



Kids PlayCleanGo in Big Sky!

The upper Gallatin watershed encompasses some of the most ecologically and economically important resources in the state, which provide vital habitat and water for fish, plants, wildlife, and the people who live and recreate in the area.

Trail users of all kinds are a main source and vehicle for invasive species weed spread throughout the Big Sky area. When youth are educated about “clean recreational habits”, they can use public trails and lands in a way that preserves it. With the help of local foundations, the Alliance was able to introduce Big Sky youth to these principals in an engaging and fun way in the fall of 2018. But that’s just the beginning!

How it All Started - Canyon & Trailhead Signs

PlayCleanGo is a national campaign working to educate recreationists all kinds about the ways invasive species spread. The goal of PlayCleanGo is to encourage outdoor recreation while protecting valuable natural resources. The objective is to slow or stop the spread of terrestrial invasive species (those that occur on land) through changes in public behavior. The campaign is designed to foster active participation in actions designed to interrupt recreational pathways of spread for invasive species.

In 2017, the Alliance began our PlayCleanGo campaign with signs installed in the Gallatin Canyon and signs installed at local trailheads.

With an average daily traffic count of 7,789 vehicles in the Gallatin Canyon, (Montana Department of Transportation) that translates to 2.8 million views of the canyon signs.



In partnership with Big Sky Community Organization, PlayCleanGo signs were installed at Hummocks/Uplands, Black Diamond, Little Willow Way, and South Fork Loop trails.

120,000 Estimated annual views of trailhead signs

Signs at Ouzel Falls and Beehive Basin will be installed spring 2019.

PlayCleanGo in Big Sky! Kits for Kids

PlayCleanGo in Big Sky promotes “clean recreational habits” among the youth of Big Sky to help protect natural resources.

The kit includes:

- Custom designed “PlayCleanGo in Big Sky” t-shirts
- Play Clean Go Informational Card
- PlayCleanGo tote bag
- Noxious Weed Identification Booklet
- GrowWild Montana Sticker
- Clean Drain Dry Sticker
- Clean Drain Dry AIS Informational Card
- Terrestrial and Aquatic Stickers Pack (8)
- KeepItWild Wildlife Stickers (2)
- Why Care About Weeds Booklet
- Mussels in Montana Coloring Book from MT FWP
- Clean Drain Dry from MT FWP



Magnifying the impact

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY. aims to educate residents and visitors of the Upper Gallatin Watershed about aquatic invasive species, including pathogens, and how they are easily spread from one water body to another.

Since 2016, GISA and GRTF have leveraged state resources to maximize local impact and ensure that efforts are not duplicated. In 2017, the effort began with designing and branding campaign materials unique to the area: newspaper advertisement, AIS instruction card and a sticker. Those materials were used in 2018 as well.

The kits include another important national campaign, Clean Drain Dry, which focused on aquatic invasive species. In 2017, the Alliance and the Task Force joined forces to launch a comprehensive AIS education and outreach campaign in Big Sky. Both organizations are local 501c3 not-for-profits working in the Upper Gallatin Watershed. The project sought to address and mitigate the spread of AIS through human activity in the Upper Gallatin Watershed with an educational campaign focused on “CleanDrainDry” principles.

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY. Instruction Card

Aquatic Invaders Threaten River Health

Aquatic Invasive Species



Pathogens



Yellowstone National Park ranks invasive species as the second biggest threat to the ecosystem after climate change.

Prevention is key. Clean. Drain. Dry. Every time.



CLEAN. Remove mud, water, and vegetation from your gear and clean with water and a stiff brush. There is no need for chemicals.
DRAIN. Drain any water from your equipment (including boot buckles at your access point) use a sponge for items that can't be drained.
DRY. Dry your equipment thoroughly. The longer you keep your waders and other equipment outside and in the hot sun between trips, the better.

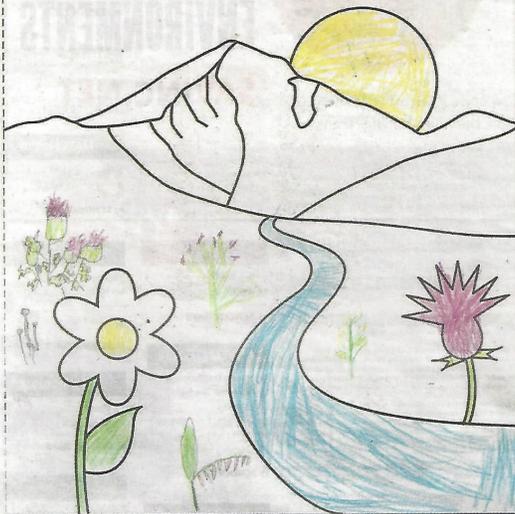
The health of the Gallatin depends on you.



30 September 14 - 27, 2018

FUN

KIDS CORNER



Wyatt
What noxious weed did you identify and draw?

houndstongue cheatgrass HOARY ALYSSUM
TOAD FLAX CANADA THISTLE

7-year-old Wyatt Cohen knows his invasive plants

Wyatt Cohen lives on a ranch where combatting invasive plants is an everyday battle. Wyatt identified and drew pictures of houndstongue, cheatgrass, hoary alyssum, toadflax and Canada thistle in this EBS coloring contest.



Thank you to our partners in educating Big Sky youth and helping us to PlayCleanGo!

- Big Sky Resort Area District
- Spanish Peaks Community Foundation
- Moonlight Community Foundation
- Yellowstone Club Community Foundation

