

Tips for a Safe and Successful Cleanup:

Prior to your Cleanup:

- Identify a littered area you would like to clean up. Be sure it is an appropriate and safe site for your team. If needed, obtain permission from private landowners.
- Register your cleanup at www.KeepRocklandBeautiful.org or complete the registration form and mail/fax to KRB.
- You can promote your cleanup through flyers, community bulletins, e-mail, Facebook, and Twitter.
- Make sure you have all materials needed for your cleanup team: KRB provides trash bags, wipes, signs, grabbers, educational materials, and a t-shirt and tote bag for each crew. (See registration form for pick up options) You may also wish to purchase inexpensive latex/latex-free gloves, sunscreen, insect repellent, and water at a store near you. Want to provide refreshments for your team before or after the cleanup? Get a donation or purchase treats from a local vendor.
- E-mail your team reminding them to dress properly, wear closed toe shoes and long pants, bring gloves, and use sun screen and insect repellent, when appropriate.

Day of Cleanup:

- Arrive early to set up. Bring supplies listed above, your safety checklist, and a first aid kit. You can pre-package your clean up supplies for easy distribution at your meeting site.
- Welcome and thank volunteers and orient them to the area to be cleaned. Have a sign-in sheet for contact information and borrowed items.
- Designate an adult whose only responsibility is safety and trouble-shooting. This person should have a first aid kit, a cell phone, and a list of emergency phone numbers.
- Review safety with all volunteers, especially children. All normal, safe working precautions should apply, including:
 - Supervise children closely. Have children work in pairs. This safety measure also makes picking up litter easier – one child with an open bag and one with a glove or grabber.
 - Drink plenty of fluids and avoid over-exertion.
 - Use gloves when picking up litter and do not pick up anything that looks suspicious or dangerous.
 - Do not rough-house or otherwise distract motorists.
 - When near a road, wear orange vests, work in groups, and face on-coming traffic. Ask for assistance from the local police or the highway department, if you will be working alongside busy streets.
 - Be aware of ticks and poison ivy (and other allergens).
 - Do not overstuff bags, and get help with large objects.
 - Wash your hands after the cleanup and check for ticks.
- Review how to separate collected trash and recyclables: Regular trash goes in black bags. Cans and bottles go in clear bags. Use this opportunity to discuss the many benefits of recycling and waste reduction. (Go to www.KeepRocklandBeautiful.org for more information on recycling.)
- Place full garbage bags within 5 ft. of the road for pick up by the local Highway Dept.
- Gather for a snack and sharing of discoveries. Take a GROUP PHOTO for the KRB website!
- Invite your volunteers to the Great American Cleanup Wrap-Up Mini-Golf Family BBQ Friday on May 25th at Germonds Park, West Nyack. Go to our website for details and reservations.
- File your Cleanup Report form with KRB as soon as possible, preferably on-line at www.keeprocklandbeautiful.org.