



Keep Saskatoon Shining! April 21, 2021

Give back to the community while enjoying the beautiful Spring weather!

2021 marks the 40th year that Meewasin hosts the community Clean Up Campaign, which enables organizations, groups, and individuals to steward and clean the natural spaces in the Saskatoon area.

This year, Meewasin has extended the options for groups to make participating as accessible as possible. All participants receive Pizza Hut coupons! Below are different options below and participate in the capacity that you feel comfortable with.

Register and Organize Your Own Clean Up (Pick dates from April 22 to June 14, 2021)

Meewasin needs your help to keep beloved community spaces clean and enjoyable for all! Our goal is to ensure healthy and vibrant natural spaces that support the well-being of our community. The parks and natural areas in the Meewasin Valley and area have been enjoyed over 1.87 times by visitors in a single year - *and as the snow melts, it shows!* Registrants receive materials and resources to safely pick up and dispose of litter collected from Earth Day, April 22, to June 14, 2021. [Register here](#)

Join the Meewasin Team on Earth Day (April 22, 2021)

Meewasin staff will be meeting at 2:30PM CST in Friendship Park to launch Clean Up on Earth Day, April 22 by doing a clean up of the area near our office downtown. Participants can pick up materials such as gloves, garbage bags, and a limited amount of grabbers to help our stewardship efforts! All participants are asked to wear a mask and practice proper physical distancing guidelines.

Clean at Beaver Creek Conservation Area (April 15 until the snow falls)

No registration necessary - Supplies are available at the entrance of Beaver Creek Conservation Area to enable visitors to pick garbage as they explore the natural conservation area! This not

only helps keep litter out of the river, but also helps keep wildlife habitat healthy. Talk to the interpreters to get the materials you need!

Adopt an Area (April 22 until the snow falls)

Our NEW 'Adopt-an-Area' program extends your sustainability efforts from a single clean up, to commitment to steward an area that is special to you on an ongoing basis. This includes litter clean up, notification of safety concerns, hazards or wildlife issues, etc. Please check off this option on the registration form if interested in learning more.

With guidelines in place, Meewasin prioritizes safety while ensuring a clean environment for the wellbeing of the community and wildlife that call Saskatoon and area home. Meewasin's CEO, Andrea Lafond, speaks about the campaign, "The Clean Up Campaign shows the community that stewardship is a significant part of taking care of our Earth. To ensure the protection of our amazing volunteers, safety precautions and guidelines are set out. We hope volunteers take this opportunity to bond with members of their households while taking ownership of the green spaces that provide us with so much enjoyment. We want to ensure our community continues to follow all COVID-19 protocols for everyone's health and safety"

SK Eco Solutions Partnership – Bottles to 3D Printing Filament

Another neat addition to the Clean Up Campaign this year is a partnership with SK Eco Solutions – a new non-profit organization founded by two grade 11 students from Bishop James Mahoney High School, which turns plastic bottles into 3D printing filament. Together, they have raised well over \$1,000 to purchase a new machine, which turns the single-use, PET plastic bottles into 3D printing filament, and they plan on donating it to schools and other non-profit organizations.

We are partnering with the students to enable a greater collection of bottles from larger group clean ups, as well as get the students and their school involved in their own clean up. We are including information about their initiative in our volunteer information package, so that people can consciously keep the bottles to be picked up by the students, or alternatively groups can drop them off at Meewasin's main office. You can find more information about their initiative on [their website](#).

If you enjoy spending time in the natural areas that the Meewasin Valley has to offer, please consider registering for the campaign to give back to the spaces that provide a peaceful getaway in nature. [Click here to register](#). Are you interested in being a sponsor for the initiative? Please reach out to figure out the best involvement for you or your organization!

Thank you to our sponsors of the event, Loraas Disposal, the City of Saskatoon, The Great Trail (TCT), Downtown Saskatoon, Clean Canada Together (Glad), Tim Hortons, and Pizza Hut.

For more information, contact Meewasin at 306-665-6887 or meewasin@meewasin.com

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About Meewasin Valley Authority

The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation by:

- *Providing leadership in the management of its resources;*
- *Promoting understanding, conservation and beneficial use of the Valley; and*
- *Undertaking programs and projects in river valley development and conservation,*

for the benefit of present and future generations.

There are 67 square kilometers of land and over 90km of established trail, which has seen up to 1.87 million trail visits per year, in the Meewasin Valley. The area also features sites that help people to connect to nature through experiences such as Beaver Creek Conservation Area, the Northeast Swale, Saskatoon Natural Grasslands, the River Landing Spray Area, and the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza. Meewasin is a non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers for sustainability. To get involved or learn more visit www.meewasin.com