



# KIDS for the BAY

A Project of Earth Island Institute

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## Everyone is an Environmentalist!

### Neighborhood Trash Clean-up

Take environmental action in your community!

### Activity Summary

Help pick up trash at a local park or on the sidewalks of your neighborhood.

### Directions

1. Choose an appropriate location for your clean-up.
2. Walk the area keeping an eye out for trash and storm drains (see picture below).
3. Be careful - always use tongs or gloves!
4. Do not pick up glass or anything too sharp or heavy to put in your reusable bag.
5. Record the types of trash you are finding and count pieces of trash by tally marks.
6. During and after the clean-up, think about these questions:
  - a. What did you find the most of?
  - b. Where did these items come from? How did they end up on the ground or in the streets?
  - c. What could people have done with these items so they didn't end up as pollution?
  - d. What did the storm drains look like: was the passage clear or was there debris stuck in them? What could happen the next time it rains?
  - e. Where will this trash end up eventually?
  - f. How can we prevent storm drain pollution in the future?
7. Further explorations:
  - a. Calculate the gallons of trash removed from your neighborhood.
    - i.  $\text{Gallons of garbage} = \# \text{ of bags} \times 5.45 \text{ gallons/bag}$
  - b. Make a bar graph with the tally marks and type of trash found.



### **Share your experience with us!**

Email [kidsforthebay@gmail.com](mailto:kidsforthebay@gmail.com) to share photos, videos, comments or questions.

Tag us on Instagram and Facebook @kidsforthebay. Use **#EveryoneisanEnvironmentalist** in your posts.

## Location

Choose a local park, green space, creek, or a couple of blocks near your house. Check in with an adult about where to go, or ask them to come with you!

## Supplies

- Reusable grocery bags
- Kitchen tongs, chopsticks, anything to pick up trash with
- Garden or medical gloves if tongs, etc. are not available
- Paper/journal and pencil

## Additional resources and related activities

1. Watch this [“Kids Take Action Against Ocean Plastic”](#)

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