

The Small Stream Litter Collector, aka Litter Gitter, is a floating litter trap tethered by floating booms that is placed across small streams for the purpose of collecting floating litter conveyed by stormwater or natural water flow. The Litter Gitter, patent pending, is built and deployed to intercept floating litter closer to potential litter sources; road crossings, stormwater discharges, etc.; instead of degrading greenways and blueways with some potential downstream collection, at best. The devices are installed tactically where they can be most effective.

In the fall of 2016, a community based cleanup of the Maple Street Tributary of Three Mile Creek in Mobile, Alabama was performed. The Maple Street Tributary is approximately 450 yards in length and was one of the most litter impacted streams in Mobile, Alabama. Over 200 bags of litter were removed during the initial cleanup and covered 200 yards, while a subsequent cleanup in early spring of 2017 yielded over 100 bags of trash and cleaned the remaining 250 yards. Most of the litter resulted from urban stormwater runoff coming directly from two 36 inch stormwater pipes under Maple Street that empty directly into the Maple Street Tributary. While the litter removal efforts were exemplary, participants realized that most of the litter would return with subsequent rain events.

Based on these concerns, the owner/founder of Osprey Initiative, LLC (Osprey) presented the Litter Gitter concept to the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) leadership. The concept was met with enthusiasm and upon approval by the City of Mobile, Alabama, a prototype device was installed. Results have been impressive. Over 200 lbs. of litter have been collected in front of the device with a 94% rate of effectiveness and almost 40% of collected material being recycled. Most importantly, the Maple Street Tributary has remained relatively clean with very little floating litter making it past the Litter Gitter.

Osprey is prepared to assess specific site conditions and design for each specific location (Phase I), and build, install and maintain (Phase II) a total of 6 Litter Gitters for a period of one year in Mobile and Baldwin County, Alabama at a cost of \$5000/device for a total of \$30,000. MBNEP will coordinate site approval. Phase I is expected to take 90 days and Phase II will take the remainder of the project year. Results will be documented by Osprey personnel and presented to MBNEP on a monthly basis.