



# COMMUNITY LITTER CLEAN-UP

## Help remove litter. See the difference your efforts can make!

Lend a helping hand by removing litter from your neighbourhood park in April! If you are 18 years of age or older, register your group's litter clean-up activity to receive free supplies.



## How to get started

Beginning in February of each year, register on-line, email the completed Community Action form or call City of Waterloo at 519-886-2310 ext. 30296 with the following information:

- name of public park in Waterloo
- Group Leader contact information (must be 18 years of age or older)
- date of event during the month of April
- estimated number of participants (adults + youth under 18 years of age)
- select one of the dates to pick-up supplies and receive a ½ hour orientation session

## Picking up your litter clean-up kit

Please select one of the scheduled times below for picking up your kit beginning last week of March until end of April:

Location: Waterloo Service Centre, 265 Lexington Court, Waterloo ON N2L 4R4

Date/time: Thursday's 4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. / Friday's 12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

New Group Leaders are required to attend the mandatory ½ hour orientation session.

Returning Group Leaders may join in on the Orientation session but it is not mandatory. You must sign the Orientation checklist when picking up supplies to acknowledge that you have the proper knowledge and understanding to carry out this activity. With limited space at the front admin, please pick up your kit between 7 am – 4:30 pm on the scheduled day.

## Group Leader responsibilities

Day of event:

- ensure all participants are wearing closed-toe footwear and provided cloth gloves
- ensure all participants have signed an Informed Consent Agreement prior to participating
- inform participants of safety guidelines (see reverse side)

Within 24 hours after your event, submit the following completed forms via email or drop-off:

- **Litter cleanup results**
- **Informed Consent Agreement** (double-sided, each adult signs own form)
- **Accident/Incident report** (if injury occurs)
- **Photo consent** (if you'd like to share a great photo with us for future City promotions)



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## Elements of risk

- **avoid picking up the following:**
  - organic yard waste, farm or agricultural debris and large items that are heavy, bulky, difficult to grasp or unstable
  - **Sharps** defined as any device having rigid corners or edges or projections capable of causing a cut, puncture or abrasion. Sharps include but is not limited to hypodermic needles/syringes, blades, pointed edged tools, knives, scalpels, probes, sharp metal, broken glass or clinical glass (possibly contaminated with blood, bodily fluids or chemicals)
  - *Note: in areas where you find personal belongings such as clothing use garbage nippers in case Sharps are hidden from view*
  - *Avoid cleaning up hang-outs such as forts or gathering locations – mark on map*
- **severe weather:** suspend litter clean-up activities when weather conditions become inclement (such as heavy fog, smog, thunderstorms)
- **potential water-associated risks:** stay clear of waterways or steep banks (creeks, ponds, lakes)
- **potential risks in natural areas:** be aware of slippery conditions and uneven ground, exposure to plants such as poison ivy or stinging nettle or Giant Hogweed, stinging insects, branch or tree failure

## What to wear for safety (personal protective equipment)

All participants shall wear:

- closed-toe footwear which must be fully laced to provide full support and to prevent accidents
- clothing appropriate for outdoor weather and natural area conditions including long pants
- provided cloth gloves to avoid exposure to the hazard of injury from contact of skin with a sharp or jagged object which may puncture, cut or abrade the skin

## Acceptable tools and supplies

- garbage bags, cloth gloves, garbage nippers

## Garbage pick-up arrangements

- full garbage bags can be deposited **beside** existing garbage cans within the park (mark location on provided map or indicate on the Litter clean-up results form)
- **clean** recyclables can be included with your household curbside collection
- mark the location of Sharps, heavy and bulky items or hang-out locations on the provided map for City removal