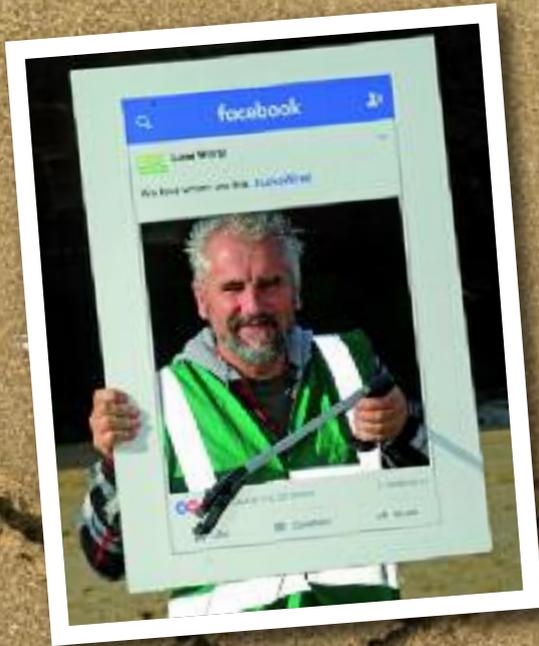


# WE LOVE WHERE WE LIVE

## LITTER PICK PACK



**LOVE  
WIRRAL**

## In this LITTER PICK PACK you will find:

- MORE ABOUT THE LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE CAMPAIGN
- A LITTER PICK SAFETY CHECKLIST
- WHAT WIRRAL COUNCIL CAN DO TO HELP
- A GUIDE TO ORGANISING A LITTER PICK
- SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

## Introducing Wirral's **LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE** campaign

Wirral residents love where they live; they are active, and take real ownership and pride in making sure Wirral looks its best. The **Love Where You Live (LWYL)** campaign encourages and enables all residents to take pride in their local community and increase personal responsibility, to keep Wirral 'clean and green'.

Through LWYL, Wirral Council aims to recognise and fully support volunteers; by making sure they have the tools they need and promoting their work.

**Thank you for wanting to help with the campaign!**



### **THE IMPORTANT BIT:**

It is really important that you work safely during your litter pick. Here is a list of things to consider:

## Litter Pick **SAFETY CHECKLIST**

- Avoid direct contact with litter at all times - use the litter picking sticks provided and do not touch anything with your hands!
- Be aware of your environment and do not put yourself at risk whilst picking litter - this is especially important near roads.
- Do not pick when visibility is poor and only pick in daylight hours.
- Rubbish bags should not be compressed using hands or feet as this can accidentally puncture the skin.
- Do not pick up any items that cannot easily be identified or where they are clearly hazardous, such as asbestos.  
**Report to Wirral Council on 0151 606 2004.**
- Do not attempt to remove animals or their faeces. If the animal is dead report it to **Wirral Council on 0151 606 2004.**
- Any needles or drug paraphernalia needs to be left alone and reported to **Wirral Council on 0151 606 2004.**
- Avoid contact with the body when carrying plastic bin bags.
- Do not attempt to pick up any large or potentially heavy items, such as gas bottles or canisters.
- Ensure any cuts or abrasions are clean and covered with a waterproof plaster.
- Clean hands thoroughly before eating food or drinking.
- Wear sturdy shoes or boots and weather appropriate clothing.
- Always wear a high visibility vest, be aware of traffic at all times and stop picking to allow any vehicle to pass.
- Stay clear of cliff edges, water, rocks and large areas of mud.
- Do not overfill bin bags and avoid lifting heavy objects or sacks alone.
- Follow local rules as well as our guidelines, including safe and lawful parking.
- Do not confront anyone you see littering.
- Do not remove any tributes that you see (e.g. flowers or sport team jerseys/scarves).

## What can Wirral Council do to **HELP?**

Once you have decided to do a litter pick - either by yourself or with like-minded members of your local community - we can help you by lending you some equipment.

### **Our litter picking kit includes:**

- litter picking sticks (adult and children sizes)
- high visibility vests (adult and children sizes)
- litter collection hoops and bags
- everything neatly packed in a duffle bag

If you are planning to borrow our equipment, you will have to sign an agreement on the day of collection to say you have read and will adhere to all our guidelines about making health and safety paramount. **All equipment hire is free of charge.** If the equipment gets damaged or lost, please report it as soon as possible or upon return. The responsible person will have to organise for the kits to be picked up and returned to your local Love Where You Live Hub within an agreed time frame.

We will also collect the litter that you pick up during your litter pick free of charge from an agreed collection point, if required. The LWYL hub where you collected your litter picking kit will be able to give you the contact details to arrange this. If you are only collecting a small amount of litter, then you can put a bag into the nearest litter bin and it will be collected when the bin is next emptied.

**If you catch the litter picking bug and want to do regular events, then let us know and we will give you a litter picking kit that you can keep.**

## A guide to **ORGANISING A LITTER PICK**

To ensure your litter pick is as safe and well thought out as possible please take time to read these tips.

### **1. PLAN AHEAD**

Choose an area you want to clean up. Contact landowners - the council, farmers, or local estate owners - to make sure you have legal access to the area. Once you know where you would like to hold your litter pick decide when you want to do it. If it is a one-off event then think about who you'd like to join in and when they might be available (for example families with children will only be able to get involved after school or at the weekend).

If you would like to run regular litter picking activities then ask us if we know of other communities doing the same in your area or find your nearest litter group. You can share ideas with them, learn about what they do, find out how they got funding for any additional equipment and how they try to stop littering in the first place.

If you will need the Council to collect the bags of litter after your event, please contact us at least one week in advance, so that we can arrange a suitable collection point and let you know where that will be.



## **2. TELL PEOPLE - AND US**

- Tell your friends, family, and neighbours you need their help.
- Make it easy for people to join in - can they just drop in for 10 mins?
- Use posters in local shop windows, word of mouth, social media and community notice boards to advertise your event locally.

Some useful online networks to recruit volunteers include:

- **Community Action Wirral** (<http://communityactionwirral.org.uk/>)
- **Litter Action** (<http://www.litteraction.org.uk/>)
- **Do-It** (<https://do-it.org/>)
- **Helpfulpeeps** (<https://www.helpfulpeeps.com/>)

Your clean-up event is an excellent opportunity for you, your group or organisation to get some publicity! Approach the local press at least one week before the event. If they are unable to cover the event, why not send them a brief story and photograph afterwards.

Tell Wirral Council at [www.wirralview.com](http://www.wirralview.com) (click on 'submit a story' button at the bottom of the page). We can share your news on our website or social media channels.

## **3. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Wirral Council takes Health and Safety very seriously. Please think carefully about the location of your litter pick and ensure that all participants understand the need to act in a safe manner. Be especially careful near roads and keep a close watch on any children involved. Only litter pick along roads where there is a pedestrian pavement or wide grass verge. It is also really important to wear sturdy shoes or boots and not to use your hands to pick up any waste - only use the litter picking sticks provided.

There is an example risk assessment form at [www.wirral.go.uk/lovewirral](http://www.wirral.go.uk/lovewirral) for guidance to help you with health and safety considerations.

## 4. CHECKLIST

Prepare yourself and your helpers for the day:

- Decide where and when you will meet.
- Think about if and how to split the group up to cover the area.
- Decide how long you will litter pick, when you will take breaks if necessary.
- Think about refreshments and what toilet facilities are available. Is there a local business nearby that might offer all involved a free cup of tea or juice?
- Consider using a map to show the litter picking area, locations of any toilets or cafes.
- Think about first aid, safety and hygiene - will there be a first aider in the group, do you have a supply of antibacterial wipes or hand gel, take some plasters and antiseptic for any cuts or grazes (but please note that no-one should be touching litter with their hands).
- Read and, if possible, print a copy of the litter pick safety checklist. There's also a laminated copy attached to the litter picking kit bag for handy reference.
- Have you considered completing a risk assessment; is there anything else you need to prepare for the day?
- Think about who will document the event, such as take photos and get permissions to use the images.



## 5. ON THE DAY

On the day please ask people to sign in and out, so you know how many people have taken part and that they have all finished safely.

**When you are ready please brief the group on:**

- The Litter Pick Safety Checklist.
- Meeting points, break and finish times.
- Where to place the collected litter - consider using a map.
- Who the first aider is or what to do if an injury occurs.
- Let them know to use #LoveWirral for sharing on social media.
- Thank them for joining.
- Exchange mobile phone numbers to ensure good communication links within the group.

**Also check:**

- Everyone has appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather and terrain and has been provided with a high visibility vest. Wirral Council does not supply gloves as hands should not be used for picking up litter.
- There is sufficient supervision for young/vulnerable volunteers.

**Always be considerate to wildlife and people using the area:**

- Do not disturb animals or damage plants.
- Do not remove 'natural' rubbish like logs, stones and weeds.
- Do not try and release entangled animals. **See our list of useful contact numbers for who to call for help.**

**PS. Do make time for a photo!** It is helpful for everyone to see pictures that show the scale of the problem and the effort and time people are taking to clean up Wirral. Ensure you get permissions if using photos of people. Before and after photos are great for showing what has been achieved.

## 6. COLLECTION

After the event please ensure that the litter was collected at the agreed time from the agreed location. If not, please contact your local Neighbourhood Environmental Services Officer.

## 7. FEEDBACK

Tell us how you got on...

- How many people joined in?
- How many bags were collected?

If you have a photo and the permissions for us to publish it please send it our way! (via email or social media).



## Some useful CONTACTS

- **Emergency services: 999 or 112**
- **Streetscene to report hazardous waste or drug/sex paraphernalia: 0151 606 2004** (or you can report it online [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk))
- **RSPCA for animals in distress: 0300 123 4999**
- **Community Action Wirral: [www.communityactionwirral.org.uk](http://www.communityactionwirral.org.uk)** (for information on planned litter picking events or advertising your own event).
- **Neighbourhood teams** (for information on existing litter picking groups in your area or help and advice setting up a new group):
  - Birkenhead**  
Email: [andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk) Call: 0151 691 8391
  - Wallasey**  
Email: [michellegray@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:michellegray@wirral.gov.uk) Call: 0151 666 4902
  - Wirral South**  
Email: [shannonkennedy@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:shannonkennedy@wirral.gov.uk) Call: 0151 666 3076
  - Wirral West**  
Email: [helengallagher@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:helengallagher@wirral.gov.uk) Call: 0151 691 8650
- To arrange for your bags of litter to be removed, please email [wasteandenvironment@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:wasteandenvironment@wirral.gov.uk)

**We would like to thank you for joining in the effort to  
KEEP WIRRAL CLEAN AND GREEN!**

**Please don't forget to tell us how you get on and send us  
pictures from your pick.**

**[www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk)**

**Facebook: LoveWirral**

**Twitter: #LoveWirral**

**Instagram: love\_wirral**



[www.wirral.gov.uk/lovewirral](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/lovewirral)  
f: @LoveWirral