

THE RUBBISH GUIDE TO CLEAN-UP SUCCESS!

Over the years of clean-ups, we've honed not just our litter-picking skills, but our ability to organize effective clean-ups too. In the pursuit of a cleaner environment and a more engaged, waste-conscious community, we're happy to share what we've learned through this guide. Feel free to reach out with any questions, and don't forget to tag us [@Rubbish_Project](#) on Instagram or [email us](#) some pics!

SAFETY FIRST. It's essential to communicate safety concerns as clean-ups often take place in active public spaces and may involve traffic and potentially hazardous debris.

Participants should be encouraged to take steps to ensure a safe clean-up. Some recommendations include: a liability waiver, visible clothing, [sharps guidance](#) and disposal container, and [a list of hazardous materials to avoid](#). These guidelines are provided for educational purposes only, and Rubbish Project assumes no responsibility or liability for injuries, accidents, or outcomes associated with participating in or organizing a clean-up. Onwards, litter-pickers!

PRE-CLEAN-UP Qs:
How will you dispose of the trash? Rain date or weather-proof plan?
How many people do you expect?

1. MATERIALS WORLD:

You don't need much, but here are our considerations for clean-up materials. Use some or make-do!

- Buckets *(Useful if you plan on doing repeat events. And if you're local to Portland, [GoGo Refill](#) may have some!)*
- Gloves *(Encourage participants to bring their own.)*
- Trash Grabbers *(If you're in it for the long haul, we like [these compact ones](#).)*

- Upcycled Grain Bags *(We get these from neighborhood breweries — ask around!)*
- Paper Lawn Waste Bags *(These we use to consolidate trash from buckets and avoid plastic bags; seek alternate if weather is inclement.)*
- Hand Sanitizer
- First Aid Kit



2. WELL-OILED MACHINE:

Especially if you expect many participants, good systems are key. Having one or two organizers manning these stations has worked well for us:

STEP ONE: CHECK-IN

- Welcome participants, review waiver, discuss [Do Not Pick Up List](#), clarify length of clean-up, areas to focus on or avoid, etc.

STEP TWO: MATERIALS

- Parcel out amongst groups, remind about safety concerns!

3. LASTLY,

- Be respectful of private property!
- Take a moment to know the area you're planning to pick up.
- Remind people what amenities will be available at the location (bathroom, water, etc.)
- Have fun!