

BEACH CLEANS & MARINE LITTER SURVEYS



Coronavirus health and safety guidance

Thank you for volunteering to clean beaches and record marine litter data in your local community.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis, we are currently only welcoming beach cleans that can be done **locally** and are registered on our website as closed, **private events**.

Please ensure you have read and understood our safety guidance below before starting a beach clean and litter survey.

Do's and don'ts for before, during and after beach cleaning

BEFORE

- Do check and follow your country's current Government advice with regards to coronavirus
- Do travel only to beaches local to you in order to help stop the spread of the virus
- Do inform the beach owner (usually the local council) of your plans to clean the beach so they can arrange to collect the litter
- Do take with you your official MCS email to show who you are (available on registering your clean)
- Do let your friends or family know where you are and when you'll be back
- Do make sure you're dressed appropriately with some sturdy shoes on to protect your feet

DURING

- Do use your own gloves, strong gardening gloves will do
- Do not pick up needles or any other hazardous objects, report it to the council as soon as possible
- Do not lift anything that is too heavy
- Do always use a litter picker if you have one
- Do make sure you check and update your risk assessment on the day
- Do stay 2 metres apart (about the length of 2 litter pickers!) from others, in line with latest government advice

AFTER

- Do wash your hands for 20 seconds as soon as possible
- Do clean your equipment after use if you can
- Don't forget to upload your litter data to help us make a real positive difference for the marine environment

Thank you! Volunteers, like yourself, clean hundreds of UK beaches every year. If you would like to know more, our [beach clean Organiser Guide](#) contains lots of resources and templates for you to use.

Tips for staying safe



Follow the up-to-date government guidance to help stop the spread of the virus



Stay 2m apart from others



Only volunteer if you feel completely well enough



Wear your own gloves and wipe down your equipment before and after use if possible



Wash your hands afterwards for 20 seconds



And finally, don't forget, our friendly Beachwatch team would love to hear from you and we're here to help during office hours (9-5) if you need us. Email beachwatch@mcsuk.org or call **01989 567807**.

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