



BEACH CLEAN GUIDE



Planning Your Clean-up and Litter Survey

There are just a few steps involved in organizing a clean-up and survey.

Before the Day

1. Find a beach or park and check online to see if there are already clean-ups organized there.
2. If you're heading to a beach, be sure to check the tide times – best to plan an event for about four hours after high tide, and not on an incoming tide. Use the tides to pick a date and time for your event. Tides for Fishing is a good website for this or ask the local authority for specifics.
3. Contact the beach or landowner (often the local council or if not they can usually help) to get permission to hold your beach clean and survey on their land.
4. While you're on the phone, find out who's responsible for collecting rubbish from the beach and talk to them about where to leave all the extra rubbish you'll have collected. You can also ask if they have any equipment you can borrow.

5. Do a risk assessment for your beach. The MCS website has lots of tips on how to do this and you could ask the local authority or beach owner if there is anything in particular to watch out for. Visit the beach again shortly before the event to make sure it's all up to date.
6. Now you can get advertising! Print off posters. You can even do press releases and send them to local newspapers (turn to page 184 for advice on writing a press release). Resources to help you can be found on the MCS website.
7. Think about a sign-up page, either a Google form or in the UK you can use the Beachwatch website. It's a good idea to email sign-ups about a week in advance and remind people what to bring (suitable clothing and shoes, water, food, sun cream, thick/gardening gloves) and where to meet you.

You're ready for the big day!

On the Day

So you've followed all the steps and you're ready for your clean-up and litter survey, but what to do and bring on the day? Don't worry, this checklist will have you covered.

