



## We're so excited you are adopting a beach here in Ocean City!!

Each year, volunteers like you make a huge difference in the health of our beaches and oceans. Caring for you local stretch of the Ocean City shoreline is a great way to get outdoors with friends, family neighbors and coworkers ... and give back to the environment that gives us so much.

Hosting a section of the beach is easy. To guide you through the process, we've created this step-by-step checklist to help you. If you have any questions, we're here to help. Visit **Oceancitysurfclub.org** to find contact information for your Adopt Your Beach coordination.

See you at the beach!



Schedule your Adopt Your Beach Cleanup at

## Oceancitysurfclub.org.

- Help us understand the sources and impacts of littering and pollution. Not only will you learn valuable scientific processing skills, including making observations, collecting data, but submitting the data provides valuable information to Ocean City Surf Club, Ocean City's Green Team and our partner organizations. Not only does your cleanup and your data help your community and beaches, your data helps us develop solutions to litter and pollution problems around Ocean City.
- Develop a cleanup plan. Issues to consider include:

1) Are there any sensitive habitats or sand dunes that shouldn't be trampled. Note these and inform your volunteers of the need to stay clear of these areas, avoiding sensitive sand dunes.

2) Determine the boundaries of the cleanup area. It helps to have volunteers start at the furthest point and work their way back. (Trash bags can get heavy!)

3) Are there any safety issues to consider?



Gather materials for your cleanup.

## Must haves:

- Gloves
- Pencils
- Litter data forms
- Bags or buckets to hold trash, if possible ask volunteers to bring reusable gloves to make the event more sustainable.
- First aid kit

Optional (but handy items):

- Camera or cell phone for pictures!! Photos are great!
- Clipboards (Easy DIY clipboards: cut hard cardboard and use a binder clip)
- Create a sieve for small items (Easy DIY sieve: Cut the bottom of a plastic milk jug and put holes around the top)

\*\* For International Cleanup day, gloves and trash bags will be provided by Maryland Coastal Bays at their check in locations. \*\*



**Getting started** 

Volunteer instructions.

- Safety, Stress personal safety with your volunteers
- DO NOT touch suspicious looking items
- DO NOT pick up dead animals. Leave them where they were found.
- Designate one group member as the Data Recorder. This person is responsible for filling in the data card.

Other team members pick up debris and tell the data recorder before the trash is put in the group's trash bag.



## Enter your cleanup data results at WWW.oceancitysurfclub.org



Share your photos and results!

- Post pictures on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Share on our facebook
- Tag #oceancitysurfclub #Adoptyourbeach

You're the best!!

Thank you for Adopting Your Beach!!