Litter Pick Starter Pack

We are thrilled you want to do a litter pick! Thank you! We have put together this starter pack to make it as easy as possible for you to enjoy your litter-pick, and so the information you collect can contribute to science, research and campaigns to stop litter in the first place.

Here’s what to do:

* Read this guide
* Follow the checklist
* Send GRAB your completed survey form

# How to do a beach clean (see next page for cleaning elsewhere)

If you are planning a beach clean, check out [our ‘*How to…*’ video](https://youtu.be/j-0K-j4IIR8) showing just how fun and easy it is.

The Marine Conservation Society [Beachwatch website](https://www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/) also has all the information you need. They have handy guides for everything from how to do a beach clean and risk assessment templates, to [COVID19 safety advice](https://www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/join-a-beach-clean/volunteer-safety-and-covid19/). If you find the beach you want to clean is not already on their beach map, just add it. Then add yourself as a ‘Beachwatch organiser’ to access all the useful resources to help you carry out an awesome beach clean. Once you have done your survey, be sure to submit your data through their easy to use online form. Please also send a copy of your survey form to the GRAB Officer for your area (see emails below), for our records.

You can also do a Nurdle Hunt at the same time: [Take Part (nurdlehunt.org.uk)](https://www.nurdlehunt.org.uk/take-part.html)

If registering all seems too complicated, just print off the [Survey Form here](https://media.mcsuk.org/documents/MCS_Beach_Clean_Survey_Form_23-04-21.pdf). Then go and enjoy your beach clean and fill in the form. Once you’ve finished your beach clean, scan or take a photo of your completed form and email it to us at [LApickers@grab.org.uk](mailto:LApickers@grab.org.uk). We will then upload the data for you.

By submitting your beach clean data you are helping to raise awareness of the impacts of litter, providing data for campaigns to reduce litter, and the data is shared with other organisations and scientists working to solve the issue of marine litter. So well done and thank you!

# Litter picking not at a beach

If you are planning to do your litter pick anywhere other than a beach, Keep Scotland Beautiful have all the information you need. Get a handy guide, survey forms and upload your data online: <https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/local-environmental-quality/clean-up-scotland/do-your-bit-to-clean-up-scotland/complete-litter-surveys/>

If registering all seems too complicated, just print off the [Survey Form here](https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/media/1565863/cus-survey-form-2020.pdf). Then go and enjoy your litter-pick and fill in the form. Once you have finished, scan or take a photo of your completed form and email it to the GRAB Officer for your area (see emails below). We will then upload the data for you.

Again, please also scan or take a photo of your completed form and email it to the GRAB Officer for your area, even if you have submitted the data yourself, for our records.

By submitting your litter-pick data you are helping to raise awareness of the impacts of litter, providing data for campaigns to reduce litter, and the data is shared with other organisations and scientists working to solve the issue of litter. So well done and thank you!

# COVID19

With the ongoing risk of COVID19 and regularly changing advice, we strongly recommend a conservative approach. Familiarise yourself with the [current restrictions for your area](https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/), include COVID19 in your Risk Assessment (use the [Beachwatch RA template](https://www.mcsuk.org/media/mcs-beach-clean-risk-assessment-template-final.pdf)).

# A note on photos

We would love to share and use any photos you take to encourage others to do their own clean-up and help reduce littering. Please take photos of before and after the clean-up, the litter you collect, and any particularly interesting or unusual items you find. If you are happy sharing photos of people doing the clean-up we’d love to share these too, but please only send these images to us if you and everyone in the images are happy for The GRAB Trust to use and share them. You can email photos to us and please tag us on Facebook with @GRABbmlp if you share your photos there.

# Equipment Loan

We are making litter pick equipment available throughout Argyll. Currently equipment is available to loan from the Queens Hall in Dunoon; Oban Library; Aqualibrium in Campbeltown; and Helensburgh Leisure Centre (check if it is open as COVID restrictions are having an impact). Each pack contains litter pickers, a bucket and some bin bags. Please email [LApickers@grab.org.uk](mailto:LApickers@grab.org.uk) well in advance to reserve equipment. Make sure you state in the email which venue you would like to borrow from to allow the correct member of staff to pick up your query.

# Become a GRAB member!

Why not show your support for the work we do by becoming a member? Show your support for Recycling in Argyll and Bute. Help us demonstrate that the work of The GRAB Trust is valued in our community. There is no joining fee and no requirement for you to undertake any additional activities in relation to The GRAB Trust. Join here: [Membership - The GRAB Trust (google.com)](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9u3J0Wx1fnrUixupbl9Owfy2EN3EsbPI2wZZ85MHHcoR87w/viewform)

**Well done** for all your great work organising your litter-pick! If there is anything we can help with please just get in touch. We’d also love to hear your feedback on how easy you found organising the event and if there is anything we can do to improve the support we offer ☺

Litter Pick - Checklist

## Before the event:

* Read advice and guidance above for the area you want to clean.
* If borrowing GRAB equipment, email us to reserve the equipment for your planned dates.
* Litter pick/beach clean location:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Check the tide times if a beach: <https://tides.willyweather.co.uk/st/argyll-and-bute.html>
    - High water:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Low water:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - High water:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Low water:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Get landowners permission.
* Do a risk assessment. See links above for [templates](https://www.mcsuk.org/media/mcs-beach-clean-risk-assessment-template-final.pdf) and guidance.
* Decide what you will put the bags and rubbish you collect. In order of preference:
  + Put bags in bins provided at the location.
  + Take bags home and put in your wheelie bin.
  + Take bags to your local dump.
  + [Arrange a pick-up](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/bulky-waste) by your local council Amenities department.
    - Contact the council: [enquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk) / 01546 605522
* Print the [Beach clean](https://media.mcsuk.org/documents/MCS_Beach_Clean_Survey_Form_23-04-21.pdf) or [Litter pick](https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/media/1565863/cus-survey-form-2020.pdf) survey forms.
* One individual collect loaned equipment. Date:\_\_\_/\_\_/\_\_ Time:\_\_\_:\_\_\_ Place:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## On the day:

* Do your clean-up, filling in the survey form as you go.
* Take photos of before & after the clean-up, the litter you collect, and any particularly interesting or unusual items you find. Make sure you read the note on photos above, about sharing photos with people in them.

## After the event:

* Share photos and your experience on Facebook, tagging us @GRABbmlp
* Clean all equipment and return it.
* Submit your data through your account with Beachwatch or Keep Scotland Beautiful.
* Send a copy of your completed litter survey form, and any photos you are happy for us to use and share, to [LApickers@grab.org.uk](mailto:LApickers@grab.org.uk)

*Thank you!*