

Give Back TO THE LAND

VOLUNTEER FOR THE EARTH CLEANUP CHALLENGE APRIL 1 - 16, 2024

Make a positive impact for your environment in honor of Give Back to the Land Day by removing trash. Below are some basic steps to organize your own cleanup.



CHOOSE YOUR CLEANUP SITE

Scope out potential land or river cleanup sites in advance, and choose one that is safe, accessible, and could benefit from trash removal. Consider public locations you frequent, such as town/city streets, trails, and parks. You can also call your DPW or town administrator for local recommendations. For river cleanups, [Connecticut River Conservancy's site map](#) is a good reference.



SET A DATE AND RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS

Choose a date and time that works for you (consider a back-up rain date) and rally your friends, family and/or colleagues to help. Make sure everyone knows the where/when/why of your event (a signup form or simple flyer can be helpful). Then [register your Cleanup event on the Give Back to the Land Day website](#) to enter the challenge.



GATHER SUPPLIES & MAKE TRASH DISPOSAL ARRANGEMENTS






Encourage your volunteers to bring household supplies, such as gloves, nifty-nabbers, trash & recycling bags (use 2 different colors) or buckets. Contact your local DPW or transfer station to request free trash disposal and/or pick up of heavy items.



HOLD YOUR EVENT AND DOCUMENT IT!

Have fun and stay safe at your event! Ensure all trash is taken off-site and properly disposed of. Be sure to tally up the # of bags of trash you've collected (separating and including recycling), then return to the Give Back to the Land Day [website](#) to upload your data and photos. Be sure to share your photos on social media to make a big statement!

Safety Tips:

-  Look out for and avoid hazards (such as poison ivy, ticks, unstable banks, fast-moving water).
-  If you find hazardous materials, such as needles or other sharp objects, leave them in place and report the location to local police, fire, or health department.
-  For larger groups, use the "buddy system" to ensure you know where all of your volunteers are located.
-  For on-land cleanups, wear bright colors and stay off major roads.
-  For on-water cleanups, wear a personal floatation device if you're using boats or wading deeper than knee level.

Participating Nonprofits:



Connecticut River
Conservancy