

City of Rockville, Maryland

Rockville Weed Warrior Program (Pilot)

Safety Guidelines

1. The Certified Weed Warrior Leader(s) shall survey the area prior to a scheduled workday to ensure safe conditions for the group. If, at any time, the Weed Warrior Leader(s) feels that the areas have become unsafe, the Weed Warrior Leader shall contact the City of Rockville representative and he/she will work with the group to identify a safer area.
2. Workdays shall be scheduled during daylight hours and during fair weather.
3. Individuals under 18 years of age can participate in a Rockville Weed Warrior Program workday if supervised by an adult. Participants 14 and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The City of Rockville requires one adult per six youth. Volunteers under 16 may only use tools if their parent/guardian is present and at the parent/guardian's discretion.
4. Each volunteer participating in the Rockville Weed Warrior Program, including all participants working under the auspices of the Certified Weed Warrior Leader(s), must sign the "Informed Consent; Liability and Hold Harmless; Publicity Permission" form.
5. Participants shall wear gloves or some form of hand protection. Certified Weed Warrior Leader(s) will be provided an initial supply of high visibility safety vests, safety cones, signs and some tools by the City of Rockville. Additional supplies may be requested and provided at the discretion of the City of Rockville, if funds are available.
6. Participants will stockpile invasive plant matter collected in a centralized location designated by the City of Rockville for subsequent removal by the City. Or, if instructed to, dispose of material in a pre-arranged manner. Orange bags will be provided for disposal of NNI materials that may scatter seeds.
7. Participants shall not trespass on private property.
8. Always work in groups of two or more.
9. Participants shall avoid working on steep slopes or in confined stream stretches with limited ingress/egress.
10. Participants are encouraged to take breaks, drink fluids and avoid overexertion. Participants shall not drink water from any stream.
11. Do **not** pick up materials that appear hazardous or unsafe. Contact the City of Rockville at 240-314-8565 to report such materials.
12. Any encounters with people, animals, or materials of a suspicious manner should be reported to the Police at the non-emergency number: 240-314-8900. All emergencies shall be reported to 911.