



Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

RIVER CLEAN UP GUIDE

Whether a small group or large, along the riverbank or along a road, any clean up will keep our river clean. Litter and garbage tend to migrate towards rivers through storm drains and by wind. So jump right in and follow this simple guide to organize your **RIVER CLEAN UP!**

❶ IDENTIFY YOUR SITE

- Walk your neighborhood, stream corridor or river bank to determine the needs
- Talk to your Department of Public Works or Parks & Recreation Department; arrange for them to pick up all your bagged trash and waste after your clean-up, too! Think about what you can recycle.
- Consider the Safety & Comfort of your Volunteers:
 - Space to safely park off the road
 - Restrooms
 - Places to rest, picnic tables, benches

❷ PICK A DATE AND TIME

- Choose a date that's best for your clean up site and volunteers—consider that spring and fall are best for cool weather and moving through trees and bushes when leaves aren't out.
- Consider setting a rain date
- Two hours is plenty of time to work—set realistic timeframes and expectations

❸ VOLUNTEERS

- Is your clean up just for members of your organization? If not, you might want to announce your clean up in the local paper—be sure to include who's sponsoring it, where it will be, when and a contact number.
- If the project is appropriate for children, be sure a parent stays with their child.
- Be sure your volunteers are prepared—dressed for the weather and wearing long pants and sleeves, work or hiking boots, sun screen, bug spray and a hat.

❹ HAVE FUN!

- Keep your project simple and happy! Encourage everyone and take lots of pictures to send to the local paper.
- Provide work gloves, heavy-duty garbage bags, tick and bug spray, sun screen, snacks and lots of water. Have a first aid kit on hand and your cell phone!
- Notify your local Police Department. Let them know what you're doing, when and where.
- If you're working along a road, place traffic cones and provide fluorescent vests.
- Even a small group of 3-4 people can have a successful clean up; every little bit helps to keep our water resources clean.
- THANK EVERYONE AND SEND THANK NOTES TO EVERYONE WHO ASSISTED YOU.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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