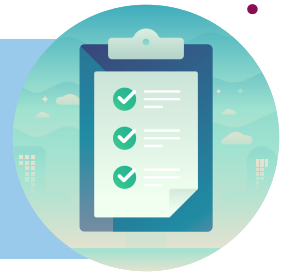


CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

Organize Your Own Community Cleanup

Plan It Out

- Get a group of friends together who want to join you! Pick a date and time when you're all free for the cleanup.
- Pick the right location. Talk to your school principal or area parks and recreation department for recommendations.
- Figure out what to do with the trash and recycling: Ask if your local trash company will pick up the bags or donate a dumpster, or you can ask an adult with a big car to pick them up.
- Find a list of materials that can be recycled in your community and know what can NOT be thrown away. Find out where to bring hazardous trash like paint or batteries.

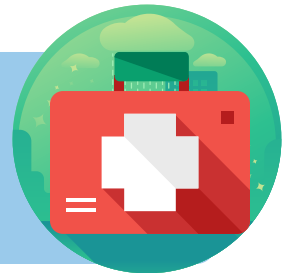


Spread The Word

- Let the community know the time and the place to meet, and how long you intend to stay. Tell your school, community center, place of worship, sports teams, etc.
- Create a sign-up sheet-how many people want to come? Get phone numbers from anyone who wants to join in case plans change.
- Make a rain plan. If it rains, have a backup time in mind and contact people the night before to let them know if the event is still on.

Gather Materials

- Grab what you need to make your cleanup a success.
- Use different color trash bags, one color for trash and another for recycling.
- Have sturdy gloves and a bucket for sharp items.
- Bring drinking water and a first aid kit.
- Everyone should bring bug spray and sunscreen and a refillable bottle for water.
- Ask everyone to wear a hat, long pants and close-toed shoes to stay safe.

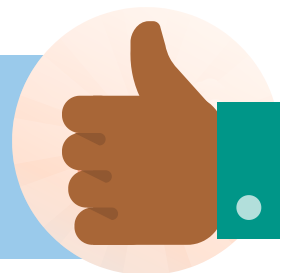


Inform The Team

- Where is the first aid kit? Are there any areas at the site to avoid?
- Pick a buddy! Work with them throughout the cleanup and don't lose sight of them!
- Make a list of items that you should NOT touch (like medical waste, animals) and items that an adult should pick up (anything heavy or large).
- Is everyone dressed appropriately-gloves, close-toed shoes, long pants, and sunscreen?
- What color bag is for trash vs recycling?

Make It Happen

- Drink lots of water and take breaks when necessary!
- Have someone take a photo of the site before and after the cleaning.
- Post your pictures on social media to amplifying your impact.
- Interview some participants to get their opinions on why a cleanup is so important.
- Use a citizen science app to track the trash you collect and record what you are finding.



Follow Up

- Estimate how much trash you collected at the end of the day-10 bags? 30 bags?
- Let the person in charge of the area know how it went. Write a thank you note to any organizations that helped-trash companies, businesses that donated supplies, etc. Include the before and after photos!
- Write up a short summary on the project, share it on social media, and send it to your local newspaper-you could get some publicity!
- Celebrate! You've done a great thing!