Force.



available for Traffic Circles, including (1) a list of suggested plants (the [Planting Guide](#)), (2) the approval form for plants ([Planting List](#); waived if plants chosen from the approved Planting Guide), and (3) a map of traffic circles location and availability ([Map of Traffic Circles](#)).

The 16 volunteer opportunities [within Parks, Rec & Waterfront](#) are organized by frequency (on-going vs. annual) and also include 2 links to suggest a project, as either an All Crew Day or Create Your Own, specified for weekdays only. Printable Application and Waiver forms and a phone number is listed. An online "[Volunteer Application Form](#)" is also available, with the general parks email listed at the top for possible follow-up contact.

Updating and merging all of these programs into a unified Adopt-a-Spot program, with a single City webpage that links to all volunteer opportunities, would facilitate the user experience by creating a kind of "one stop shopping". For example, all volunteer opportunities, those under Public Works and Parks & Rec, can be listed on a single webpage. In addition, the print-and-submit forms can be replaced by online forms. The static map of traffic circle locations & availability can be replaced with a dynamic one. Once the volunteer coordinator positions are created and the City's overall website is redesigned<sup>9</sup>, additional programs and functionality can be added, as outlined in the section **Suggested Program Elements**, below.

## RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

### **Goals of Program**

The primary goal of a successful volunteer program is to positively engage the community. This can be done by creating a structure in which individuals are given the best possible opportunities to perform useful environmental maintenance work safely and efficiently, with a focus on equity. An easily accessible volunteer website which includes all participating departments, an interactive signup and data entry functions, and appropriate forms and information for the various types of tasks.

Volunteers can perform many basic maintenance tasks in our parks, on traffic circles, on landscaped areas, on drains, litter and trash pickup, and report on observed problem areas such as overgrown vegetation, and sidewalk hazards and obstructions. They can support the growing effort to provide native habitat to promote biodiversity. Youth volunteers can participate in summer job programs to gain experience and address needs identified by staff. Volunteers are not a substitute for the work of dedicated city staff, but there are often areas where additional hands can make a positive difference.

City Staff are responsible for city infrastructure and environmental features, and Volunteers clearly work under their ultimate direction. City workers already know what needs to be done, and how to do it, and they can establish clear policies and procedures for volunteers. A Volunteer program is successful when it builds upon existing staff efforts and priorities, so that the program is a clear benefit to employees.

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<sup>9</sup> City Council Agenda, Regular Meeting, [July 28, 2020](#), Item 15, [Rolling Orange Redesigning Website](#)

Risk management by the use of liability waivers, mandating best safety practices, and in some cases by direct Supervision is essential to ensure no one is injured while volunteering, and that the city has a strong legal defense if an accident were to occur.

The most successful programs actively highlight Volunteer activities, have a formal recognition component, and collect accurate data on the number of volunteer hours and projects completed to be included in official city documents and for public information. An annual event possibly including awards and prizes is a sure way to boost volunteer spirit and incentivize additional participants.

Finally, continually reaching out to the community with excellent communications, soliciting suggestions for new projects, and sincere feedback for Volunteers assures the future success of the program.

**Precedent and Research**

Our working group researched more than 30 Adopt-a-Spot programs nationwide. For each location we documented a wide variety of features. See Appendix M for the data spreadsheet. The cities we reviewed are listed below:

<b>Adopt-a-Spot Programs Reviewed</b>		
<p><b>California</b>                      Burlingame, CA                      Los Angeles, CA                      Marin County, CA                      Riverside, CA                      Santa Clara, CA                      San Francisco, CA                      San Mateo, CA                      Truckee, CA</p>	<p><b>Other U.S. Cities</b>                      Boulder, CO                      Muncie, DE                      Fort Lauderdale, FL                      Carbondale, IL                      Indianapolis, IN                      Columbia, MO                      Minneapolis, MN                      Anne Arundel County, MD                      Prince George's, MD                      Minneapolis, MN                      Missoula, MT</p>	<p>Albuquerque, NM                      Santa Fe, NM                      Ferguson, PA                      Austin, TX                      Fort Worth, TX                      San Antonio, TX                      Hampton, VA                      Seattle, WA                      Madison, WI</p> <p><b>Canada</b>                      Vancouver, BC</p>

We found that many cities and local government agencies in the Bay Area and throughout the U.S. have created Adopt-a-Spot programs. San Francisco, Oakland, Marin County, City of Santa Clara, Pittsburg, and others maintain successful programs based on the basic principle of enlisting residents to volunteer and sign up for ongoing cleanup, maintenance and beautification of specific areas.

These city-led volunteer programs have many things in common, both structurally and in the type and scope of citizen participation. Logistically, the programs include a list (or clickable online map) of suggested spots, a liability waiver, a registration system, and staff support in providing tools, supplies, and waste disposal. The staff positions may be located in a variety of departments but the most common are Public Works and Parks & Rec.

Some of the most common adoptable "spots" in our peer research are listed here:

- Storm drains maintenance
- Litter & graffiti action, both patrolling and mitigating
- Greening, planting and maintenance, e.g. medians, traffic circles and street gardens
- Tree planting and watering
- Various civic art projects including decorating assets such as trash cans or utility boxes
- Trail maintenance and/or construction

When thinking about our community, programs could specifically target Berkeley's needs and values, such as:

- Installing and maintaining pollinator & native habitat gardens
- Monitoring, reporting and prioritizing found sidewalk defects
- Supporting encampments, campers and RVs
- Maintenance of off-leash dog areas
- Creation of city art, including murals

The Volunteer Coordinator can also serve as:

- Liaison for a Bee City USA program
- Liaison with the Ecology Center (e.g. Community Gardens, Recycling Efforts)
- Outreach and coordination of Cal Project Day
- Liaison with East Bay Regional Parks
- Liaison with other local non-profits

### **Suggested Program Elements**

Flexibility & adaptability is critical for ongoing success of the program. The following elements are commonly found in programs in other cities. (See the Appendices for sample images.)

#### **A. Administrative Elements**

1. **Promotion:** Promotion is an important part of any citywide volunteer program and most cities have some means of accomplishing this through their websites, community bulletin boards, social media, monthly newsletters, or signs in other public spaces like parks.
2. **Recruiting & Onboarding:** A simple streamlined application process where each volunteer receives acknowledgement and information about the citywide volunteer program is necessary for success of the program. Setting expectations for the approval process, including a checklist and typical timeline of approval, can enhance usability.

3. **Liability & Waivers:** A means of addressing legal liability for the City is required. Most jurisdictions have legal waivers for volunteers that are completed when the volunteer is onboarded.
4. **Safety Rules & Training:** Related to liability, basic rules and safety training is an element of onboarding for volunteers in many cities. (e.g. Oakland's [training](#) project coordinators for Earth Month). Provide clear and up-to-date guidelines, sometimes in the form of a Volunteer Manual, so volunteers understand the scope of their involvement and the responsibilities of their participation.
5. **Recognition:** Volunteer recognition is important for retention and builds a sense of community. Other cities use items including signage in public areas, volunteer appreciation events or annual parties, volunteer of the month or top volunteer of the year, or certificates or cards recognizing volunteer contributions. More locally, East Bay Regional Parks has given out badges for events attended.

## **B. Operational Elements**

1. **Mapping & Identification of Opportunities:** Dynamic and clickable citywide maps show “adopted” areas and those available for adoption. Layering within the maps allows volunteers to focus on different kinds of opportunities (e.g. drains vs. gardens)
2. **Single Point of Contact & Website:** Successful programs have some sort of “coordinator” position that provides a single point of contact for volunteers and this contact information is prominently listed on the website.
3. **Calendar of Events:** A centralized calendar listing volunteer events promotes participation and transparency. Calendar entries can hyperlink to event descriptions and digital sign-up. Color-coded sub-calendars by 'type' (e.g. litter, gardening, drains) can allow for easy sorting. Individual user accounts support customization.
4. **Tools, Supplies, & Support:** Tools for common programs - litter pickers, garbage bags, shovels, gloves, etc. - are often provided upon request, either for pickup or drop-off. Post-event garbage pick-up is often available, too.
5. **Tracking & Reporting:** Documenting volunteer time spent or accomplishments (e.g. # of trash bags filled) is a common feature of successful programs. These data can serve as quality control, to help ensure work is done, and quantify the total number of volunteer hours spent, which can be included in grant applications. Photos documenting regular maintenance of certain locations, like traffic circles or medians, can be submitted via a new digital portal.
6. **Problem Resolution:** With a volunteer program, problems and issues will arise and the volunteers need a means of relaying issues back to city staff. Utilization of the existing 311 or SeeClickFix could be used or another means of communication can help identify locations in need. Problem resolution between

persons, volunteers and/or the community, should be handled by a Volunteer Coordinator.

7. **Coordinating with external organizations:** Some volunteer groups and non-profits will remain independent of any City programs. The City's Volunteer Coordinators can serve as a liaison between residents with external groups, to promote volunteerism city-wide.
8. **Plant Lists and Seedlings:** A list of suggested plants can introduce volunteers to habitat plants that are native to the region, ones that meet potential requirements (e.g., height or water needs), and can facilitate approval of plant palettes. Some cities provide free plants to volunteers (and in some cases these plants are grown by other volunteers. See Appendix L, Madison WI)

### **Suggested Implementation Options**

The preferred option is for one of the two new volunteer coordinators, the senior Coordinator, to design the program, engaging the interns and CivicSpark fellows to build out desired new tools. As a second option, or in the event that additional input or resources are needed, an outside consulting firm could be engaged to more clearly define and develop the program using best practices in existing public programs.

The expansion of the programs can be done in a phased manner, starting with existing ones, for example, adding online tools and materials, and then over time adding new kinds of "spots", depending on community input and city goals.

The following departments, commissions and stakeholders should be engaged during the development of the program:

- Public Works Department
- Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department
- Public Works Commission
- Parks and Waterfront Commission
- Traffic Circle Task Force
- Community Organizations that have historically worked with the City

### **Location of Program in the City**

The Commissions did not reach a final recommendation about the location of the new Volunteer Coordinators. Their work will span a broad range of activities, functioning as a kind of "umbrella" position, supporting the work associated with many departments. For this reason, the best place to start the Adopt-a-Spot program may be in the City Manager's Office, where the Customer Service Center and Online Service Center already exist. There is also a Fighting Graffiti program, which already solicits volunteers. On the other hand, since many of the volunteer efforts will require input from Parks or Public Works it may be best for the position to live in one of these departments or be split between them.

Not hiring dedicated coordinators and sharing the responsibilities of the program across multiple employees is greatly discouraged as some departments are short-staffed and team members already have full work loads. For comparison, the City of Oakland has four full time employees and two part-time trainees affiliated with their Adopt-a-Spot program. They are deployed by subject area, 1) parks; 2) creeks/storm drains; and 3) streets.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

A well-run Adopt-a-Spot program will help residents support many of the City's climate, safety and greening goals, including improving stormwater flows, reducing refuse that reaches the Bay, promoting safe and beautiful intersections, mitigating urban heat island effect, monitoring sidewalks for safety, and widespread planting of California-natives to increase urban ecology that supports pollinators and promotes public health.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The Commissions discussed taking no action to expand the Adopt-a-Spot program but concluded that the benefits from funding a more robust program, with dedicated staff positions, far outweigh the program costs.

#### CITY MANAGER

Refer to the budget process.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

##### **Funding**

To ensure a successful Adopt-a-Spot program it is essential that two dedicated FTE positions be fully funded, a Volunteer Coordinator, who will function as the manager, and an entry-level position Coordinator who can coordinate year-round youth programs, or the equivalent. In addition, funds should be allocated for supporting materials, such as tools, vests, signs, litter pick-up materials, T-shirts, and an annual recognition and awards party.

At writing, it is estimated that \$500,000 is needed to cover both fully-loaded FTEs and operational costs. There are two possible sources of funding: the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds.

At the end of FY21 the total revenue of the Discretionary General Fund was \$196M. A fee of approximately 0.25% from this fund would cover all proposed program costs. However, the General Fund is susceptible to fluctuations, which could introduce uncertainty into the long-term health of the program and is not the Commissions' first choice.

The preferred alternative is to allocate a percentage of total revenue from four Special Revenue Funds in the Public Works and Parks departments, as these funds tend to be more stable and citizen engagement will directly benefit both these departments. At the end of FY21 the total revenue of these four funds was almost \$100M. A fee of just half a percent - or 0.5% - from the four funds can cover all costs.

**Revenue Adopted Update FY21 (\$M)**

\$ 48.7	Zero Waste
27.7	Sewer
14.4	Parks Tax
5.0	Storm Water

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\$ 96M    TOTAL

0.5% of \$96M = ~\$500,000

Funding from the Special Funds is ideal because it's a more stable long-term source. But funding from the General Fund could also be a good strategy, if necessary.

CONTACT PERSON

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Erin Diehm, Parks and Waterfront Commission, (510) 666-0662

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Appendices



RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

APPROVAL OF AN EXPANDED AND FULLY FUNDED ADOPT-A-SPOT PROGRAM  
TO POSITIVELY ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY, PROMOTE CIVIC PRIDE, and  
SUPPORT CLIMATE ACTION GOALS

WHEREAS, beginning in fall 2019 Council introduced the first of four separate Referrals to the Public Works and Parks and Waterfront Commissions with the following dates: (1) April 23, 2019, (2) September 24, 2019, (3) November 12, 2019, and (4) February 23, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Referrals mentioned a range of goals for the Adopt-a-Spot program, including, supporting city cleanup and maintenance efforts, addressing Vision 2050 storm water and watershed goals, promoting a thriving volunteer force to adopt and maintain traffic circles, creating and maintaining pollinator habitat and funding a City Liaison as part of a Bee City USA program, adopting encampments and street campers/RVs, and more; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley has a long history of volunteerism and community participation, it is critically important to provide a robust program to manage and facilitate citizen efforts; and

WHEREAS, the two commissions conducted research and compiled succinct data in order to determine what was necessary for the successful implementation of this program; and

WHEREAS, we found that many cities and local government agencies in the Bay Area and throughout the U.S. have created robust and comprehensive Adopt-a-Spot programs; and

WHEREAS, a well-run Adopt-a-Spot program will help residents support many of the City's climate, safety and greening goals, including improving stormwater flows, reducing refuse that reaches the Bay, promoting safe and beautiful intersections, mitigating urban heat island effect, monitoring sidewalks for safety, and widespread planting of California-natives to increase urban ecology that supports pollinators and promotes public health; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2021 the Public Works Commission and on August 11, 2021, the Parks and Waterfront Commission voted to approve the implementation of an expanded Adopt-A-Spot program, as described above.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Berkeley hereby adopts an expanded Adopt-a-Spot program, including two full-time Volunteer Coordinators (2 FTEs) and associated operational costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the expanded Adopt-a-Spot program shall be paid for by a 0.5% fee on four Special Revenue Funds (Zero Waste, Sewer, Parks, and Storm Water) or, as an alternative, by an approximate 0.25% fee from the General Fund.

APPENDICES

**Berkeley**

A: Selected Materials from Berkeley's current Adopt-a-Spot program

**Other Cities**

B: Signage

C: Clickable Maps

D: Videos

E: Calendars

F: Brochures

G: Online Grant Application

H: Online Program Application

I: Online Reporting

J: Volunteer Handbook

K: Volunteer Appreciation

L: Native Plants

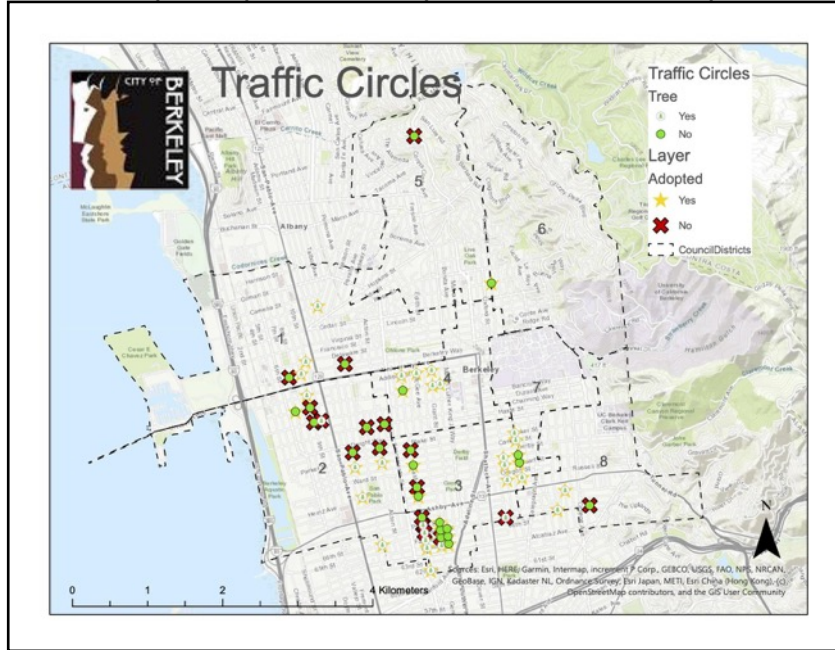
**Research**

M: Screenshot of Google sheet with details for locations researched

## Appendix A: Selected Materials from Berkeley's Adopt-a-Spot program for Traffic Circles

<https://www.cityofberkeley.info/adoptattrafficcircle.aspx>

Public Works staff shared some exciting news at the June 2021 meeting of the Public Works Commission. They're working with interns and fellows to create a dynamic ArcGIS map, to update and replace the static one pictured below (due Summer 2021).



[Berkeley's Map of Traffic Circles](#) - Identifies circles, adopted and available

**Suggested Plants for Traffic Circles – Tier One (#1-5 of 10)**











Bloom	Plant	Scientific Name	Height	Width	Notes	Wildlife Supported
	Buckwheat, Coast	Eriogonum latifolium	12-20in	2ft	Compact mound of softly felted blue grey spoon shaped leaves topped by pale pink 1" clusters of flowers blooming summer into fall. Used for erosion control, drought tolerant. Ground nesting native bees scrape fuzz off leaves to use in nest. Loved by bees, butterflies and many pollinators.	 Acmon Blue
	Buckwheat, Naked	Eriogonum nudum	12-20in	2-3ft	Another keystone Buckwheat. Late blooming, short growing, Drought tolerant, attractive to butterflies and bees.	 Mormon Metalmark
	Buckwheat, Red	Eriogonum grande var. rubescens	12-20in	2-3ft	Another keystone Buckwheat. Late blooming, short growing, Drought tolerant, attractive to butterflies and bees.	 Silvery Blue
	California Aster, Point Saint George	Symphytotrichum chilensis, "Point Saint George"	6in	2ft	A low growing vigorous native perennial, reaching up to 6 inches in height and spreading widely. Covered with soft lavender daisies over a long period, summer through fall, often into winter.	 Field Crescent
	California Lilac (low growing selections)	ex. Ceanothus hearnstorium - San Sireen Ceanothus	3-12in	6ft	Many species and varieties, choose low growing selections. Ceanothus hearnstorium is flat growing, with dark green crinkled leaves and 1" deep blue flower clusters in the spring.	 Pale Swallowtail

Photo Credits (from Calscope.org unless otherwise noted): (1) Coast Buckwheat (2013 John Doyen)/Acmon Blue (2008 Ron Wolf); (2) Naked Buckwheat (2016 Steve Mason)/Mormon Metalmark (Bill Bouton); (3) Red Buckwheat (2008 Steve Mason)/Silvery Blue (2014 Ron Wolf); (4) Aster (2007 Neal Kramer)/Field Crescent (Wiemers); (5) Ceanothus (2007 Stan Shebs)/Pale Swallowtail (2013 Ron Wolf)

Suggested Plants for Traffic Circles - Tier One

[Berkeley's Suggested plantings for traffic circles](#) (1 of 4 pages, 20 plants total)  
Focus is on CA natives that support butterflies, bees and birds.

## Appendix B: Examples of Signage

Signage identifies spots that are either available or already adopted, sometimes including the name of the adopting party. The signs are placed directly in the public space or marked on GIS maps, and help recruit new volunteers and acknowledge existing ones.

Examples of Adopt-a-Spot Signage		
<b>Adopted</b>		
<a href="#">Indianapolis, IN</a>	<a href="#">Vancouver, Canada</a>	<a href="#">Muncie, DE</a>
<b>Available</b>		
<a href="#">Vancouver, Canada</a>	<a href="#">Truckee, CA</a>	<a href="#">Greene Co., OH</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta, GA</a>	<a href="#">Saginaw, TX</a>	<a href="#">Marin, CA</a>

# Appendix C: Examples of Clickable Maps

Usually color-coded to identify availability.

## Storm Drains

**WANT SOME GREAT EXPOSURE FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION?**  
Pledge to adopt a storm drain and to keep the Trinity litter free.  
A plaque with your group's name or personal message / motto is installed at all the drains you adopt.

**IT'S EASY AS 1-2-3**

- 1 Select a drain to adopt.**  
Click a drain on the map to the left.
- 2 Give us your custom message during the checkout process.**
- 3 Pay the adoption fee and you're all done.**  
Drains are \$35 each to adopt which includes installation.

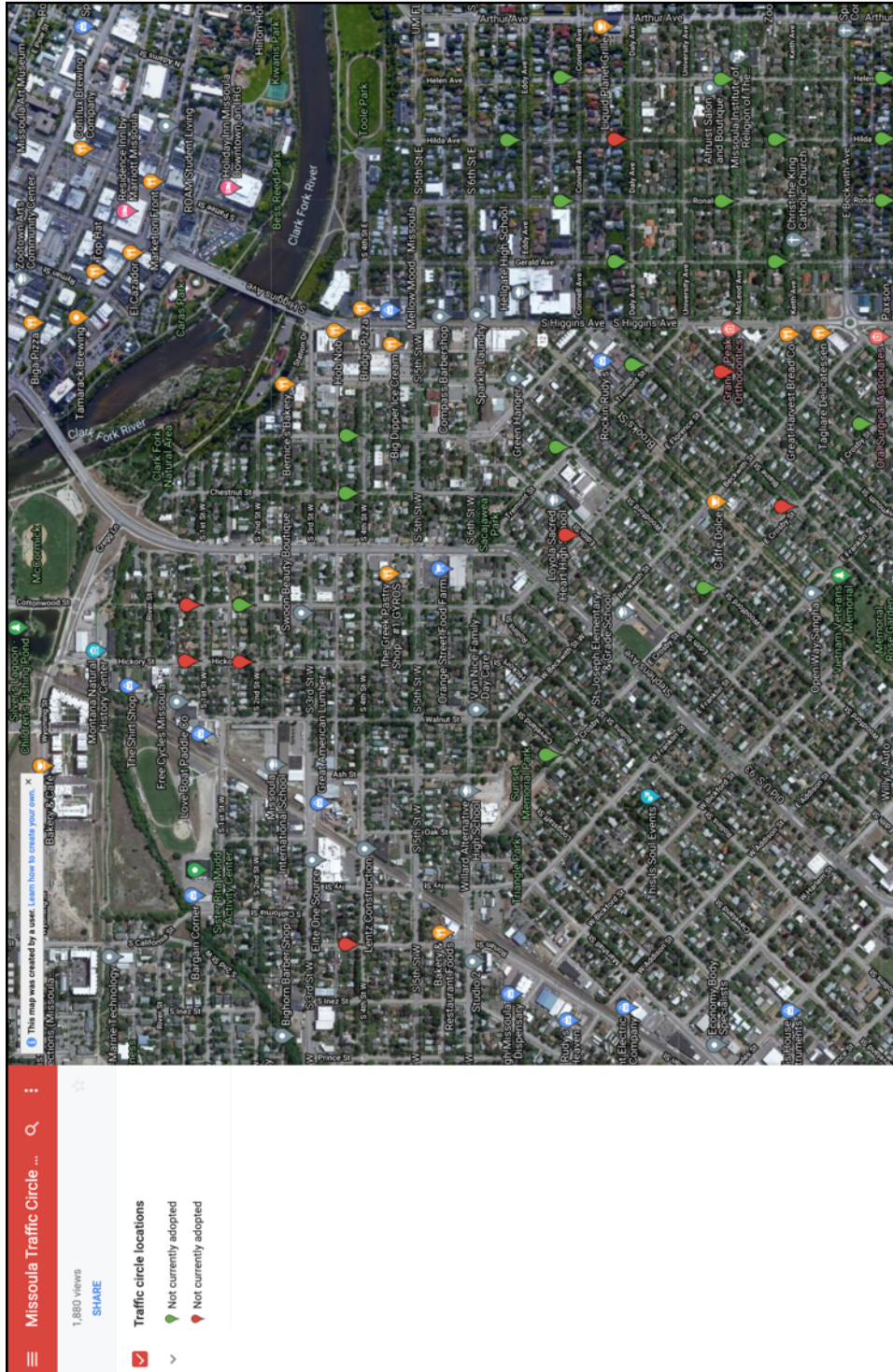
Explore our FAQs section for more information.

**ADOPT-A-DRAIN FORT WORTH**

Fort Worth, TX - [Adopt a Drain](#)  
**Green ("unlocked")** = available  
**Red ("locked")** = adopted (name of adopting party - not published)



### Traffic Circles



Missoula, MT - [Adopt a Traffic Circle](#)

**Green** = adopted (name of adopting party - published)

**Red** = available



# Medians

**MDCB Adoption Sites**

These median sites throughout the city are adopted and maintained by many volunteers and companies throughout Muncie. For 1,741 VIEWS [SHARE](#)

**Untitled layer**

- Wheeling Ave. and Janney
- McGalliard Islands
- Wheeling Ave. and Rosewood
- Bi-Centennial Park/Overlook
- White River Blvd. and Linden
- Madison and Wysox St.
- McClulloch Park Entrance
- MLK Blvd near Bunch Blvd.
- MLK Blvd and Hazel St.
- Bunch Blvd Overlook
- Heekin Park Fountain Area
- S. Tillison Island at Hoyt
- Mulberry and Jackson St.
- Bi-Centennial Parking lot
- Bunch Blvd and MLK Blvd.
- McGalliard and Cardinal Greenway Crossing
- Cowan Rd near Bypass
- Cowan Rd near Fuson Rd.
- Cowan Rd near 26th St
- Cowan Rd near 23rd St

Muncie, Delaware - [Adopt a Median](#)

**Green** = adopted (name of adopting party - published)

**Red** = available

## Streets

# Adopted Streets

Select a section below to find out which streets have been adopted by other volunteers.



Seattle, WA - [Adopt a Street](#)

**Red** (turns **green** when clicked) = adopted (name of adopting party - [published](#))

# Litter

The screenshot shows a Google My Maps interface for 'Keep Carbondale Beautiful'. The main map area displays Carbondale, IL, with numerous 'Adopt A Spot' locations marked by colored pins and lines. The spots are color-coded by the adopter, with many labeled as 'Citizen Hero'. The sidebar on the left lists the following groups:

- Over 60 groups have adopted spots in Carbondale. Find the spots and the groups. See also our gardens and special 3,789 views
- SHARE
- Untitled layer
  - citizen hero
  - citizen hero
- Adopt A Spot Locations
  - Sigma Pi
  - Lambda Theta Alpha
  - Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
  - Keith
  - Pi Sigma Epsilon
  - Available
  - Available
  - Nat'l Student Speech Language Hearing ...
  - Aur Beck
  - Gamma Phi Omega
  - Available
  - Alpha Gamma Rho
  - Sigma Kappa
  - Epiphany Lutheran Church of All Saints
  - Phi Kappa Tau
  - Available
  - Phi Iota Alpha
  - Hispanic Student Council
  - Nat'l Society of Collegiate Scholars (and ...
  - Delta Chi
  - Phi Sigma Kappa
  - First United Methodist Church
  - Rotary Club of Carbondale
  - Student Alumni Council
  - Alpha Gamma Delta
  - Farmhouse
  - IDOT says Creekside Vet Clinic
  - Beta Alpha Psi
  - Sigma Alpha Iota

Carbondale, IL - [Adopt-a-Spot](#) (Keep Carbondale Beautiful)  
Color-coded by adoptee, "Citizen Hero". Many are fraternities and sororities.

## Appendix D: Examples of Videos from Programs in Other Cities

### General (1 min.)



San Angelo, TX - [Adopt a Spot](#)  
Includes contact information for signing up

### Drains (1 min. 21 sec.)



Riverside, CA - [Adopt a Drain](#)  
Encourages volunteers to post photos to Facebook and Instagram

### Litter (1 min 5 sec)



Hampton, VA - [We Put Litter In Its Place #4](#)  
End of video gives contact information for signing up

### Medians - News Segment (2 min. 26 sec.)





Albuquerque, NM - [Adopt-a-Median](#)  
Includes city staff describing plans to expand program



## Appendix E: Examples of Calendars

### Calendar - Simple

[Home](#)   [Donate](#)   [Litter Control](#)   [Reduce, Re-...](#)   [Beautification](#)   [Education](#)   [Calendar of Events](#)   [Contact Us](#)

### Spring 2020 Calendar

Most of these events are ... cleanups (surprise!) KCB provides bags and gloves, plus a cooler of water on hot days. Dress appropriately for weather. Always wear closed-toe shoes. Bring a friend. There are no "rain dates" ... if you don't like the weather, stay home. If you think it's not that bad, show up. Someone will be there. We'll do what we can. Call or text (618) 525-5525 for more info.

-- A littered site attracts more litter, so removing litter promotes beautification.

### March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Cleanup @ Pyles Fork Creek and Preserve w/Green Earth 9am—12pm Meet at Attucks Park 800 N. Wall St.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Tree and Shrub Sale 9am-2pm Town Square Pavilion 121 N. Illinois Ave.
29	30	31				

Carbondale, IL - [Keep Carbondale Beautiful](#)

## Calendar - Comprehensive

The screenshot displays the 'Calendar - Comprehensive' interface for the City of Boulder Volunteer Cooperative. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Calendar, and Contact Us. Below this, the current location is identified as 'City of Boulder' with a 'count me in' link. The main calendar area shows a monthly view for June 2021, with days of the week and dates. Events are represented by colored blocks on the calendar grid. For example, on June 19th, there are events for 'Used Bookstore' and 'Mmmwhah! to Flagst'. On June 20th, there are events for 'Father's Day Fun' and 'Your Place in the Un'. On June 27th, there is an event for 'Outdoors for All Real'. On June 30th, there is an event for 'Kids' Fishing is Fun!'. On July 1st, there is an event for 'Rollin into the Sun'. On July 9th, there are events for 'East Boulder - White' and 'Flagstaff Litter Clean'. Below the calendar, there are several legend sections with color-coded boxes corresponding to the events on the calendar:

- City Managers Office Legend:** Better Together, HDA Training, National Night Out, Trainings, Volunteer Appreciation Event, Volunteer Office Assistance.
- Housing and Human Services Legend:** COVID-19 Volunteers.
- Parks and Recreation Legend:** Boulder Creek Clean Up, One Day Projects, Park Clean Up, Special Event, Tree Planting, Volunteer Appreciation.
- EXPAND Program for People with Disabilities Legend:** Adventure Outings, Community Involvement Classes, Friday Night Dance, Friday Night Fun, Journeys through EXPAND, Out on Town, Teens on the Town.
- Open Space Mountain Parks Legend:** Activity Feedback Request, Arts & Music, Community Cleanup Month, Earth & Sky, Local History, One-Day Volunteer projects, Plants & Wildlife, Recreation & Skills, Special Events & Training, Wellness & Wonder, Your Land, Youth Projects "One-Day".
- Planning Legend:** Pathway Gardeners.
- Public Works Legend:** Adopt a Spot, Clean Up Project, Community Cleanup Month, Highlighted Opportunities!, Transit Friendly Opportunities!, Volunteer Appreciation.

Boulder, CO - ["Count Me In" Volunteer Cooperative](#)  
 Calendar for all city-sponsored events. Filters by event type, department and activity.


## Appendix F: Examples of Brochures

### Brochure - Medians/Rain Gardens

**Adopt a Rain Garden**

Rain gardens on publicly owned land capture storm run-off water, allowing plants to filter out pollutants before the water infiltrates the ground. They are located across Madison in parks and city land.

Volunteers perform seasonal clean-up by removing dead plant material and replenishing mulch. Maintenance tasks include weeding, litter removal and planting supplemental plants provided by the City as needed.




**Benefits of Adopting a Median/Rain Garden**


- Beautify your neighborhood.
- Help the environment.
- Meet your neighbors and grow your neighborhood or homeowners' association.
- Safety vests are fashionable! Get yours for free.
- Free mulch and monetary reimbursement for qualifying plant purchases.
- Play outside!
- Makes for a great service project.

**Adopt a Median Program**

[www.cityofmadison.com/transportation/roadworks/adoptamedian](http://www.cityofmadison.com/transportation/roadworks/adoptamedian)




Johanna Johnson  
Adopt a Median Program Coordinator  
Phone: (608) 264-9274  
Fax: (608) 264-9275  
Email: [jjohnson@cityofmadison.com](mailto:jjohnson@cityofmadison.com)




City of Madison Engineering Division  
City-County Building, Room 115  
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53703

Cover photo credit: Chuck Kime



**Adopt a Median / Rain Garden Volunteer Opportunity**



City of Madison Engineering Division

---

**Adopt a Median / Rain Garden**

The Adopt a Median / Rain Garden program is an opportunity for community members to make Madison beautiful and promote the environment by maintaining and modifying medians around the City. Rain gardens located on publicly owned land are also available for adoption.

Interested parties, affiliated with neighborhood associations, groups or businesses, or volunteers working on an individual basis, may apply to Adopt a Median / Rain Garden.

With approved application and waiver forms, volunteers may receive free mulch (coordinated delivery in the volunteers' neighborhood) and supplies such as safety vests and traffic cones. Some monetary reimbursement for approved plantings may also be available from the City Engineering Division.

*Safety First! Get traffic cones and safety vests from City Engineering.*

**Application Process**

1. Complete the Request for Application form. Return completed form to the City Engineering Division.
2. The Engineering Division provides the adopting group or individual with the Application and Waiver and Release form. **A waiver is required for each person working on the median/rain garden.** Return completed forms to the Engineering Division.
3. With an approved application and waivers on file, adopting groups/individuals are ready to show their medians or rain gardens a little T-L-C.

**For More Information**

Dig in! Start by filling out the Request for Application included in this brochure and return it to the City Engineering Division. Or, fill out the form online: [www.cityofmadison.com/transportation/roadworks/adoptamedian](http://www.cityofmadison.com/transportation/roadworks/adoptamedian)

Get involved today!

Questions? Contact Johanna Johnson, Adopt a Median Program, at (608) 264-9274.

**Adopt a Median/Rain Garden Request for Application**

Name of adopting group/organization/individual:

Name of volunteer contact who will sign the application:


Email:

Address:

Phone:

Median section(s)/island location/rain garden to be adopted:

Return to: Johanna Johnson, City Engineering Division, City-County Building, Room 115, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Madison, WI 53703. Email: [jjohnson@cityofmadison.com](mailto:jjohnson@cityofmadison.com).



Madison, WI - [Adopt-a-Median or Rain Garden](#)  
Tri-fold, includes application



Brochure - Litter

https://hampton.gov/DocumentCenter/View/311/Adopt-a-spot-brochure?bidId=

**Send For Adopt-A-Spot Information NOW!**

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

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a spot you want to adopt? If so, what is it? (Optional)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO:  
Hampton Clean City Commission  
22 Lincoln Street  
Hampton VA 23669

OR

FAX TO:  
727-8313

OR

E-MAIL INFORMATION ABOVE TO:  
hccc@hampton.gov

**Adopt-A-Spot Program Highlights**

Adopt-A-Spot sites are public areas within Hampton.

Groups or individuals adopt "spots". Participants younger than 15 must be supervised by adults. Adopters commit to cleaning their "spot" five times each year for two years.

HCCC provides equipment (litter sticks, safety vests, work gloves, & trash bags) for each cleanup. Supplies are picked up by participants at a central location. HCCC provides trash bag collection. Groups report the results of their cleanups when they return equipment. HCCC places a sign at the site after the first cleanup and publicizes the group's participation through various avenues. Participants also are invited to an annual Volunteer Recognition event.

**Litter! Such a Waste!**



Hampton Clean City Commission  
22 Lincoln Street  
Hampton VA 23669

Phone: 727-6394  
Fax: 727-8313  
E-Mail: hccc@hampton.gov  
Web Site: hampton.gov/hccc

**Litter! Such a Waste!**



**Adopt-A-Spot Program**

**HAMPTON**  
CLEAN CITY COMMISSION

Litter Awareness Committee

Working to Keep Hampton Clean & Beautiful

727-6394  
hccc@hampton.gov

**► It's a Dirty Job, But Someone Has To Do It!**

The Adopt-A-Spot program was established in the middle 1980s to address the litter problem in Hampton. Keep America Beautiful, Inc., a national community improvement organization, researched why people litter, and came up with three main answers:

People litter because they feel no connection with or ownership of the areas in which they litter

People litter because litter has already accumulated

People litter because they think someone else will be paid to pick it up.

The Adopt-A-Spot program is based on combating these reasons for littering.

The logic is that people may feel inhibited from littering if someone else has established "ownership" of the area, that keeping litter removed will remove the littering "trigger", and that showing that volunteers are cleaning up will elicit good will from litterers and prevent them from littering. Time has proven these ideas to be correct in many locations.



**Litter HURTS**

Litter is a blight on our landscape for many reasons:


It is ugly and depressing to those who live around it.

It turns people away from littered areas of the community, whether residential or commercial, and can bring down property values and deter business.

It can injure people, animals, and property.

It costs hundreds of thousands of public & private dollars to clean up each year, just in the City of Hampton alone.

It clogs storm drains, causing flooding, and washes through storm drains straight into the Chesapeake Bay. Who wants to swim, fish, or boat with trash?!



**YOU Can Do Something About Litter**


You really CAN do something about litter!

First & foremost, **never** litter, not even a tiny little gum wrapper or a cigarette butt. It all messes up our local environment and has to be cleaned up by someone before it gets into our waterways.

Second, make sure your garbage is "under wraps" on collection day, so small pieces don't escape to become litter.

Third, join the Adopt-A-Spot Program in Hampton to help keep litter from piling up!


**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



**Litter! Such a Waste!**

Litter costs Hampton Roads communities \$2 million dollars each year to clean up—not counting volunteer effort!

People litter cigarette butts because they think they will disintegrate into the environment—NOT TRUE! It can take seven years for cigarette butts to "go away" because they're made from synthetic material!



## Appendix G: Example of Online Grant Application

### LITTLE BIG AWARDS (ADOPT-A-BLOCK GRANTS)

Our Little BIG (Block Improvement Grant) Awards are grants of up to \$500 for Adopt-A-Block Captains to coordinate with each other to make their neighborhoods better. Each applicant group must include at least three Adopt-A-Block Captains. This way we can span multiple blocks and help neighbors work together.

To read the grant details and apply, please click the link below.

LITTLE BIG GRANT APPLICATION



**The Little BIG (Block Improvement Grant)** program is a way for you and your fellow captains to get together and make your neighborhood better!

Your grant proposal can be anything that you and at least two other Adopt-A-Block Captains in your neighborhood believe will make your community better and can accomplish on your own, you just need seed money. Maybe it's adding signage, fixing up a community greenspace, or throwing a neighborhood party. We want to hear from you, what's important to you and your neighbors.

Guidelines:

1. Grant applications will be reviewed between March and October.
2. Applications will be accepted until the funding pool has been depleted.
3. Your committee must consist of at least three current Adopt-A-Block Captains within your neighborhood.
4. Awards will be *reimbursed* in the form of a check from KIB when the budgeted work has been completed.
5. Award grantees will have 120 days from the date of award notification to complete their project and submit for reimbursement.

Unused awards or awards that have not been reimbursed after 120 days, will be reassigned to the general award pool for other applicants.

Award reimbursement will be dependent upon proper documentation of purchases outlined in this application **and** submission of a short write-up to Gerardo Ruiz Tovar (gruiztovar@kibi.org) with photo documentation before and after completion of the project.

I am applying as:

- Adopt-A-Block Captain  
 Adopt-A-Block School

Name of 1st Committee Member \*

1st Committee Member Email \*

This should be the main contact person

Name of 2nd Committee Member \*

2nd Committee Member Email \*

Name of 3rd Committee Member \*

Neighborhood \*

General description of your project: overview, goals, and how you will accomplish this project. (500 words or less) \*

Why is this project important to the community and what does it mean for the neighborhood? \*

Are there any other stakeholders involved and what is their involvement? (Neighbors, Local Officials, Institutions, etc...)\*

Does this require city permitting? \*

- Yes
- No

If so, what is the current status of your permitting application?

Are you leveraging any money or services? \*

- Yes
- No

Indianapolis, IN - [Adopt-a-Block](#) - [apply for grant online](#) (up to \$500)

# Appendix H: Example of Online Adoption Application

The screenshot shows the City of Missoula website header with navigation links for Government, Departments, Community, Business, and How Do I?, along with a search bar and social media icons. Below the header is a large aerial photograph of the city. On the left is a dark blue sidebar menu with links to various city services. The main content area is titled 'Form Center' and displays the 'Traffic Circle Adoption Agreement' form. The form includes a search bar, a sign-in prompt, and a 'Sign In to Save Progress' button. The form fields are: First Name, Last Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Email Address, and Phone Number. There is a section for 'Location of Traffic Circle Request\*' with a note '(Please be specific)'. Below this is a dropdown for 'Sponsoring Organization/Individual\*' and a checkbox for 'Can we use your name on the website as an adopter of a circle?'. A warning message states: 'By signing here you are agreeing to adopt a Traffic Circle for at least two year term.\*'. There are two 'Typed Name Required' fields. The form also includes an 'Adopt-A-Traffic-Circle Volunteer Release and Waiver' section with a large text area for 'Comments\*'. At the bottom, there is a reCAPTCHA, a checkbox for 'Receive an email copy of this form.', an 'Email address' field, and a 'Submit' button. A note at the bottom indicates '\* indicates a required field'.

Missoula, MT -Traffic Circles - [Application Form](#)

## Appendix I: Example of Online Reporting

Create an Account - Increase your productivity, customize your experience, and engage in information you care about.

**HAMPTON VIRGINIA** LIVING PLAYING DOING BUSINESS GOVERNMENT HOW DO I?

### Form Center

**Search Forms:**  
 Word or Phrase Select a Category ▼

By [signing in or creating an account](#), some fields will auto-populate with your information and your submitted forms will be saved and accessible to you.

#### Clean City Project Report Form Sign In to Save Progress

**Clean City Projects Cleanup & Beautification Report Form**  
 Clean City Project volunteers help keep our city clean and beautiful. Project volunteers clean up, beautify, and improve sites throughout the city.

\*All fields are required.

**First & Last Name\***

**Email Address\***  **Phone Number\***

**Organization Name\***  
  
 If no organization, enter NA

**Name of Spot Cleaned/Beautified/Improved\***

**Type of Project \***

<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-A-Spot	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean the Bay Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Cleanup	<input type="checkbox"/> International Coastal Cleanup	<input type="checkbox"/> Weeding/Mulching
<input type="checkbox"/> Boat Cleanup	<input type="checkbox"/> Walk Hampton Clean	<input type="checkbox"/> Recycling
<input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline Cleanup	<input type="checkbox"/> Tree/Flower Planting	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting/Graffiti Removal

**Date of Project\***  **Number of Participants\***  **How Long the Project Lasted\***   
 In hours

<b>How Many Bags of Trash Were Collected (Including Weeds)</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>How Many Cigarette Butts Were Collected</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>Bulk Debris (Large pieces of trash, tires, construction materials, etc.)</b> <input type="text"/> Enter approximate amount (how much, volume, pickup truck load, etc.)	<b>How Many Trees/Tree Seedlings Were Planted?</b> <input type="text"/>
--	--	---	--

**Plastic Bags Recycled (in pounds)**  **Other Recycling Projects**   
 Please describe.

<b>How Many Flowers Were Planted?</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>How Much Mulch Was Spread?</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>Community Garden Project</b> <input type="text"/> Indicate yes.	<b>Approximately How Many Square Feet Were Impacted By This Project?</b> <input type="text"/>
---	---	--	--

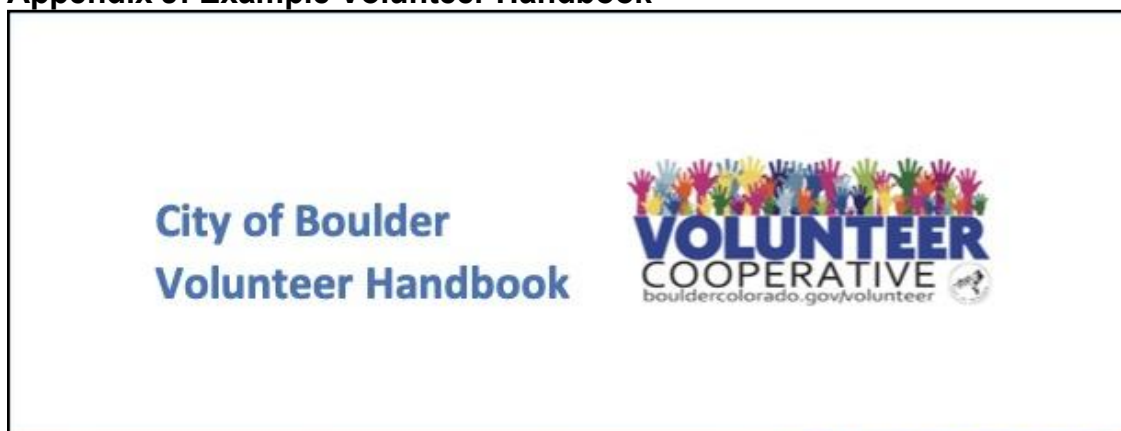
**Additional Comments**

**Photos, Maps, Other Documents You Want to Share**  
 Choose File

Hampton, VA - Adopt-a-Spot - [Reporting Form](#)  
 For 16 available programs



Appendix J: Example Volunteer Handbook




Boulder, CO - [Volunteer Cooperative](#) - [Volunteer Handbook](#)

## Appendix K: Examples of Volunteer Appreciation

### Appreciation - Annual Party and Awards

**Volunteers make a difference**

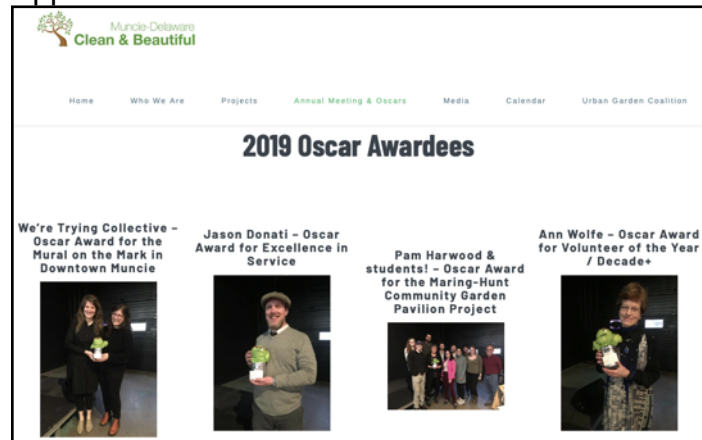


In 2019, 7,000 total volunteers contributed 80,057 hours to volunteer efforts, with an estimated financial impact worth \$2.2 million.

*Left: Volunteer award winners at the 2019 citywide volunteer appreciation event for the Alber Lifetime Achievement Award and Outstanding Departmental Volunteer Award.*

Boulder, CO - [Volunteer Appreciation](#)

### Appreciation - Annual Oscar Awards



Muncie-Delaware  
**Clean & Beautiful**

Home Who We Are Projects Annual Meeting & Oscars Media Calendar Urban Garden Coalition

### 2019 Oscar Awardees

**We're Trying Collective - Oscar Award for the Mural on the Mark in Downtown Muncie**

**Jason Donati - Oscar Award for Excellence in Service**

**Pam Harwood & students! - Oscar Award for the Maring-Hunt Community Garden Pavilion Project**

**Ann Wolfe - Oscar Award for Volunteer of the Year / Decade+**

Muncie, DE - [Annual "Oscar" Awards and Party](#)

### Annual Beautification Party and Award



Paula Shrewsbury  
University of Maryland  
shrewsbury

**DPW&T's Beautification Award Ceremony at the Newton White Mansion on September 25, 2019 was attended by 200 participants and guests.**

Prince George's County, MD - [Annual Beautification Award Ceremony \(pg. 20\)](#)

## Appreciation - Annual Award Recipients

**Volunteer Recognition Award Recipients**

The Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon celebrates the contributions of the County's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and Foster Grandparent Program participants. Each year, the event is held in May to commemorate Older Americans Month and celebrate the achievements made by older adults.

**2019 Award Recipients**



**Grandpa Brenon Washington**  
Outstanding New Volunteer Award

Mr. Brenon Washington is a Foster Grandparent at Francis T. Evans Elementary School in Clinton, MD. He volunteers five days a week and is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of his 2nd graders, whom he works with daily, assisting them with their reading skills. The children mirror his enthusiasm for learning and are attentive when he speaks. Grandpa Washington is truly making a difference and is trying to recruit more male volunteers.



**Diane Williams**  
Outstanding Service Award

Ms. Diane Williams has been a Foster Grandparent volunteer at H. Winship Wheatley Special Center, in Capitol Heights, for 12 years. Grandma Williams' Pre K class looks forward to her cheery "Good Morning" every day. She encourages the children to use their words and helps them with their social and emotional development. Ms. Williams has left a legacy that will live on in the lives of the children she has helped nurture.



**Carolyn Hammie**  
Volunteer Leadership Award

Grandma Carol volunteers at Avalon Elementary School in Fort Washington, MD, where she has helped a non-verbal student, in particular, through patience and love. Having had a daughter with developmental challenges, Grandma Carol has poured that same special grace and dedication with her student at Avalon Elementary. As a result, the student is now able to speak and form full sentences because of Ms. Hammie's efforts. Grandma Carol is truly a leader and always gives 100% to her students.




**Ms. Ernestine Vaughn**  
Ruby Peyton Award

Ms. Ernestine Vaughn volunteers at H. Wheatley Early Childhood Center in Capitol Heights and has been an active volunteer for 15 years, working mainly with children on the autism spectrum. Described by school teachers as thoughtful, compassionate, dependable, strong and hands on - Grandma Vaughn has worked in some of the most challenging classrooms. She offers words of encouragement and is known to gently redirect behavioral situations into positive outcomes. Grandma Vaughn is a team player that brings a mature structure into the classroom.

## Prince George's County, MD - [Annual Volunteer Awards](#)

## Appreciation - Monthly Recognition




COLUMBIA, MISSOURI


Search to Find it Fast!


Home Living in Columbia Doing Business in Columbia City Government Visitors CoMobile Apps

**Volunteer of the Month for May – John Mier**



Follow Us:





P.O. Box 6015  
701 E. Broadway – 5th floor  
Columbia, MO 65205  
(573) 874-7499  
[Volunteer@CoMo.gov](mailto:Volunteer@CoMo.gov)

On the many trails that wind through Columbia, Adopt-A-Trail is not your usual litter control or cleanup volunteer program, and John Mier is not your typical volunteer. He is a heavyweight champion in the battle to take down the invasive, non-native, bush honeysuckle that has overgrown our forests and trails.

Initially Adopt-A-Trail volunteers participate in training to learn proper tree care, trail maintenance, and the identification of invasive species in Missouri, and how to remove them. They are then assigned a quarter-mile section of trail in the city to care for. Since 2017 John has logged over 91 hours of hard work and sweat, but he doesn't mind because he says it's a great way to relieve stress. He jokingly calls the honeysuckle removal "bushwhacking," but the results are obvious. The trail opens up and looks much nicer, and clearing the honeysuckle allows for native plants to begin to grow back.

"It's all about helping," John says. He's been volunteering in some capacity for decades. "You meet new people, learn new things, and in most roles, you know you are helping." John also spends time volunteering at the St. Louis Zoo.

Thanks John for your energy, fortitude, and desire to help. If you also like helping and want to learn more about volunteering for the City's Adopt-A-Trail program, please contact [volunteer@como.gov](mailto:volunteer@como.gov) or call 573-874-7499.

Written by volunteer Bob Murphy.

## Columbia, MO - [Volunteer of the Month](#)



## Appreciation - Quarterly Recognition

The screenshot shows a website page with a dark blue header. The header contains the NSFB logo and navigation links: Programs, Events, Volunteer, Donate, About. On the right side of the header are icons for home, Facebook, and email. Below the header is a large banner image with the text "Median of the Quarter Summer 2021" in white. Underneath the banner is a white content area. On the left of this area is the logo for "KEEP Santa Fe BEAUTIFUL" and "Adopted MEDIAN OF THE QUARTER". To the right of the logo are two photographs of landscaped medians. Below the photos is a paragraph of text: "Our summer 2021 Median-of-the-Quarter award goes to Clemens & Associates Landscape Maintenance for their beautiful medians downtown on Grant Ave/Johnson St. Congratulations and thank you for being a part of our adopters program!". Below this text is the line "Categorised in: Uncategorized". At the bottom of the white content area is a dark blue footer with links: Median Adoptees, Blog, Privacy Policy, Contact, Subscribe. Below the footer is a grey bar with the text "HAND CRAFTED BY: mindshare labs." on the left and "© 2021 Copyright Keep Santa Fe Beautiful. All rights reserved." on the right.

NSFB Programs Events Volunteer Donate About

# Median of the Quarter Summer 2021

**KEEP Santa Fe BEAUTIFUL** | **Adopted MEDIAN OF THE QUARTER**

Our summer 2021 Median-of-the-Quarter award goes to Clemens & Associates Landscape Maintenance for their beautiful medians downtown on Grant Ave/Johnson St. Congratulations and thank you for being a part of our adopters program!

Categorised in: [Uncategorized](#)

[Median Adoptees](#) [Blog](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Contact](#) [Subscribe](#)

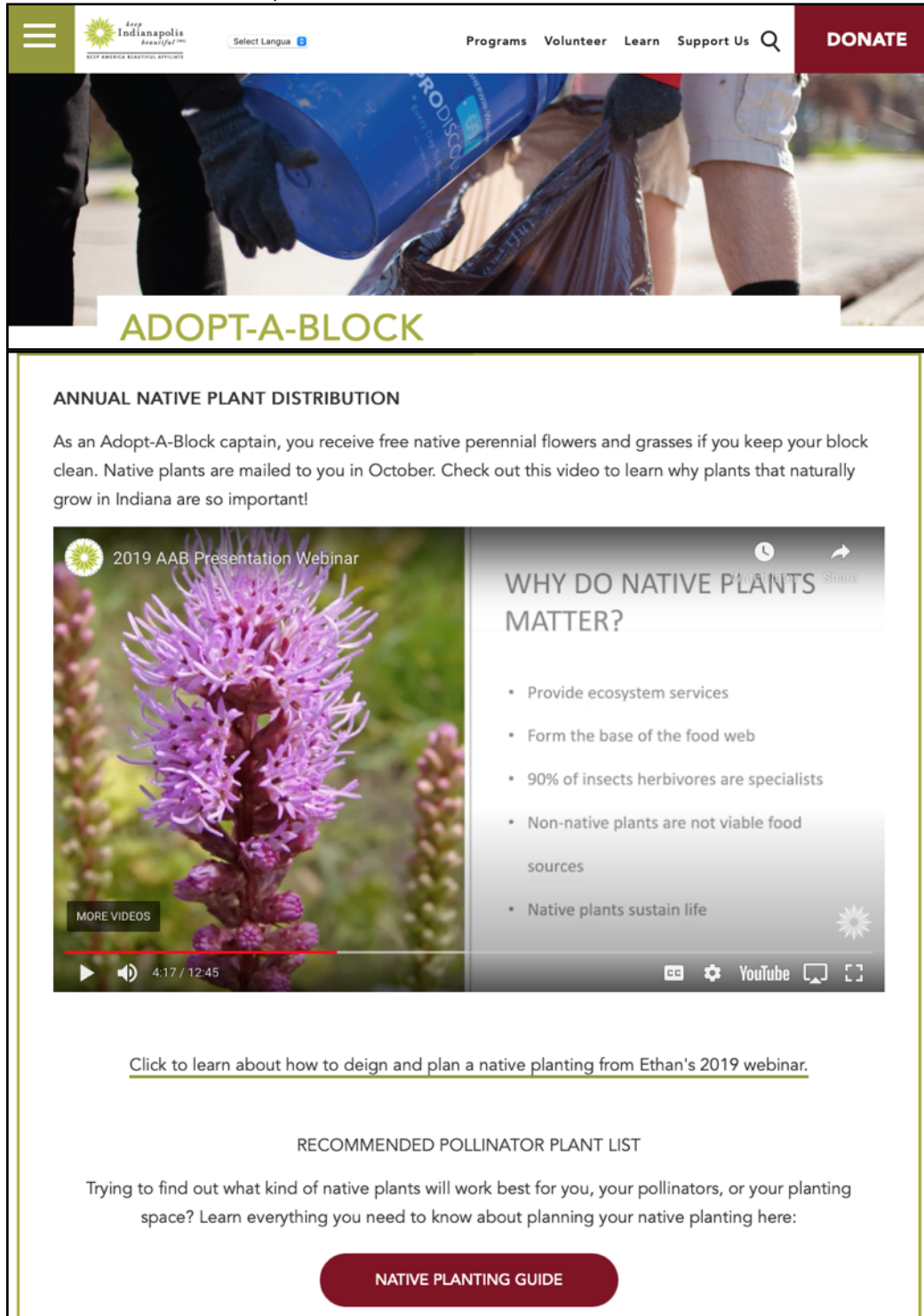
HAND CRAFTED BY:  
mindshare labs.

© 2021 Copyright Keep Santa Fe Beautiful. All rights reserved.

Santa Fe, NM - Keep Santa Fe Beautiful - [Median of the Quarter](#)

## Appendix L: Examples of Native Plants

### Native Plants - Video, Guide and Free Plants



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Adopt-A-Block website. It includes a hamburger menu, the logo for 'Keep Indianapolis Beautiful' (a KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE), a language selector, and links for 'Programs', 'Volunteer', 'Learn', and 'Support Us'. A search icon and a red 'DONATE' button are also present.

Below the navigation bar is a large image of a person pouring water from a blue bucket into a black trash bag. A white banner with the text 'ADOPT-A-BLOCK' is overlaid on the bottom of this image.

The main content area features the heading 'ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT DISTRIBUTION' followed by a paragraph: 'As an Adopt-A-Block captain, you receive free native perennial flowers and grasses if you keep your block clean. Native plants are mailed to you in October. Check out this video to learn why plants that naturally grow in Indiana are so important!'.

A video player is embedded, showing a close-up of a purple flower. The video title is '2019 AAB Presentation Webinar'. The video player interface includes a play button, a progress bar at 4:17 / 12:45, and a volume icon. To the right of the video player, the text 'WHY DO NATIVE PLANTS MATTER?' is displayed, followed by a list of bullet points:

- Provide ecosystem services
- Form the base of the food web
- 90% of insects herbivores are specialists
- Non-native plants are not viable food sources
- Native plants sustain life

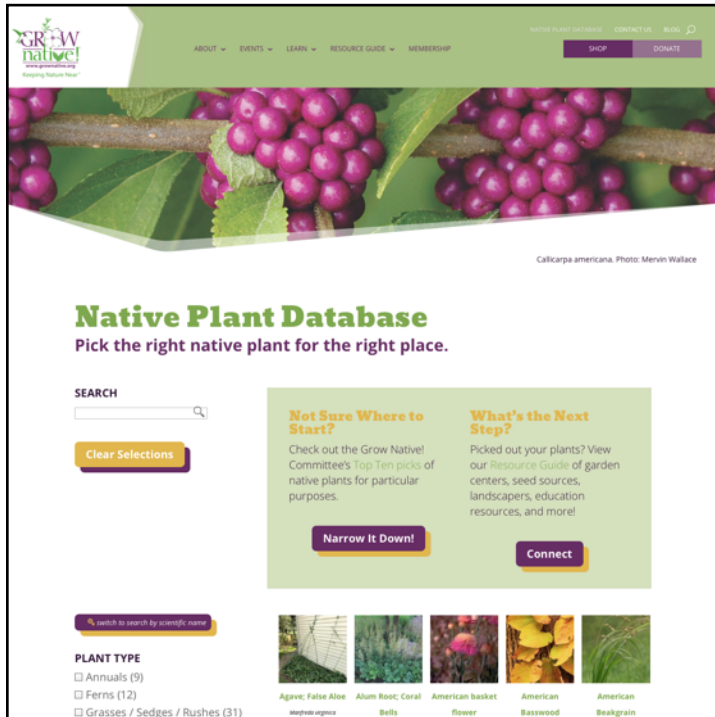
Below the video player, there is a link: 'Click to learn about how to design and plan a native planting from Ethan's 2019 webinar.'.

Further down, the heading 'RECOMMENDED POLLINATOR PLANT LIST' is shown, followed by the text: 'Trying to find out what kind of native plants will work best for you, your pollinators, or your planting space? Learn everything you need to know about planning your native planting here:'.

At the bottom of the content area is a red button with the text 'NATIVE PLANTING GUIDE'.

Indianapolis, IN - Adopt a Block - [Designing a Native Plant Garden](#)

## Native Plants - Database



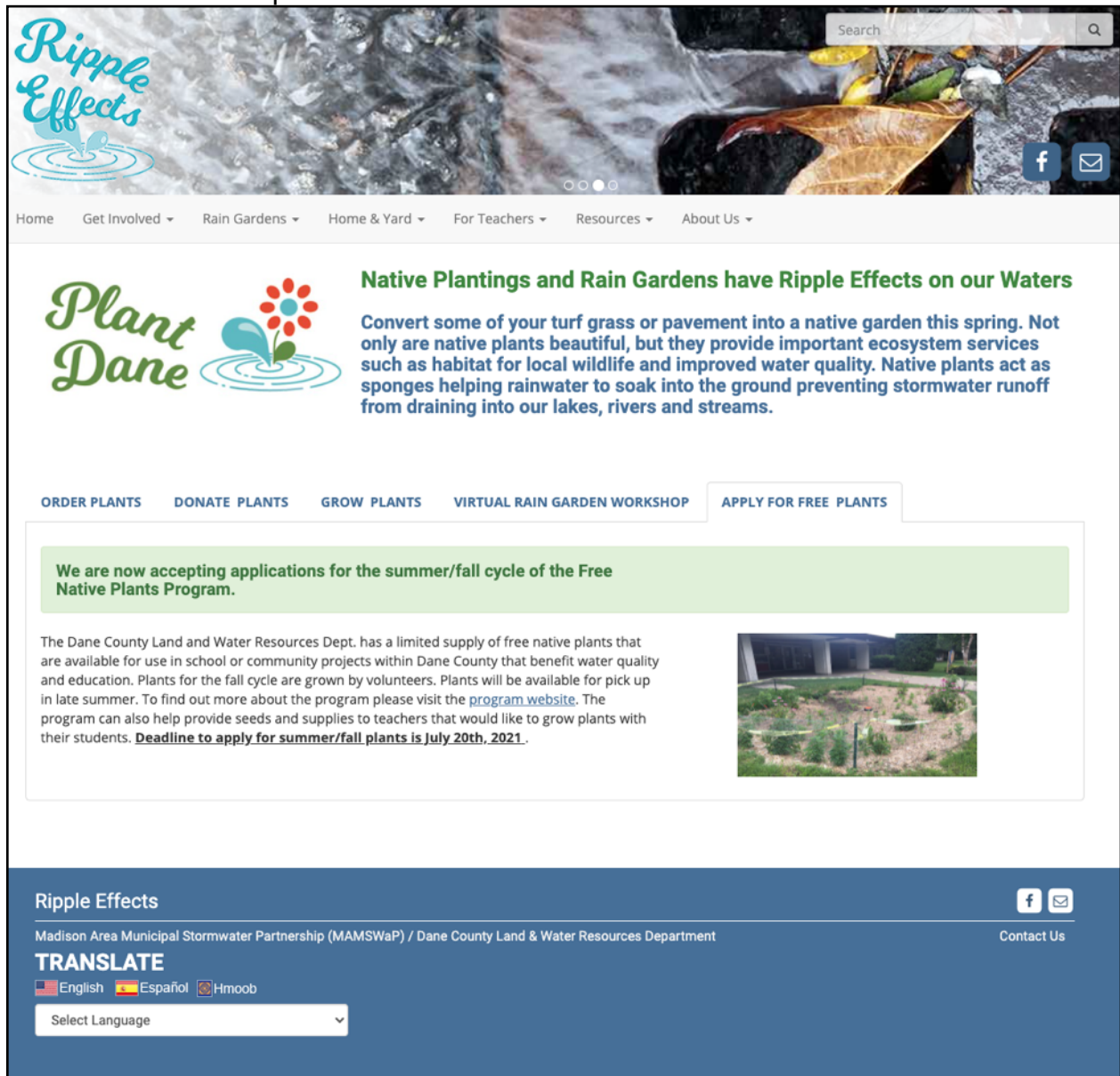
Columbia, MO - Adopt-a-Spot - [Resources for Native Plantings](#) - [Missouri Prairie Foundation](#)

## Native Plants - Guide



Columbia, MO - Adopt-a-Spot - [Resources for Native Plantings](#) - [Info from the Missouri Dept of Conservation](#)

## Native Plants - Example of Free Plants



The screenshot shows the website for 'Ripple Effects', a program by the Dane County Land and Water Resources Department. The header features the 'Ripple Effects' logo and a search bar. The main navigation includes 'Home', 'Get Involved', 'Rain Gardens', 'Home & Yard', 'For Teachers', 'Resources', and 'About Us'. A prominent green banner reads: 'Native Plantings and Rain Gardens have Ripple Effects on our Waters'. Below this, a section titled 'Plant Dane' explains that native plants provide ecosystem services like habitat and improved water quality. A navigation bar offers options: 'ORDER PLANTS', 'DONATE PLANTS', 'GROW PLANTS', 'VIRTUAL RAIN GARDEN WORKSHOP', and 'APPLY FOR FREE PLANTS'. A green callout box states: 'We are now accepting applications for the summer/fall cycle of the Free Native Plants Program.' The main text describes a limited supply of free native plants for school or community projects, with a deadline of July 20th, 2021. An image shows a rain garden. The footer includes 'Ripple Effects', contact information for MAMSWaP, a 'TRANSLATE' section with language options (English, Español, Hmoob), and a 'Contact Us' link.

### [Madison, WI - Plants for Rain Gardens \(Dane County\)](#)

Opportunities to order, grow, donate, and request free plants (above)



