



BEACH LITTER MONITORING AND CLEAN UP AT A GLANCE

do's and don'ts

Curated by: **P. Franceschetti- D. Poletto- G. Toso**

segreteria@plasticfreevenice.org

Venice Lagoon Plastic Free

www.plasticfreevenice.org



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MEDITERRANEAN SEA BASIN LIGHTHOUSE

HOW TO ORGANIZE BEACH LITTER MONITORING

TOOLS NEEDED:

- Local map and GPS localizer (i.e smart phone)
- Camera (i.e smart phone)
- REMEDIES shoreline litter monitoring app
- Printing Items Classification List (G and J codes) as a back up
- Pen/pencil
- 4 movable signals (wood sticks, flags, others - If you do not use the app)
- open reel surveyors tape 100 mt

TO REMEMBER:

- Define the date of the monitor in clear weather and don't carry it out after an exceptional weather events (i.e. storm surges, floods, etc.)
- Preserve the environment and be mindful about the wildlife present in the hot-spot areas
- Plan your activity in coordination with the waste management entities and other relevant local authorities for authorization and data sharing
- Take always an insurance for the planned activity

DON'T DO IT



- The 100-meter transect on the beach must be representative (do not select the most polluted part of the beach).
- Stick to the selected beach and its transect for the seasonal beach litter monitoring rounds. Do not shift the survey time: if a month is set, adhere to it periodically (October 2023 - October 2024).
- Monitor only what is naturally stranded and visible on the surface of the beach—do not dig to search for litter or look for other litter accumulated by other means.



WHERE MONITORING



- Sometimes it is difficult to identify the width of the beach to monitor.

Useful tip: monitor only from the water edge to the back of the beach defined by stable-consolidated vegetation



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WHERE MONITORING



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TO DO IN MONITORING



- Monitor all the litter > 2,5 cm
- If you are not able to assign the specific G/J code, take a picture and share it with the organization(s) in charge for validation or that can help validation
- The single wood eligible for monitoring is the processed wood
- After the monitoring activities remember to properly remove and dispose the litter



INFORMATION IN MONITORING



- If a plastic bottle has a cap, you should count only the bottle and not add the cap (caps should be counted only if found alone).
- If you find fragments of the same item, you should count each fragment, not as a single item.



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WARNINGS!

TO REMEMBER

- **Make sure that the activities will not pose any threat to endangered or protected species and their habitats, such as sea turtles, sea birds or shore birds, marine mammals or sensitive beach vegetation; in many cases this would exclude protected areas, but it depends on local management arrangements. Always consult protected areas conservational management authorities before going operational with clean up or beach litter monitoring activities.**
- **Try to avoid conducting beach surveys during the summertime in areas with touristic presence, as beaches are cleaned by bathing facility managers for the tourist season. It is advised to organize monitoring surveys between the end of February and April (to minimize the impact on breeding bird species that generally colonize the beaches from April to May) or in the second half of September on.**



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BEACH LITTER CLEAN-UP MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

P. Franceschetti- D. Poletto- G. Toso



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1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SITE FOR BEACH LITTER CLEAN-UP



BEACH IDENTIFICATION PHASE:

TOOLS NEEDED:

- Local map GPS localizer (i.e smart phone)
- Camera (i.e smart phone)

HOW TO DEFINE THE BEACH:

1. Define the macro-area of investigation (i.e. Venice coasts)
2. Identify the spot(s) that has to:
 - a) Have a free entrance during the year (no private areas)
 - b) Easy access and way to remove the litters
 - c) Be characterized by a low to moderate slope ($\sim 1-45^\circ$), which excludes very shallow tidal mudflat areas;
 - d) Get a beach with open shorelines to walk through (not obstructed by breakwaters or jetties);
 - e) close to a street,
 - f) with a car park or public transports close by
 - g) with a high presence of litter accumulation hot spots.



1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SITE TO BE CLEANED-UP



OPERATIONAL STEPS

1. Scouting areas
2. Identify the hot-spot(s);
3. Take note of the geographical coordinates with GPS localizer of the hot-spot to clean;
4. Take pics or video clips of the entire investigated area and in particular of the hot-spots for advocacy and clean up impact maximization communication.



2. HOW TO ORGANIZE BEACH LITTER CLEAN-UP



PRE-EVENT COMMUNICATION:

- The communication should be flexible enough to address different stakeholders with variable communication strategies.
- To have the highest participation from volunteers the pre-communication has to start a couple of weeks before the date of the clean-up event.
- The information to give to the participants have to be clear, easy to understand and straightforward
- The best tentative days to set a clean-up is on Saturday or Sunday if you wish higher number of participants.
- The “meeting/information point” for the volunteers has to be close to the clean-up site and easy to spot, close to public transportation stop or car park.



2. HOW TO ORGANIZE IT



WHAT TO COMMUNICATE:

- Time of the clean-up, including the date, the starting and final time hour
- The site of the clean-up and the identification of a specific “meeting point”
- A contact person with phone number and email
- Partners/organisers/sponsors of the event
- Basic operational recommendations in terms of equipment and other (gloves, shoes, caps, etc.)

PREPARATION:

1. Contact the city departments-authorities in charge of any necessary authorization(s)
2. Contact the waste management authority to arrange:
 - a. Removal and final disposal and treatment of all litter collected, providing location(s), timetable of the event and final pick up point(s)
 - b. Any other logistic and organisational support you deem necessary (special requests, distribution of material to roll out clean up etc.
 - c. Authorisation to use logos and synergies at the communication level
3. Design and create an appealing event flyer with logistics and time schedule details to rely volunteers to share in all communication channels (issued before clean up – 10-14 days)
4. Provide REMEDIES C&D leading partner with suitable communication outputs



3. HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE CLEAN-UP



TOOLS NEEDED:

- Table
- Tokens (t shirts, flags, caps, posters, etc.) that may identify the implementing organization(s), the project (REMEDIES), the donor (EU)
- Marketing flyers/gadgets of REMEDIES Project (always with the project and donor logo displayed)
- Smart Phone
- Dynamometer scale
- Camera (i.e. smart phone)
- Pencil and papers with printed clean up sheet (VLPF format)
- Gloves
- Pickers (not indispensable but useful)
- Coloured waste bags for litter collection to separate plastics from non-plastics material that need to be reported separately
- First aid kit



3. HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE CLEAN-UP



STEPS:

1. The organizer have to meet at least one ½ hour before the communicated clean-up starting time required to set out all is required for the activity.
2. When the participants arrive, remember to explain the following :
 - a. The area that has to be cleaned
 - b. The safety information about the clean-up (i.e. don't pick too heavy litters, stay off dangerous areas, etc.) and to respect the environment/animals (if present)
 - c. Check if each team-participant is adequately equipped (glove, waste bag etc).
 - d. Provide a reminder of clean up ending time
 - e. Ask to use two different waste bags: one only for plastics an the other for the rest of litters
 - f. Say where all the waste will be collected and leave the waste bags
3. During the clean-up leave at least one of your team at the “meeting/information point” to welcome late volunteers.
4. Provide constant assistance and supervision to all volunteers during the activity (as organizer you are liable at the penal and civil level)
5. Half hour before the end of the clean-up, prepare the participants to the closure of the event leading them to the waste collection area for the clean up.
6. At the end of the clean-up, be sure that all the participants leave the area and that all the litter has been properly disposed in line with the waste management authority provisions



3. HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE CLEAN-UP



DATA COLLECTION:

Before the removal of the litters by the waste management authority, it is necessary to record the following information:

- Number of participants
- Weight of plastic litters collected using the dynamometer-scale
- Weight of no-plastic litter collected using the dynamometer-scale
- Pictures of the overall waste bags collected

All data must be recorded, saved and added in the REMEDIES app when available.

POST EVENT COMMUNICATION:

After the clean up is valuable to communicate its impact. It might be useful to :

- Date and area of the clean-up,
- The number of participants and partners involved in the clean-up
- The weight of the plastic removed
- significant images of the clean-up event (photo gallery)
- Any further follow up



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