



Cleanup safety guidelines

Cleanup work should be carried out as safely as possible. Being aware of various safety points not only reduces the risk of accidents or illness but also enables groups to work more effectively – increasing everybody’s enjoyment and satisfaction.

GENERAL SAFETY

- Think “safety first” in how you improve the site, how you work, and how you safeguard yourself and others.
- If it is not safe, do not do it. If you are not sure, do not do it.
- Work in pairs or groups with a partner not only for safety but also for assistance. If you see anyone in difficulty, act responsibly and inform others immediately.
- There should be at least one responsible person or supervisor for each group, who:
 - Knows cleanup area exact location and specific characters (i.e. coastal area, traffic, altitude/elevation/depth, bodies of water ect.).
 - Provide safety instructions about the location and work.
 - Keep contact with your country team leader(s).
 - Has all important contacts with him/her (emergency, proper authorities).
 - Knows how many members you have in your group.
 - Knows what to do if something unexpected happens and can give first aid.
- Parents are responsible for their children.
- However, please keep in mind that all participants take part of their own free will and whilst the clean up supervisors will provide guidance to facilitate a safe, successful and happy event, they nor xxx organization can be responsible for any unexpected situations.

PPE – personal protective equipment

- Wear appropriate clothing (appropriate shoes) and be ready for a sudden change in the weather.
- Drink water regularly, wear a hat and sunglasses, apply sunscreen and rest if you are tired. Pay attention to your body’s needs!
- Always wear gloves when collecting trash.
- Take a complete first aid kit and know how to use it.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Be careful when moving around or lifting weights.
- Protect your back by bending at the knees.

- Ensure others are always at a safe distance while you are working.
- Don't throw bags since you could hurt your arm, someone else, a plant or animal, or tear to break open immediately or later when being picked up.
- Don't touch or pick up any explosive materials or dangerous chemicals. Flag its location and report it to the supervisor or responsible person. Collect separately debris which could potentially be hazardous (i.e. medical waste, oil, tar balls, oiled materials, etc.).
- Don't enter private land, hazard area or unstable ground. Where signs or common sense indicate such an area, use caution and stay away.
- The daily safety rules are valid all time (i.e. road safety, follow water safety, etc.).

SAFETY IN ENVIRONMENT

- Don't harm the environment during cleanup.
- Leave natural items, plants and animals alone.
- Respect the environment around you. Do not move, pick up, or trample on grass, dead leaves, sticks, branches, or seaweed. Be careful around sand dunes (sand hills), farmland, soil, etc. as these areas harness a great biodiversity. Do not step in rock pools, anthills, or other areas which are known habitat for a species.
- Seaweed, dead or live animals and birds can be left where they are found.
- If an animal has made a home out of waste materials, leave it in place. A dirty home is better than no home!

IF SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS

- Stop your clean-up work.
- Stay calm and ensure your own safety
- Call emergency or/and police.
- Help the others and give first aid if necessary.
- Call *World Cleanup Day call center* for advice and report what happened (what, where, with whom, why).