

# Carver County Water Mngmt Organization's

## Adopt a Water

The **ADOPT A WATER** program is a public services program for volunteers to pick up litter along shorelines of lakes, wetlands, ponds, etc. within Carver County. It provides an opportunity for citizens to make a personal contribution towards keeping Carver County's waters a "litter" bit better.

### How does it work?

Individuals, community groups, churches or businesses can **ADOPT A WATER** by picking up trash along the shorelines at least twice a year.

### Adopt a Water individuals and groups are expected to:

- Work with Carver County WMO on to select a water to adopt. Adopt the water for a minimum of two years. "Water" can include lakes, ponds, creeks, wetlands, or even drainage ditches.
- Pick up litter along the shorelines of the water at least twice a year. Note: you are NOT expected to get into the water. Picking up once in the spring and once in the fall is usually sufficient. For some areas, an additional mid-summer clean up may be needed.
- Separate trash from recycling (plastic/glass bottles, tin cans, etc.)
- Notify Madeline Seveland at CCWMO after every pick up with 1) the number of people participating, 2) the date and location, and 3) the number of bags of trash collected.
- Carry your volunteering card and contact with you every time you are collecting trash.

### Additional Opportunities:

In addition, volunteers may opt to extend volunteer hours into the winter. Lakes with safe ice depths (especially ice fishing hot spots) often get littered with trash during ice fishing season. Volunteers may collect and report trash on lakes with safe ice depths before the spring melt. This keeps the trash from sinking into the lake. Often, February is a good month, but it is weather dependent.

### Carver County will supply:

Trash bags, gloves, volunteer cards, flags (if desired), safety information, map of pick up site location, & trash grabbers.

### Lastly:

Participants must sign a registration form and liability waiver.

All participants must review the safety information before each clean up! If you are interested in signing up, contact Madeline Seveland at [mseveland@co.carver.mn.us](mailto:mseveland@co.carver.mn.us) or 952-361-1026.