

Adopt a Shoreline

Volunteer Field Guide

Your Mission

Thank you for helping protect Lagoon Pond. As an Adopt a Shoreline volunteer, you are our eyes and ears on the shoreline. Regular visits help identify problems early and keep our pond healthy.

1. Keep Your Shoreline Clean

- Pick up litter and marine debris.
- Recycle when possible.
- Remove fishing line, rope, hooks, and plastics that may harm wildlife.

2. Report Anything Unusual

- Algal blooms or thick mats of algae.
- Water that suddenly changes color or becomes cloudy.
- Strong or unusual odors.
- Dead fish or distressed wildlife.
- Oil sheen, sewage, or other pollution.
- Storm damage or significant erosion.
- Illegal dumping.
- Anything that simply doesn't look right.

3. Watch for Invasive Codium

- Look for dark green, spongy, finger-like branching algae attached to rocks, shells, docks, or other hard surfaces.
- Remove small patches if possible, being careful to remove all marine life, including shellfish.
- Place removed Codium well above the high tide line or dispose of it in the trash. Some spray it with water and use it for compost. Others eat pieces that are fresh and healthy looking!
- Report large patches before attempting removal.

4. Report What You Find

- Location
- Date
- Description
- Photos whenever possible
- Email: info@lagoonpondassoc.org

Photo Identification Guide

PHOTO 1 – Codium (Dead Man's Fingers)



Invasive species. Thick, dark green, spongy branches that repeatedly fork.

PHOTO 2 – Healthy Eelgrass



Beneficial underwater grass. Do not remove. But report to us! We'd love to know.

PHOTO 3 – Common Green Algae



Common algae that is often confused with Codium.

PHOTO 4 – Harmful Algal Bloom/Cyanobacteria



Report immediately if observed.

PHOTO 5 – Marine Debris



Examples of litter to remove.

PHOTO 6 – Fish Kill / Wildlife Concern



Report immediately with photos and location.

When in Doubt...

Take a picture and send it to the Lagoon Pond Association. We'd rather receive one extra report than miss something important.