

X Marks the Spot

A statewide, separated litter cleanup in support of a Tennessee Bottle Bill

Our totals so far:
number of cleanups: 20
number of counties: 13
miles of road picked up: 29.49
total bags of litter: 512.5
bags of containers only: 248.5
bottles & cans: 55.51%



Trout Unlimited cleanup in East Tennessee:
62 percent was bottles and cans!

Here are the basic "rules" for taking part:

1. Wear gloves, closed-toed shoes and a bright-colored shirt or jacket. (Safety first!)
2. Choose a stretch of road that is safe and accessible. Shoot for at least a quarter-mile of roadside, more if you've got plenty of volunteers.
3. If you plan to do this as a group (e.g., with your Scout troop or garden club), we urge you to get in touch with your county sheriff's office or solid-waste authority. Explain what you're doing, get their advice in choosing a safe location, and ask their help in getting the collected bags to the disposal or recycling facility.
4. If you are really energetic, contact your local newspaper or tv station. Urge them to cover this event! Also, notify local officials and invite them to come fill a bag or two.
5. Buy lots of 13-gallon drawstring garbage bags. (You can get 100 or so at Walmart for under \$10.) It's important to use 13-gallon drawstring bags **ONLY**, as these can be filled full without getting too heavy, and they tie off easily. This is important if we are to get an accurate, consistent count.
6. (OPTIONAL:) Get something to mark a big X on the bags filled with containers. We like red duct tape, but a big magic marker will do. The X will make the bags stand out as people drive by; it will also make it easier to count the totals at the end of the day.
7. Place a brightly colored sign at each end of your cleanup route. The signs might say something like, "X = Bottle and Cans." To make a sign, tape or staple two pieces of poster board over a sharp stake.
8. If possible, work in teams of two. One person will pick up all the beverage containers; the other will pick up everything else. **NOTE: DO NOT BAG** very large or unwieldy items such as tires, appliances, etc. List them separately on the report form, and try to make sure they are hauled away at the end of the cleanup.
9. When you are finished, count the bags, fill out the report form (over), and send it to us using the address provided. If possible, take photos and send these as well. Finally, make sure all bags are landfilled or recycled.

NOTE: If you decide to sort and recycle the glass, plastic and aluminum containers, that's great—but be sure to do so carefully. Many containers will be dirty and mangled, and glass bottles may have shattered during pickup.

Questions? Call or e-mail margedavis at (615) 758-8647
margedavis@comcast.net
or visit www.tnbottlebill.org

X MARKS THE SPOT REPORT FORM

Your name _____

Your organization or affiliation (if any) _____

Your address _____

City, state, ZIP _____ County _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Date & location of cleanup _____ Miles cleaned (approx) _____

Description of site (urban or rural, extent of littering, etc.) _____

Did you work with a group? If so, which one(s)? _____

Number of volunteers: Adults _____ Children _____

Did you work with a local official? If so, who? _____

IMPORTANT: In order to assure an accurate count, please use 13-gallon drawstring bags ONLY!

DO INCLUDE: glass, plastic, aluminum and bimetal containers, 2 liters and under, no matter how smashed up.
DO INCLUDE: soda, water, beer, ale, tea drinks, coffee drinks, sports drinks, juices, mixed spirits, wine coolers and any other carbonated or non-carbonated beverage that is not listed in the next paragraph.
DO NOT INCLUDE: milk, table wine or liquor. These are not part of the proposed bottle bill.

Bag Contents	# of filled bags	X 13 gallons	Total gallons
Beverage containers ONLY			
All other litter			
Large or unusual items (tires, appliances, etc.). DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BAG. INSTEAD, LIST THEM HERE:			
Additional remarks:			

Please mail or fax this completed report and any related material (photographs, news clips, etc.) to:

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 Tennessee Bottle Bill Project
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