



Fountain Creek Watershed District Presents:
CREW LEADER TRAINING

An Overview of Tasks, Tips, and Safety



- 2014 = The inaugural Creek Week! Organized by the District's Citizen Advisory Group (CAG)...Happy 12th Anniversary Creek Week!

Welcome!

Thank you for
choosing to lead a
crew this year.



Fountain Creek Watershed District Staff

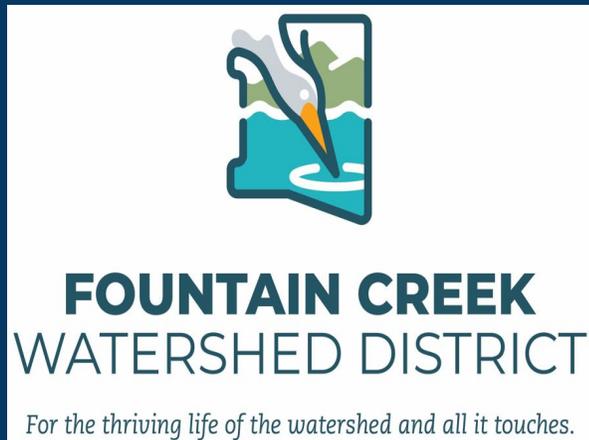


➤ Alli Schuch - Executive Director



- Mary Wilson - Watershed Outreach Coordinator
- Jordan Witteveen - Administrative Assistant
- Lucy Rogers - Assistant Watershed Outreach Coordinator
- Steve Rodriguez - Operations Manager
- Susan Finzel - Pueblo Outreach Coordinator
- Meghan Wilbar - Assistant to the Pueblo Outreach Coordinator

In 2024, we celebrated our
11th Anniversary!



Creek Week Impacts



FACTS & STATS

11 Years

23,249
Volunteers

864
Groups

171.5
Tons



Thank you!

2025

CREEK WEEK SPONSORS

CREEK CHAMPIONS

\$5,000+

WETLAND WARRIORS

\$2,500 - \$4,999



FOUNTAIN CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

STREAMSIDE SUPPORTERS

\$1,000 - \$2,499

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS



Pikes Peak Heritage Series
A Program of El Pomar Foundation



Little Caesars





1. Before your cleanup:

Crew Leader Resources

Youth/waivers

Optional add-ons

How to be a super star

2. During your cleanup:

General Safety

Water, sharps, tires, cigarettes

Trash plan

3. After your cleanup:

Survey

Call for photos





1. BEFORE YOUR CLEANUP





Crew Leader Resources

Please read ahead of time

[2025 Cleanup Checklist](#)

[2025 Safety Guidelines](#)

[2025 Group Risk and Release Form](#)
(only to be used day-of)

CREW LEADER TRAINING VIDEO



<https://www.fountain-crk.org/crew-leader-instructions>

YOUTH (5-17 yrs)



- Youth volunteers need to have a parent/guardian signature.
- Ratio is 1 guardian per every 4 youth.
- Walk-up's: youth must have parent sign waiver. Take a picture and email us the completed group waiver (given at materials pick up or available on our website).



Tips for Delegating

- More hands make light work!
- Assign an Asst. Crew Leader
- Young people aged 5-17 years must have a parent or chaperone (21+ years) with them at the event.
- Share the name and phone # of the Leader and Asst. Leader(s) with all crew members.
- Send out workday location and time 'reminder' 24 hrs. in advance.



Search for the “Fountain Creek Watershed Biodiversity Survey”



Optional Resources

Clean Swell

- Ocean Conservancy’s ocean trash data collection app. Trash data you collect will be added to worldwide data to help guide solution’s of ocean trash problem.

iNaturalist

- Citizens collect data to document the flora and fauna in the Fountain Creek Watershed. Collected data will be important for future research, projects, and SoCo fauna/flora knowledge

GOCOS

- Use this app to report code enforcement violations including garbage, trash, and pet waste. Find dumpsters and fill potholes. 24/7!



GOCOS: A Guide



Website:

<https://coloradosprings.gov/gocos>

➤ App:

1. Make a profile or use Google to login
2. "Start a Request"
3. "Other Requests"
4. "Creek Week Trash Collection"

1. Scroll down to orange topic options
2. "Other Requests"
3. "Creek Week Trash Collection"
4. OR
5. Find long search bar
6. Type in "trash"
7. Click on "Creek Week Trash Collection"



How to be a Super Star Crew Leader

- Scope out your site before you go
- Hydration
- Snacks
- Photos
- Prizes
- Livestream parts of your cleanup on Facebook/Instagram!
#CreekWeek
#FountainCreekWatershedDistrict
- Theming/costumes
- Have a post-clean up crew party!



2. DURING YOUR CLEANUP





**Your kit will include some staple cleanup supplies, but if people have their own, they may want to bring them. This helps us keep Creek Week sustainable into the future.

Notes on Safety

- Always Work in Pairs
- Wear Bright Colors or Safety Vest
- Prepare for the elements
- Use Gloves
- Ask crew members to bring additional gloves, trash grabbers, and buckets with handles if they have them at home.
- A wagon is helpful for hauling supplies



Safety Cont'd



Water

- Use your best judgement
- Utilize the GoCOS! app
- Take a photo
- Report location to organizer leaders
- When in doubt, leave it alone and move your crew members away
- Stay clear of swift water
- Utilize your tools and grabbers
- Do not wade in cloudy water
- Work with a partner



Sharps Disposal



- Please do not use hands
- If skin contact is made with a needle, immediately sanitize the area and seek medical attention
- Report the location/incident to organizers

Fire Station #1 - 29 S. Weber St

Fire Station #2 – 314 E. San Miguel St

Fire Station #3 – 922 W. Colorado Ave

Fire Station #4 – 2280 Southgate Rd

Fire Station #5 – 2830 W. Colorado Ave



Tire Safety

- Tires filled with water are heavy. Carefully drain before picking up and hauling.
- Work with a partner and stack for loading later.
- Tires are good hiding places for Rodents, Spiders, and Snakes
- ALWAYS kick a tire before grabbing it!





Cigarette Waste

- #1 littered item in the U.S.
- Includes: extinguished cigarettes, filters, rolling paper, inner foil, and outer plastic packaging (not cartons).
- Use a smaller bag or plastic container
- Use Terracycle to send in cig. waste. Visit: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/cigarette-waste-recycling> for more info.
- This is an “extra credit” option for those who choose to do so. Crew Leaders are responsible for mailing them in afterward.



Trash Plan

- Whenever possible, use a public dumpster (such as at a park).
- Please DO NOT pile bags and trash. Arrange them so they are easy to pick up.
- You can also ask your post-cleanup celebration site if you can use their dumpster.
- In Colorado Springs, you can use the GoCOS! App or website.
CHECK YOUR AREA AHEAD OF TIME!
- Tie full bags and place at the edges of trails, paths, or roadways – to be easily seen!
- Keep track of: bags filled, strangest/most common littered item



3. AFTER YOUR CLEANUP





What We Need From You

1. Fill out the post-cleanup survey! Check your email for this.
2. Take Photos and Email them to CreekWeekSoCo@gmail.com
3. Keep your supplies! Use them for future events (thanks to our generous sponsors).



2025 Creek Week Feedback Surveys





Contact us!

- Website: www.fountain-crk.org
- Email: creekweeksoco@gmail.com
- Phone: (719) 426-7536



THANK YOU!

