

# Pathway & River Cleanup Guidelines

## General Volunteer Guidelines

- Always work with a partner. **Keep a 2-meter distance.**
- Half-fill garbage bags, group them together and place them *beside* the pathway (not on the pathway). See “Handling Garbage...” section below.
- If you see a safety problem, inform your group leader or City staff immediately.
- Clear (transparent) bags are for recyclable items. You can return them to the depot or leave them for Parks staff to collect.
- **Don’t touch needles, glass, condoms, sharp objects, or drug paraphernalia.** Place an irrigation flag next to them instead. Also mark a trail to the pathway if the item isn’t visible. Report needle locations to 3-1-1.
- Do not reach under hidden places to retrieve garbage. Sharp or hazardous materials might not be visible.
- **Don’t go into the water or enter river or stream beds, even if dry.**
- Do not lift heavy materials. Flag these items and City staff will safely retrieve them.
- **Don’t enter or disassemble illegal campsites.** Inform your group leader of their location.
- Don’t block pathways, and look both ways before crossing them.

## Handling Garbage and Recyclable Containers

- Wear gloves and handle garbage as little as possible.
- Be alert: Look for large objects sticking out of bags.
- Place bags beside existing garbage cans if possible. Alternately group bags together and place 1 meter from “official” pathways. In Bowness Park, these pathways are either paved or at least “truck accessible”.
- *Do not compress garbage or reach into containers with both hands.*
- Clear bags are for recyclable items. You can return them to the depot, or leave them for Parks staff to collect.

## Dress Recommendations

- Wear gloves, sturdy footwear, and long pants.
- Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, bug spray, hat, and (optional) camera. Also: a mask for our post-cleanup gathering at tavern
- Smartphone (if you got one).

## Environmental Awareness

### Bird Habitat

- Avoid disturbing birds/nests so we can prevent unnecessary abandonment of eggs or chicks, or predation of an unguarded nest, and avoid disturbing other wildlife.
- If you see birds fly up from the ground or bushes, proceed with caution as there may be a nest nearby that contains eggs.
- Nests are usually circular and made of natural materials, such as down, sticks or grass. Some nests are very small or camouflaged and may be located on the ground or in a shrub or tree. Do not touch or move nests or eggs.
- Many birds display aggressive behaviour when defending their nests, and have been known to injure humans. Walk away if a bird is getting agitated or won’t let you walk near a space, even if you can’t see a nest.

### Fish Habitat

- Do not go into the water. Doing so may disrupt or destroy fish habitat.
- Use caution when stepping on riverbanks, to prevent erosion and release of sediment into the water.

### Organic Material

- Organic materials are not considered garbage and provide important wildlife habitat.
- Do not remove leaf litter, sticks or other plant materials.
- Leave animal remains alone, because they return nutrients to the environment or could be an archaeological site.

# Calgary Parrot Head Club Designated Pathway Cleanup Zone 2021



<p>Mark P.'s cellphone #: <b>(403) 999-7574</b></p>	<p><b>Other Contact #s:</b></p>
<p><b>In Case of Emergency:</b>                  Life-threatening injuries: <b>911</b>                  Non-life-threatening injuries: <b>(403) 266-1234</b></p>	<p>Event Day Volunteer Inquiries: <b>(403) 850-1750</b>                  City of Calgary Media Relations: <b>(403) 828-2954</b>                  Encampments / Hazardous Materials / Bylaw Infractions: <b>311</b></p>

## Photography Contest:

The City would like to share your cleanup photos with Calgarians to show off your hard work and emphasize the importance of keeping our city clean. The best part is you could win a prize! Here's how it works:

1. During the event, take pictures of your group and the garbage you collect, especially any unique items you find.
2. Share your photos with us on Instagram tagging **@CalgaryParks** and mentioning **#yyccleans** (don't forget the double c's). If you don't have your own Instagram account, please send the photo to Mark right away--texting (403) 999-7574-- and he'll upload it to the club's Instagram account (Don't worry, the proper people will get credit).
3. Winners will be randomly selected and notified the week following the cleanup. In the case of CalPHC, if we have a winner, the prize will be passed onto the appropriate party.

(Please recycle this handout)