



# THE GREAT GLOBAL CLEANUP PARTNER TOOLKIT



**BUILD A WASTE-FREE WORLD WITH US.**

## WHAT IS THE GREAT GLOBAL CLEANUP?

EARTHDAY.ORG (EDO) is focused on accelerating solutions to combat plastic pollution by activating governments, citizens, and businesses to do their part- everyone accounted for, everyone accountable.



**YOU** have a part to play and can begin by partnering with EDO's Great Global Cleanup to host or partake in a cleanup in your community. Cleanups are a fun and easy way to amplify your impact this Earth Day.

The Great Global Cleanup is a worldwide campaign to rid the environment of waste and plastic pollution for good. From now until Earth Day (April 22) we call on you to focus on clean ups because small efforts amplified globally have huge impacts on our ecosystems and help protect and restore our shared home. Check out the [Great Global Cleanup Map](#) to join cleanups happening near you, or to organize your own, and join us to help create a waste-free world!



# HOW TO HOST A CLEANUP:

1

ORGANIZE A  
PLANNING  
GROUP



2

SELECT A SITE,  
DATE, AND TIME



3

GATHER  
VOLUNTEERS



4

SUPPLIES AND  
DISPOSAL



5

START YOUR  
CLEANUP DAY



6

ORIENTATION AND  
SAFETY TALK



7

DISPOSE OF  
WASTE



8

END THE  
CLEANUP



## ORGANIZE A PLANNING GROUP

1

- Whether it's with your friends, your organization, or just you, decide who will take the lead in organizing the cleanup!
- Invite members from local government, civic organizations, clubs, homeowner associations, churches and media to serve on a cleanup planning committee. Having a diverse coalition can help the event run well.
- Appoint site captains who will manage the event and designate roles to assure the cleanup goes smoothly (See Cleanup Checklist Below).

## SELECT AN APPROPRIATE SITE, DATE, AND TIME

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- Choose a public location: a park, a river, or a similar community site that is ideally accessible by public transportation or bicycle.
- TIP: Make sure to check and see if you need any necessary local permissions.
- Select a timely date for your cleanup:
- TIP: Earth Day is on April 22nd and World Cleanup Day is on the Third Saturday in September
- Select a time: Depending on where you are, choose a time that allows for plenty of daylight and comfortable temperatures for volunteers.
- TIP: Most cleanups happen between 9:00am and 11:00am.

## GATHER VOLUNTEERS

3

- [Register your cleanup](#) so it appears on the [Great Global Cleanup Map](#) and is connected to our global network of volunteers.
- Advertise your cleanup to your organization, family, friends, and/or community members.
- TIP: People from different organizations and associations can help turn out volunteers and bridge community members through the cleanup (i.e.: A reverend asking their ministry.)
- Use Facebook or Eventbrite to create the event to share the information and manage volunteer sign up.

## LINE UP SUPPLIES, AND ARRANGE FOR DISPOSAL

4

- Ask for donations of trash bags, refreshments, and equipment (TIP: Local hardware stores are usually willing to donate these resources)
- Coordinate with local waste management through a short phone call to ensure everything is being disposed of in accordance with rules and regulations.
- Be sure that contributors get credit for their donations in cleanup promotions
- Gather supplies (Important Items To Have: Trash Bags or Buckets, Trash Grabbers, First Aid Kit, Gloves and Hand Sanitizer, Water/ Snacks, Table and chairs (we recommend two tables, one 6' and the other 4'), and Event Signage)

## START YOUR CLEANUP DAY

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- Closer to the date, check the weather and plan to dress appropriately. Wear something you don't mind getting dirty!
- Send a reminder the night before or day of the cleanup to all participants and key individuals that you hope to attend.
- Invite local media outlets to cover the event and spread awareness
- As a leader, arrive to the event early to set up before volunteers arrive

## ORIENTATION AND SAFETY TALK

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- Safety is key. Two people make a team! Wear gloves, and closed toe shoes. Bring a hat, sunscreen & reusable water bottle
- Keep the environment safe- Vegetation is sensitive and wildlife is best kept wild.
- What to remove: Trash and Litter (Anything created by humans), Recyclables
- What to leave: Nature, Homeless Encampments, Dead Animals, Syringes, needles, and other hazardous materials.

## DISPOSE OF WASTE

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- Find a location to properly dispose of all of the waste you clean up!
- Sort the waste into trash, recyclables, and hazardous waste.
- TIP: If you are unsure of where to dispose of any of this waste contact your local municipality's waste department for further instruction.

## AT THE END OF THE CLEANUP

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- Share your Cleanup results with us.
- Take pictures before and after your collection and share them on Twitter and Instagram.
- TIP: Use handles #GreatGlobalCleanup, #TrashTag, and #Plogging.
- Post your event on social media. Tag us at @thegreatglobalcleanup on Instagram and TikTok.
- Share your images with local newspapers, magazines, and EARTHDAY.ORG.
- Write thank you emails to any cooperating government officials, businesses, and organizations.

**INTERESTED?**

# HERE'S HOW TO CONTINUE:

➤ REGISTER YOUR CLEANUP SO IT APPEARS ON THE GREAT GLOBAL CLEANUP MAP AND IS CONNECTED TO OUR GLOBAL NETWORK OF VOLUNTEERS.



MAKE SURE TO SHARE YOUR CLEANUP RESULTS AFTER YOUR CLEANUP HAS ENDED



➤ DOWNLOAD AND PRINT THIS QR CODE TO HAVE THE ATTENDEES SIGN THE GLOBAL PLASTIC TREATY PETITION



JOIN MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATING EARTH DAY BY POSTING PHOTOS OF YOUR CLEANUPS ON SOCIAL MEDIA USING THE HASHTAG #GREATGLOBALCLEANUP!

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@thegreatglobalcleanup



@earthday



@earthday.org



@greatglobalcleanup

# USING THE GREAT GLOBAL CLEANUP MAP

## ADD A CLEANUP TO THE GREAT GLOBAL CLEANUP MAP

- Visit [www.earthday.org/cleanups](http://www.earthday.org/cleanups) to see the Global Cleanup Map
- Click on Register a Cleanup to put your cleanup on the map
- Cleanups can be input as 'Public' or 'Private'. If you are not accepting outside volunteers please check 'Private'.
- Under "How Should Volunteers Register" share the link where you want volunteers to sign up at



**USE THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER A CLEANUP**



## EVENTS

Outside of hosting cleanups, learning about environmental issues is a great way to promote sustainability and further efforts to protect our planet.

Listen to  
recent Earth  
Day Lives



Read  
about  
clean up  
news

Check out  
Earth Day  
events



## HOST A TEACH-IN

Teach-ins provide the community with the knowledge they need to advocate for a cleaner, more secure future. Inspire your participants to partake in a local cleanup that you organize together!



## HOST A UNIVERSITY LECTURE

College students are at the forefront of the environmental movement. Engage this generation by informing them of the need for environmental action and the impact of local cleanups!



Visit [www.earthday.org/takeaction](http://www.earthday.org/takeaction) to find out how to further get involved in solving the plastic pollution crisis.

# ANY MORE QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, send us an email  
at [greatglobalcleanup@earthday.org](mailto:greatglobalcleanup@earthday.org).



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