



HANCOCK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT LITTER PROGRAM SPRING CLEAN UP (SCU) SAFETY TIPS / SIGN-IN / WAIVER

Thank you for volunteering your time to pick up and collect litter and debris. Your service is a huge part of the community successfully working together to make a difference in Hancock County.

Below are some important Safety Tips that should be gone over with your volunteers.

By agreeing to participate and registering for this event you are accepting responsibility of participants and freeing all liability of harm or injury claims towards the host organizations.

Any group containing volunteers under 18 years of age must have adequate adult supervision. A minimum ratio of one adult for every four (4) persons under 18 years of age is required. Persons under 12 years of age are limited to secured non-traffic work sites; examples include parks, rural fields and school yards.

**For Added Safety: Volunteers should always have a "tailgate" safety briefing before going to the littered site. **

SAFETY TIPS:

What should each volunteer crewmember wear?

- Light colored / reflective clothing or safety vest at all times when removing litter on the road-side right-of-way.
- Heavy work gloves. Sturdy shoes or boots with ankle support. Sandals are not recommended.
- Wear a hat and a long sleeve shirt to avoid insects and possible sunburn. Sunscreen recommended.

What is the best way to protect volunteers from traffic when working?

- Whenever possible, face oncoming traffic while you work along the right-of-way roadside.
- Work during daylight hours only. Avoid wearing headsets or ear buds, which could interfere with you hearing oncoming traffic or other potential hazards.
- Posting a reliable lookout person to be aware of traffic situations. Equip that person with a whistle.
- Stay OFF Railroad Tracks. Litter collects in these areas, AVOID being on train tracks.
- Stay at least five feet back from the traveled portion of the roadway to pick up trash.

What are the limits of the pickup areas? What should volunteers stay away from?

- Do NOT pick up items on the traveled roadway.
- Do NOT pick up items in the median, or center, of divided highways.
- Park all vehicles well clear of the roadway and at least ten feet, if possible, from the traveled portion. Keep the vehicles on the same side of the roadway as any volunteers. Carpool to the litter site to reduce the number of parked vehicles if there is concern.
- Stay at least five feet back from the traveled portion of the roadway to pick up trash.
- Do NOT attempt to remove unknown or suspected toxic, or hazardous substances. Document location and notify the **Hancock County Sheriff's Office (419-422-2424)**
- Do NOT pick up discarded syringes or hypodermic needles.

- Be ALERT for stinging insects. Repellant recommended. Be alert of places where snakes may be located, around old logs and in tall grass. Avoid these areas if possible.
- AVOID contact with poison ivy, poison oak, and other noxious weeds.
- Do NOT attempt to handle large, heavy objects or pick up dead animals. Document location and notify the **Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Office (at SCU Luncheon or call 419-424-7210)**
- Do NOT attempt to pick up items on bridges or on overpasses. These areas are especially dangerous to pedestrian workers.
- Stay well clear of any mowing operations or other maintenance and construction activities.
- Do NOT wander onto private property. Please stay in the public right-of-way or inside the park area of your choice unless you have the property owners' written consent.

What should we do in case of emergency? Call 9-1-1

- Every volunteer crew should have a first aid kit. Be prepared for an injury. Know the route from the work area to a hospital or other treatment center. Every crew should have transportation immediately available.

Please share the above Safety Tips with all volunteer participants and their guardian.

For your Club/Troop/Group Records:

You may use the following indemnification to ensure full acknowledgement from each volunteer/participant. This can be kept for your records or returned to Hancock County SWMD with your registration form.

IDEMNIFICATION

The volunteer/participant or anyone working in concert with the volunteer/participant agrees that the organizing group, _____ (club/troop/group name) and Hancock County shall not be liable, and agrees to indemnify and hold organizations harmless against any loss, claim, cause of action, damages, liability or expense arising out of the operation of this Volunteer Community Activity. In no event shall the volunteer/participant be considered agents or employees of Hancock County.

The Volunteer/Participant/Guardian is hereby warned of personal liability for any injuries and damages, and it is required that activities be covered by individual insurance.

Volunteer Name (print)

Volunteer Signature

Volunteer Guardian Name (print)

Guardian Signature

Date

*Please call (419) 424-7210 or e-mail HancockSWMD@co.hancock.oh.us if you have questions about the Spring Cleanup Event**