



## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN VOLUNTEERING?

- Our volunteer opportunities are designed to be fun and fulfilling.
- You will be walking almost the entire time, so you'll definitely get your steps in!
- Volunteer crew lead will be with you to guide route and answer questions.
- 2-4 hour time slots that only take a small part of your day.
- You meet at a central location (listed on schedule) and walk from there, or volunteer crew lead will provide transportation to location if necessary.
- Briefing/training will take place at the beginning of the scheduled time, so be sure to show up at least 5 minutes before.
- Signed waiver (online) must be completed prior to volunteering and will be verified upon arrival.
- Volunteering will be done with a minimum of one other person, so you won't be doing it alone!
- We may cancel due to unfavorable weather, but will notify you ahead of time.
- There is always a chance of encountering hazardous materials. These will be handled by the volunteer crew lead (or until you are properly trained).
- **We provide** the following equipment: buckets, garbage bags, sharps containers, garbage grabbers, and high visibility safety vests.
  
- **You are responsible for the following:**
  - Appropriate jacket/clothing for weather conditions
  - Work gloves (we have some extras, but may not be the right size for you)
  - Comfortable shoes for walking long distances (Peabody Creek & large scale projects **require boots** for uneven terrain, mud, standing water)
  - BYO water bottle/snacks
  
- WE OFTEN ENGAGE WITH UNSHELTERED PEOPLE SO PLEASE COME WITH A SMILE AND READY TO BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND TO THOSE THAT NEED HELP.

## LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS

(\* indicates “Family friendly” – generally a low traffic area where you are less likely to encounter hazardous materials such as needles...but certainly not a guarantee.)

**DOWNTOWN\*** – This is our longest walking route at approximately 2.5 miles covering six square blocks from First St to Railroad Ave & Lincoln St to Oak St. It will traverse both sides of street, checking gutter/curb areas, sidewalks, planters, and parking lots. There is one short dirt trail section at the beginning leaving our facility, and it can be a bit muddy at times. Be sure to wear appropriate shoes.

**WATERFRONT\*** – This route is broken up into two areas: City Pier to Valley Creek estuary park (WEST) & City Pier to the old Rainier Mill site (EAST). Double check when signing up to make sure you’re scheduled for the route you want. They are designated waterfront WEST and EAST.

**LINCOLN STREET/VETERANS BELL** – This route will check Lincoln street from First St to 8<sup>th</sup> St. It will traverse both sides of the street, checking gutter/curb areas, sidewalks, planters, and some parking lots. One main stop will be Veterans Bell park.

**PEABODY CREEK\*** – This is our most scenic route and best for wildlife viewing right in the heart of our city. It includes hopping to different sections of Peabody Creek. Start will be at the 3<sup>rd</sup> St entrance walking through the creek valley to 5<sup>th</sup> St. Next, climb out of the valley, over 5<sup>th</sup> St, and check on a small area south of 5<sup>th</sup>. One last stop, after a short car ride, will be a small section south of 8<sup>th</sup> St.

**LARGE SCALE PROJECT** – These cleanups are abandoned homeless encampments. They are not typically for the faint of heart. The terrain can be very uneven with locations difficult to get to. These cleanups are the most physically taxing and often require carrying full garbage bags and/or debris long distances. It is almost a guarantee that you will encounter mud, saturated clothing, rotting material/food, needles & other sharp objects, human waste, and a myriad of other unpleasant surprises. These cleanups are the most difficult but often the most rewarding at the end of the day!

**Please feel free to contact us prior to signing up if you have any questions, and thank you for donating your time and energy 4PA!**

**[info@4pa.org](mailto:info@4pa.org)**