



Calling all waste warriors!

Are you ready to join Team Clean?

#CleanUpUK

Hey, we're CleanupUK!

We've been helping communities since 2007 to get together and clean up. Litter picking is a great way to keep your neighbourhood clean, safe and better connected – which is why we love it.

We help people come together to start their own cleanup groups and help organisations set up Community Cleanup Hubs, where local people can borrow litter picking equipment easily and get help to form their own cleanup groups.



Let's get litter picking!

Organising a litter pick is as easy as **one, two, three**. If you're a litter picking hub or group, we'll help you get your first litter pick up and running.

-  **Step 1: Planning**
-  **Step 2: Promoting**
-  **Step 3: Litter picking**



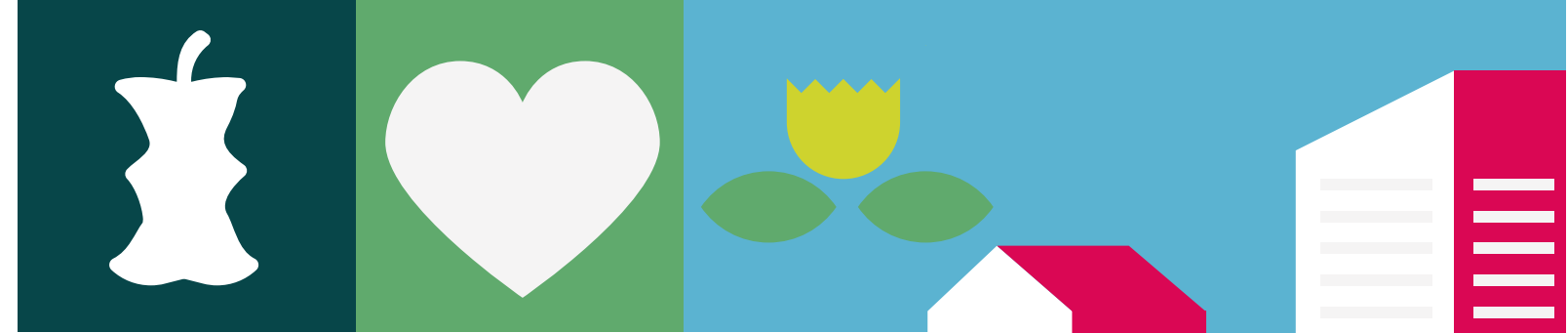
Step 1: Planning

When to plan your pick

– most cleanups are 1-2 hours.

It's a good idea not to make them too long and hold them as regularly as possible. You can pick up a huge amount of litter in a short period of time, so don't feel like you need to be out for hours. We find that weekends attract more support, particularly from families, but long summer evenings might also work.

**CAN WE
PICK IT?
YES 
WE CAN**



Why litter pick?

– litter picking is great for local communities and the environment, but it's also a fantastic way to meet people.

The social side of litter picking is equally important, and a lot of people end their sessions with a social get-together (tea and cake are always appreciated!).

Sometimes local supermarkets are also happy to support community cleanups by providing refreshments – it is always worth asking! Post-cleanup socials are a great way to discuss how the cleanup went, and more importantly, to make friends.

**LOVE YOUR
LOCAL
AREA**

Step 2: Promoting

Who to invite

– all good things happen to those who know about them!

Promoting your litter picks is a great way to get more people involved.

Here are a few ideas:



Posters and leaflets

– put these up where people will see them e.g., libraries, community noticeboards, a local café. [Here's some templates to help.](#)

A press release

– local newspapers love a good local story and might be interested enough to come along and take some photos. [Here's a press release template](#) you can use when getting in touch.

Registering on the CleanupUK website

– registering on our website will make your group visible to people across the UK and can help you find new recruits.

Social Media

– lots of litter picking groups have Facebook or Instagram pages they use to promote their activities and get people involved. Consider setting one up or asking someone to do this for you!

Spreading the word locally

– your community already has networks that you can tap into. Speak to local residents or 'friends of' groups to encourage them to come along, you could also invite your local ward councillor to your first litter pick.

CleanupUK

– we have a strong social media presence, and would be delighted to share up-and-coming litter picks or the achievements of your group across our channels.

Step 3: Litter Picking

How to get started

-before you get litter picking there's a few things you'll need

Before promoting your litter pick, contact the landowner or local council to arrange rubbish collection. Remember to coordinate the litter pick with them in advance.

In terms of kit, we recommend:

- Litter picking sticks
- High vis vests
- First aid kit
- Anti-bacterial gel

Please ask your council about:

- Rubbish bags
- Sharps boxes

If you're near a [Cleanup Hub](#) you could borrow equipment from them or take a look at the [knowledge guide](#) section of our website for more information about where to source equipment.



Boring (but important) stuff...

-Let's be honest, no one likes paperwork, but we'll guide you through it.

There's a couple of things that we recommend you do, before you get cracking with your litter pick:

Safety matters. It's essential to make sure that everyone's litter picking is kept safe, and it's a good idea to think about safety in advance of your first session. You should think about risks that might occur (sharp objects, slippery ground etc.) and how you can avoid or manage them. Note these risks, and let people know about them before starting. It's a good idea to do a [Safety Matters assessment](#).

You might like to think about insurance as cleanup groups aren't covered by CleanupUK's insurance, or your group may already have this. If you are considering taking out insurance, there is some info on our website here: [LINK](#) Take an attendance list and ask people if they're happy to be photographed. Make sure to ask parental permission before taking photos of any children.

Consider the safety of children. Children should always be accompanied by a responsible adult, and groups working with them need to ensure that they are protected from harm – Take a look at the [Safeguarding and Child Protection self-assessment tool | NSPCC Learning](#) for more info on this.



A Handy To Do List

Here's a few handy things you can do once the session is over

-Before the session

- **Prep early:** Arrive ahead to set up equipment.
- **Find facilities:** Locate nearby toilets for convenience.
- **Count in:** Have attendees sign in; pens are a must!
- **Safety first:** Brief on precautions and potential risks.
- **Time & hygiene:** Communicate end time and restroom locations.
- **Snap consent:** Confirm photo willingness from everyone.
- **After the cleanup:** Discuss post-event activities, like a well-deserved tea and cake session!



-After the session

- **Showcase your success!** Snap before-after pics or group shots with collected litter to display your success.
- **Keep count.** Track progress, boost motivation – even your GCSE math skills can help. Record your litter pick on the CleanupUK website and track your achievements!
- **Clean hands, clear mission.** Prioritise hygiene – sanitize after litter picking.
- **Treat time!** Enjoy tea, cake, and chats for a rewarding break..
- **Stay connected.** Gather contacts for future coordination.
- **Share your story.** Tag us to highlight your community cleanup efforts.
- **Report the collected waste to your local authority** to arrange collection of the bags.



PEOPLE WHO
LITTER PICK
CARE ABOUT
OUR PLANET

Be the change you want to see!



Using our website

Our website is designed to unite litter pickers and waste warriors across the UK together.

If you decide to create a litter picking group or Community Cleanup Hub in your area you can create a profile on our website and get your star on the map!



"LOVE YOUR LOCAL AREA"



Maintaining the momentum

Communities that litter pick regularly, notice the most positive change. So here are some ideas for keeping the momentum going...



- **Spread the word:** Inform others about your cleanup efforts.
- **Log your achievements:** Don't forget to log your litter against your groups online profile OR if you borrowed equipment from a hub you can log your litter pick [here](#)
- **Join our network of litter picking groups :** Get on the map and help other people find you [here](#)

- **Stay in touch:** Collect people's contact details, use a sign-in/contact sheet if needed, and inform about upcoming events.
- **Set dates early:** Announce your next pick at the current event for attendees to mark their calendars and spread the word.
- **Plan ahead:** Create posters with upcoming dates, use our template [here](#) to get started.

- **Post-pick engagement:** Reach out to participants post-event, gather feedback, and even encourage them to help organise future picks.
- **Expand your group:** Attract new members by promoting online and in community organisations such as cafes, libraries, centers, and parks.

**HAPPY
LITTER
PICKING!**