

## Guidance for Neighborhood Cleanups

Beach cleanups start at our own front doors. Trash can travel through storm drains, creeks, and rivers to become beach pollution. This September, let's help clean the beach by cleaning up in our own neighborhoods and local natural areas. To protect your health and slow the spread of the coronavirus, please follow the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, available here: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html).

### Coastal Commission Recommended Practices:

#### Preparation

- If you are sick in any way, DO NOT go out for a cleanup.
- Assemble your own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): face mask, gloves, and make sure to wear close-toed shoes to protect against sharp objects.
- Download the NOAA Marine Debris Tracker to keep track of what you pick up and how many people participated with you.

#### Cleanup

- Maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from everyone you encounter, even if you are wearing a mask.
- ALWAYS wear gloves – disposable if available - and dispose or wash them immediately after your cleanup.
- Avoid touching any surfaces like railings, benches, etc.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Do not pick up sharp objects, especially syringes!
- If you clean up a local beach or waterway, be mindful of the conditions (such as high tide, sneaker wave warnings, etc.), and be careful near the water's edge.
- Keep a safe distance from all wildlife!
- Unfortunately, you may find used gloves, masks, and other personal protective equipment (PPE) among litter. **DO NOT PICK UP ANY PPE** without a grabber. Put all PPE litter in a separate disposable bag.

#### After Cleanup

- Dispose or wash gloves immediately after your cleanup. To properly remove disposable gloves, grab the glove opening near your wrist and pull towards your fingers, then turn the glove inside out before disposing.
- [Wash your hands thoroughly as soon as possible](#), and use hand sanitizer in the meantime if soap and water are unavailable.
- Show us your cleanup! Post your pictures using our "Protect Your Happy Place" filter on Instagram and Facebook and see how your community is participating.

By participating you understand and agree that neither the State of California, California Coastal Commission, or Northcoast Environmental Center may be held liable or responsible in any way for any injury, death, or other damages to you or your family, heirs, or assigns that may occur as a result of your participation, or as a result of product liability or the negligence, whether passive or active, of any party in connection with the cleanups.

Have fun and remember, safety first! Thank you for extending your care and compassion to our communities at this time! Stay healthy.