Your Neighborhood Cleanup



Get your family outside and clean up your neighborhood!



This year, celebrate <u>National Public Lands Day</u> safely by getting outside and clean up your neighborhood (clean up team should be limited to your household/ your family only).

During your Neighborhood cleanup, you and your family/household can volunteer your time to help improve your neighborhood by collecting trash and litter from neighborhood streets and gutters near your home. Trash can be found in our yards and on our neighborhood streets. Just a few hours of work can help improve the look and feel of your neighborhood and benefit the local environment. Neighborhood cleanups also provide a great opportunity for your family to get active outside.

Protecting the local environment

During the COVID-19 pandemic, people are turning to the outdoors more than ever for exercise and rejuvenation. With increased use comes more trash, including gloves and disposable masks. Many of the <u>COVID-19 recovery projects</u> supported through NEEF's <u>Restoration</u> <u>& Resilience Fund</u> cite increased litter in parks and other green spaces as a major impact of the pandemic.

According to the <u>Environmental</u> <u>Protection Agency</u> (EPA), neighborhood trash is more than just a mess. Trash and other debris impacts the land and local wildlife in several ways.



<u>Learn more</u> about how trash impacts communities and wildlife.



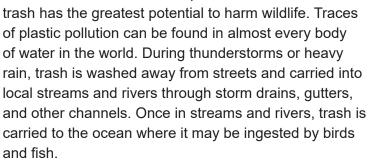
Trash can contaminate water and soil

As trash starts to break down, it can leech chemicals and microparticles into the water and

soil. These chemicals can be very dangerous. For example, cigarette butts contain chemicals such as arsenic and formaldehyde. These poisons can make their way into the soil and freshwater sources, impacting both humans and animals.

Trash and litter can harm local wildlife

Over one million animals are harmed each year after ingesting or becoming tangled in improperly discarded trash. Of all trash, plastic



Tips for you and your family on trash collection in your neighborhood

Grab a trash bag, gloves, and your walking shoes and spend some time picking up trash and litter in your community on September 25.

Follow these tips and recommendations from <u>Litter Be Gone</u> for a safe community cleanup.

- Follow local social distancing guidelines.
- Wear good walking shoes and dress for the weather.
- Don't forget to wear sunscreen.
- Wear bright-colored clothing or a safety vest to be visible by traffic.
- Make sure to face oncoming traffic when on the street and look up often to monitor approaching vehicles.

Designate someone in your family/household to be a spotter.

- Supervise children at all times and keep young children at a safe distance from the street.
- Do not overfill trash bags. Bags can break and injuries from jagged or broken items may occur.
- Monitor the weather and seek shelter from approaching storms.

Sources

Information for this activity was sourced from the following resources:

Community Tool Box

Keep America Beautiful

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Litter Be Gone



DO NOT pick up the following items!

If you find these items, call your local 311 to report their location so they can be handled appropriately.

- Sharp objects, including needles and syringes
- Hazardous waste
- Abandoned barrels
- Chemical containers
- Unidentifiable containers
- Bulging or dented containers
- Containers leaking unknown substances
- Propane cylinders
- Gas cans, oil, or
- antifreeze containers
- Paint cans
- Pesticide or herbicide containers
- Automotive batteries
- Weapons
- Narcotics
- Dead animals

Toyota 2050 Challenges

In October 2015, Toyota announced the <u>Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050</u>. Since then Toyota's has been striving to reduce the environmental burden attributed to automobiles to as close to zero as possible, while developing measures to contribute positively to the earth and its societies with the aim of achieving a sustainable society. This activity directly aligns with two of Toyota's 2050 Challenges:

Challenge 5 Establishing a Recycling-based Society and Systems

Due to global population increase along with the pressure for economic growth and convenient lifestyles, the pace of resource consumption is accelerating. If large-scale exploitation continues as it is, natural resources will be depleted, and if waste increases due to mass consumption, appropriate disposal will be unable to keep pace, resulting in risks of environmental pollution.

Challenge 6 Establishing a Future Society in Harmony with Nature

It is critical for humans to conserve forests and other natural environments in all regions for coexistence in harmony with nature. However, deforestation is progressing across the world, resulting in the fragmentation of diverse living creature habitats, as well as the continuing loss of biodiversity. This entails a number of issues including the loss of biological resources that are essential for society, causing natural



disasters, and spurring global warming, and we believe that it poses a risk to the potential for the sustainability of the entire society.

National Environmental



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