



How To Host Your Own Trail Clean!

Hi there!

This pack is a brief how-to guide for hosting your own trail clean for a **small group** (between 2-10 people), including all the information you need to plan, and host your event! If your event is larger (between 12-50 people then see [here](#) for different guidance!)



PLANNING YOUR CLEAN UP

Though it might seem daunting, planning a clean up is super easy, and here at TFT we're no strangers to organising them! If you haven't seen already, **we have an entire [Toolkit](#) dedicated to how you can go about organising trail cleans on our website** which provides a step-by-step guide to how to host an effective trail clean.

Choosing A Date, Time & Location

Start simple - **pick the date**. We recommend a weekend, as more of your community will be able to join you.

Next up, **choose a time and location**. Here's some questions to ask yourself to help with this. You don't have to answer all these questions or provide for every eventuality, but these will help narrow down your choice of time and location.

Is the location a public space? (eg. park, trail, managed woodland)	Please note if you want to host your clean up on private land you must ask permission of the landowner
Is the location accessible on foot, bike or by car?	If you're wanting to publicise your event, choosing a location that means people don't have to travel far, and/or have parking if they need to drive, will increase overall turnout.
Does the location have parking?	



How long does it take to travel to the location from the nearest residential area?	
What time does the location open and close to the public?	We recommend hosting your clean up in the middle of the day, at a well known location.
What time does it get dark?	

Getting Permission

We don't believe that a small group of volunteers should have to ask permission to bring your community together to clean your trails! But manners don't cost a thing, so we recommend letting the owners/managers of the land know of your plans! (if you are a larger group then there are a few more steps to put their minds at ease which you can see [here](#).)

- a. **WHO IS IN THE KNOW?** From a Google search to a call to someone local, try your best to get a name, number and email address of the person who can say "YAY" or "NAY".
- b. **CONTACT THEM** - Face to face or a phone call is best. Run them through your plans and reasons (*tip; DON'T call it an 'event' the 'E' word makes people nervous - it's a volunteer led, community litter pick!*)

PROMOTING YOUR CLEAN UP

Now the clean up is planned, you might simply drop a message to your mates and rally them to join in. If you're feeling bold, you could promote it in your local area and see who might come join in? You never know who you might inspire!

Graphics to Use

See here for [template posters](#) that you can customise with details of your event!

You are welcome to use any of our [Trash Free Trails logos](#) to stylise your event, as long as they are not altered. We work with seasonal projects throughout the year too such as [Earth Day Spring Cleans](#) as well as [Autumn Trail Clean](#) that could promote your event.

Ways of Organising the Event



However, for something small you might not want to over publicise your event, so maybe just consider creating a private Facebook page or WhatsApp group for your trail clean so that people will be automatically notified when you post updates.

HOSTING YOUR CLEAN UP

You've made it to the big day and you've managed to rally a bunch of people, but now what? Well make sure you are prepped with everything on the kit list below!

- ☐ Bin bags
- ☐ Bin hoop holders if needed
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Clipboard and pen
- ☐ [Tally sheet](#)
- ☐ [Bandit bingo](#)
- ☐ [The 9 steps](#) for a trail clean info sheet
- ☐ Suitable walking gear and spare layers
- ☐ Personal first aid kit
- ☐ Battery pack
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Re-useable coffee cup
- ☐ Lunch with plenty of snacks!

Don't stress! The next bit is actually super easy, and we've got you covered. Our [DIO Toolkit](#) walks you through all the steps you and your community need to take to truly give your Trail Clean the TFT hallmark.

A key step is [Reporting](#) your clean up findings to the State of Our Trails Report. This first-of-its-kind study is leading the way for innovative research into the causes and impacts of single-use pollution on the places we know and love. By submitting your trail clean data from your Trail Clean, you'll directly contribute to a unique citizen science project - cool eh!

Don't forget to finish the day with a **Reward!** Whether it's heading to the nearest pub, sharing some homemade bakes or heading home to get warm and dry, be sure to reward yourself and your community for their hard work!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO PROTECT YOUR WILD PLACES!



Enjoyed that and want to see how other members of our community get involved and do it themselves? Check out our source of [inspiration](#) and see what new ideas it could bring you for your next trail!