

# **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Waterway Steward Program Guidelines**

Welcome to **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Waterway Steward Program**. The purpose of this program is to provide individuals and groups an opportunity to keep places they care about trash free. We ask stewards to conduct a cleanup of an area at least twice a year. It does not have to be the same area. Areas that are considered eligible under the Waterway Steward Program include:

- Streams/rivers Lakes/ponds Marinas/docks Shorelines Beaches Water trails
- Areas near waterways such as parking lots or trails

Only areas safe for volunteers should be considered for the Waterway Steward program.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Please reference and follow along with the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Waterway Cleanup Manual, a solution to waterway pollution of ten steps to organizing a waterway cleanup.

## **DESIGNATE A PRIMARY CONTACT**

Waterway stewards are individuals that are 18 years or older. Stewards can conduct cleanups individually or organize their family and or friends to conduct a cleanup. The waterway steward is the primary contact and is responsible for leading the activity including reporting cleanup results to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, submitting waiver forms, and communicating safety guidelines to participants the day of the cleanup(s).

## **PERMISSION**

The rights of the public in public waters are quite broad and extend to fishing, boating, wading, floating, swimming, and otherwise recreating. Please see the Fish and Boat Commission website for a full description of public vs private access information. <a href="mailto:fishandboat.com/LearningCenter/FAQs/Pages/PublicAccess.aspx">fishandboat.com/LearningCenter/FAQs/Pages/PublicAccess.aspx</a>

## MAKE SAFETY A TOP PRIORITY

**Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful places the highest priority on safety of both volunteers and the public.** Please carefully review the Waterway Safety Precautions on page 16 of the Waterway Manual. Cleanups can be hazardous and common sense should be used at all times.

- Review the boating and kayak safety video under Resources on <u>keeppabeautiful.org/programs/waterway-stewards/</u>.
- Tip: the trash grabbers in your kit may sink if dropped in water but adding an inexpensive piece of pool noodle can make them float!

# REPORT YOUR RESULTS TO KEEP PENNSYLVANIA BEAUTIFUL

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful waterway stewards are required to complete and report a minimum of two cleanups a year. After the cleanup, dispose of collected trash properly and report the amount of trash collected to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. Please use the QR code provided in your kit or click "report your data" on the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Event Report page: <a href="cleanup.keeppabeautiful.org/">cleanup.keeppabeautiful.org/</a>. You can also call us to report your results. Please also share your cleanup story and tag us on social media!

## **DISCONTINUING YOUR WATERWAY STEWARSHIP COMMITMENT**

Individuals or Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful can terminate the steward commitment at any time. If you wish to terminate, please contact us.

# **KEEP PENNSYLVANIA BEAUTIFUL CONTACT INFORMATION**

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