

## ATTACHMENT 4.1-C: TRASH AND VANDALISM

From: [http://www.phillywatersheds.org/watershed\\_issues/trash\\_and\\_vandalism](http://www.phillywatersheds.org/watershed_issues/trash_and_vandalism)

# Trash

The buildup of trash is a major challenge in urban areas like Philadelphia. Deliberate acts of littering and illegal dumping negatively impact our neighborhoods and waterways alike. While it may not look like much, the plastic bags and bottles we use every day can clog sewer inlets, preventing proper drainage. Additionally, trash and litter captured by the sewer system can pollute our watersheds if discharged during a combined sewer overflow.



# Vandalism

Vandalism, similar to littering, is an outward act of disrespect towards our communities and the surrounding environment. Defacing private and public property is a misguided attempt to compromise the natural integrity of what should be preserved for all citizens and wildlife to enjoy.

## What We're Doing to Address These Issues

The **Waterways Restoration Team (WRT)** is a multi-crew unit dedicated to performing stream cleanup work throughout the city including large trash and debris removal, and the restoration of eroded streambanks and streambeds. The WRT serves the 100 miles of stream systems that define our City's neighborhoods. The Waterways Restoration Team works in partnership with the Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, local Friends of the Park groups as well as our watershed partnerships to maximize resources and build positive relationships with our communities.

Started in 2006, the Philadelphia Water Department's (PWD) **Floatables Skimming Program** uses specially designed boats to collect and remove litter and debris from the waterways of the Delaware & Schuylkill Rivers. PWD currently operates two of these ships, the R.E. Roy and a smaller pontoon boat.