

CITY OF
FOLSOM
PARKS & RECREATION

Adopt-A-Trail

Volunteer Handbook

Folsom's Trail System

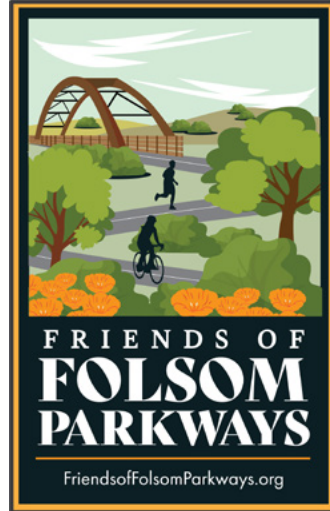
Folsom's trail system provides more than 50 miles of beautiful Class I trails for cyclists and pedestrians. Trail access points are located within many neighborhoods and near businesses and retail centers. Trails meander through Folsom's dedicated open space corridors, providing a journey through greenbelts, wooded areas with native oaks and vegetation, wildlife habitats, and along creeks and seasonal streams.

The Adopt-A-Trail Program

The Adopt-A-Trail (AAT) program was developed by the Folsom Parks & Recreation Department to provide an opportunity for community members and organizations to beautify, restore, and help maintain our trail system in Folsom. The Friends of Folsom Parkways (FoFP) nonprofit organization is the city's partner in the Adopt-A-Trail program.

AAT volunteers help keep the city's trails beautiful and well-maintained. This stewardship also helps to keep the natural habitats of our native wildlife free of debris and litter.

Adopters are required to make a one-year commitment to the program with regular trail checks and cleanup days. Some trails may require more maintenance than others. It is the responsibility of the Adopter to ensure that they continue to perform the tasks outlined in their AAT commitment.



Adopt-A-Trail Program Coordinator

The Friends of Folsom Parkways serve as the Adopt-A-Trail Program Coordinator and are the main point of contact for questions and to provide assistance with the adoption process.

Email the Friends of Folsom Parkways at AdoptATrail@FriendsOfFolsomParkways.org for more information and to participate in the Adopt-A-Trail program.

Step One: Finding Your Trail

Adoptable trail sections are approximately one mile in length and available along these trails:

- Auburn Folsom Trail
- East Natoma Trail
- Folsom Parkway Rail Trail
- Folsom Lake Crossing Trail
- Hinkle Creek Trail
- Humbug Creek Trail Corridor
- Johnny Cash Trail
- Oak Parkway Trail
- Willow Creek Trail Corridor

Find an interactive map of the adoptable trail sections on the [City of Folsom website](#).

Step Two: Adopting Your Trail

Adopter Responsibilities

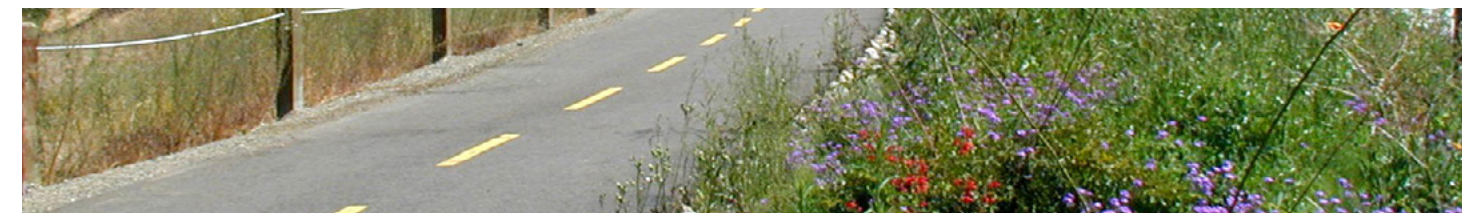
1. Read through and familiarize yourself with this AAT Handbook.
2. Submit the AAT Application.

Once your application is approved:

1. Sign and submit the AAT Adopter Program Guidelines and Volunteer Agreement.
2. Schedule and complete a walkthrough and orientation with the Parks & Recreation Department staff contact. This is required before your first volunteer cleanup day.
3. Plan your cleanup day (see Step Three).

Adopter Keys to Success

- Communicate with the Program Coordinator on a frequent basis about scheduled cleanup days, concerns, or issues with your adopted trail section.
- Visit your trail section at minimum once per month. We recommend you visit more frequently during periods of high usage and after windy and rainy weather.
- Plan your cleanup days in the morning hours to avoid long exposure to heat, especially during the summer months.
- Recruit your friends, family, and colleagues to help! Volunteers are not required to be Folsom residents.
- Maintain your trail year-round. Neglect of an adopted trail section will result in termination of the volunteer program agreement and the trail section will be assigned to the next applicant.



Step Three: Maintain Your Adopted Trail

Adopters must perform necessary trail cleanup/maintenance a minimum of one time per month depending on the needs of the trail and environmental conditions.

Planning Your AAT Cleanup Day

Cleanup days should be planned and promoted well in advance to ensure that volunteers can complete the basic maintenance tasks. Typical cleanup days are generally 3 to 4 hours depending on what tasks need to be accomplished.

Tips to Make Your Cleanup Day Successful

- Ask your volunteers to RSVP for the cleanup day via call, text, or email.
- Recruit others to join you—reach out to your network of friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc.

Getting Your Cleanup Day Started

Adopt-A-Trail cleanup days begin with a quick safety training session for Adopters and their volunteers. This training is provided by Folsom Parks & Recreation staff.

All volunteers are required to sign a Waiver and the Safety Guidelines. (Minors must have a parent/legal guardian sign on their behalf.)

Adopt-A-Trail Tools and Supplies

Adopters will receive a special AAT volunteer trail kit during their mandatory orientation session. The kit includes materials for refuse collection, safety vests, safety signs, gloves, and other appropriate supplies for volunteers to use throughout the year. Folsom Parks & Recreation staff will provide additional training, tools, and instruction for any needed special projects (graffiti removal, erosion control, etc.).

Interacting with the Public

On your cleanup days, you and your volunteers may come in contact with other community members or city employees.

- Allow pedestrians and cyclists the right-of-way. Wave and greet them in a positive way.
- If trail users express interest in becoming involved in the AAT program, have them contact the Program Coordinator at AdoptATrail@FriendsOfFolsomParkways.org.
- If you or your volunteers witness illegal dumping or other activities, notify the Parks & Recreation staff contact.

End of the Cleanup Day

Once the cleanup day is complete, Folsom Parks & Recreation staff will help your group clear the collected debris and trash. Let them know if there are remaining items that require assistance for removal. Also alert them to issues along the trail such as vandalism, breakage, trail obstructions, sign damage, erosion problems, etc. Please do not block trails, roads, or gates when vacating the trail.

Sponsorship Opportunities

There is no charge to take part in the Adopt-A-Trail program as an Adopter or cleanup day participant. However, individuals, groups, or businesses can choose to become a sponsor if they would like to help support Folsom's trail system financially.

One-year Adopt-A-Trail sponsorships are available for \$1,000 per trail section; five-year sponsorships are available for \$4,000. Sponsorships are made through the City of Folsom Parks & Recreation Department. Donated funds will be used for the continued maintenance of the section(s) selected by the sponsor and additional trail system needs.

Adopt-A-Trail Recognition

A sign will be placed at the beginning and end of each trail section with the name or business logo of the adopter or sponsor. The signs will remain in place for the duration of the adoption or sponsorship period.

