

# Keeping volunteers safe at beach cleans during Covid

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(Check National and Local Government restrictions and set a limit on your beach clean events for how many volunteers can attend)



**TIP - Setting a volunteer limit is really easy**  
Just follow the steps when organising an event

## Before your clean

### Symptoms

- Please don't attend a beach clean if you're feeling unwell. Prior to the event organisers should remind volunteers to only join the event if they are not displaying symptoms. Volunteers who are extremely vulnerable should not take part in cleans at the moment.
- Ensure you feel well enough too and cancel the event if you don't or have any concerns.

### Kit prep

- Clean litter pickers and clipboards after each use.
- Ask volunteers to bring their own sanitiser and gloves if they have them (ideally garden gloves) You can provide gloves to volunteers, but you will need to quarantine for 72 hours before using again.

### Forms

- If you can, send parental consent forms to any volunteers who are bringing children under 16 to fill in and send back ahead of time.

# On the day of your clean

## Setting up on the day

- Space kit out to avoid a gathering at the start.



### What to do if more people arrive than the local limits allow

Outdoor group sizes are set by Governments and any volunteers who turn up on the day that take this number above the specified limit for the nation will not be able to participate and must be politely turned away. We do need to stick to the Govt set group sizes as these are legal limits, however, you could offer bags and suggest that they could clean the wider beach away from everyone as they have made the time and effort to come along.

## Social distancing

- Encourage volunteers to socially distance from anyone outside their household (ideally households keep together in a group) when they start arriving at the event (markers on ground could help, like pebbles or circles in the sand) and during the event.
- Pay special attention to young adults who may find social distancing difficult to maintain.
- Try to maintain 2 metres when helping volunteers with litter ID. If that's difficult, wear a mask before helping.

## Forms

- If you need to get parental consent on the day from people who haven't pre registered – provide the form to the guardian to fill in and collect back.
- Photo consent – only get this, and take photos if absolutely necessary to avoid gathering of people.
- Survey forms on clipboards – provide as normal.



**\*Collect permissions and surveys back, but remember to wash and sanitise your hands regularly, and if you're more comfortable, leave all forms and clipboards for 72 hours before sorting them out.**

## Your briefing

Include coronavirus health and safety measures in your briefing. Things to mention:

- Wear a mask if you want to.
- Maintain social distancing in groups not in your household or bubble.
- Remind volunteers not to touch their face and that they should wash their hands if toilets are nearby, use hand sanitiser they have brought with them for 20 seconds frequently, and especially at the end of the litter pick.
- Ask volunteers to notify you where needles and syringes are – don't touch
- If you have a first aid kit letting volunteers know where it is so they can administer it themselves if it is a cut or graze. <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/first-aid-and-medicals/first-aid-certificate-coronavirus.htm>
- If the beach gets too crowded where they cannot socially distance, let them know that the event will be cancelled if it becomes unsafe, or survey stopped and general clean can occur if there is a section of beach that is quieter.
- At the end of the beach clean, ask groups to drop bags at a set point and only you (and one other) to organise litter into bags to be dropped at pick up point. Wash or sanitise hands afterwards.



## During the clean

- Administering first aid – have a mask to hand.
- Hand sanitise regularly.
- Keep an eye on crowds and notify volunteers if you feel the survey cannot continue.
- Finding sharps – don't pick up – let the beach owner know.

## After the clean

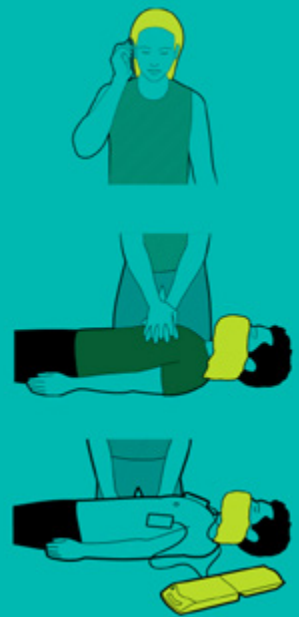
- Hand sanitise after handling and weighing bags from groups.
- You can accept help from volunteers carrying kit back to your vehicle. If it's not possible to maintain 2m distance, wear a mask, and in all cases, remember to wash and sanitise your hands afterwards.

## Debrief

- Ensure social distancing when volunteers gather back together.
- Provide any leaflets to hand out in a box for volunteers to take if they choose to.

## How to do CPR on an adult COVID-19 update

- 1** If someone is unconscious and not breathing normally, do not put your face near to theirs
- 2** Call for an ambulance
- 3** Use a towel or piece of clothing and lay it over the mouth and nose
- 4** Do not do mouth to mouth
- 5** Start chest compressions to the tempo of "Staying Alive"



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