



District of Squamish Adopt a Trail Program

The purpose of the District of Squamish Adopt a Trail is to provide opportunities for partnerships with the community in keeping our extensive trail network clean and safe. The District of Squamish has a diverse trail network that has been built by volunteers and community groups. The trails range from single-track mountain biking to a leisurely stroll around Nexen beach with everything else in between. The District wants to recognize these efforts and maintain the existing network and plan for the future. The District realizes that trails represent and provide many benefits to the community. Some of these are:

Health and Well-Being

- ✓ Encourages physical fitness and healthy lifestyle
- ✓ Creates new outdoor recreation and alternative transportation opportunities
- ✓ Connects users with the natural environment and contribute to spiritual and mental well-being
- ✓ Provides a safe alternative to roadways

Social and Cultural

- ✓ Provides social venues for interaction
- ✓ Protects culturally and historically valuable areas
- ✓ Fosters community involvement by providing excellent partnership opportunities
- ✓ Provides natural learning grounds
- ✓ Improves community aesthetics

Economic

- ✓ Stimulates tourism and recreation related spending
- ✓ Reduces the costs of medical care, sick leave and absenteeism in the workplace
- ✓ Improves property values and marketability of homes
- ✓ Improves the image and attractiveness of the District as a business and residential location

Environment

- ✓ Preserves associated open spaces
- ✓ Provides an opportunity for increased understanding and appreciation of the natural resources and the protection of those natural resources
- ✓ Improves air quality by providing an alternative to motorized transportation

Volunteers will be asked to adopt a section or an entire trail to perform selected duties for a select period of time. Any business, community or service organization, youth group, school, class, family, a group of individuals or individual can volunteer for the District of Squamish Adopt a Trail Program. If you are interested fill out the Adopt a Trail Program Application online form at www.squamish.ca



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What's Involved

- ✓ Visit the trail at least once a week or as often as possible from April to October and once a month from November to March
- ✓ Designate a contact person. The contact person is responsible for submitting all required documentation (forms and Activity log) to the District and serves as the liaison between the District and the volunteers they represent
- ✓ The trail should be kept clean from litter / garbage
- ✓ Leave garbage at the nearest Parks garbage can. If nothing is available call District Trails Coordinator to arrange pick-up
- ✓ Remove any fallen branches off the trail (dispose of farther into the bush)
- ✓ **Report all Hazards** – erosion, sink holes, missing or damaged signs, dangerous / fallen trees, damage bridges and benches to the Trails Coordinator
- ✓ Report vandalism and any dumping activity
- ✓ Report any unusual or suspicious events on the trail
- ✓ Fill in the activity log after each visit. When the activity log is filled, forward to the District by dropping off at Breannan Park Recreation Center or Municipal Hall or fax, email the Trails Coordinator (tpepe@squamish.ca), or fill out your activity online by adding a comment to your trail through the Adopt a Trail interface.
- ✓ Provide proper Trail etiquette to ensure safety of all users

Length of Adoption

The adoption is a minimum of one year. Renewal after each period (if no other group is interested in the section of trail.) change trail section or terminate.

Equipment

Volunteers will be loaned equipment if needed.

Standards and Procedures

- ✓ Safety first
- ✓ Complete activity log during or after each visit
- ✓ Fill out First Aid form when injured and contact the Trails Coordinator
- ✓ Do not spend your own money anticipating reimbursement from the District without receiving written approval from the District



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Safety Standards

- ✓ Any Persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult
- ✓ Work in pairs or teams, this is safer than working alone, as it allows you to look out for each other
- ✓ Report all accidents and injuries immediately to the Trails Coordinator
- ✓ Have access to a phone. Carry a cell phone and know where you are along the trail and different access points that are available in case of emergency
- ✓ Never reach blindly to pick up an item. Use tongs or a stick to identify the item before picking it up. Volunteers should always be wearing gloves
- ✓ Motorized vehicles are not allowed on trails
- ✓ Power tools such as chain saws, are not permitted to be used by volunteers
- ✓ Trees, shrubs and all plant material should not be cut or damaged
- ✓ Stay off the trail during storms and adverse weather conditions
- ✓ For environment and safety concerns, please stay out of creeks or rivers, even to retrieve litter
- ✓ Wear gloves, safety vest, suitable footwear and appropriately dressed for the weather
- ✓ Carry adequate supply of water, especially during the summer months

Forms

The following forms must be completed to volunteer in the Adopt a Trail Program.

- ✓ Adopt a Trail Program Application Form or on line at www.squamish.ca
- ✓ Statement of Commitment
- ✓ Release and Waiver Agreement

The following form must be completed when volunteering in the Adopt a Trail Program

- ✓ Activity Log

The following form must be filled out in the event of an injury.

- ✓ First Aid Form



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Liability

All volunteers with the District of Squamish must be registered and the activity log must be up to date and accurate. The District of Squamish will carry third party liability insurance for injury and property damage to third parties arising out of the activities of this program. In addition, program volunteers will be added to the District's volunteer insurance program. Should you wish to have further information about this coverage please contact the Trails Coordinator.

Contact Information

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Trails Coordinator
District of Squamish

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