



DIY Neighborhood Cleanup

Los Angeles Water Quality

- *STORMDRAIN Who has seen one of these before?*
 - *Why do we have them? What do they usually look like?*
- Storm drains take the rainwater and runoff directly to the ocean untreated.
- When rainwater can't infiltrate into the soil it collects on streets until it goes into a storm drain.
- *What kind of consequences can that have?*
 - Trash, bacteria, dead zones, chemical runoff.
- Polluted water is an environmental and public health issue.
- 80% of the trash in the ocean comes from land
- 80% of that trash is made of plastic, which cannot biodegrade so it breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces.
 - Heal the Bay is working on policies to reduce single-use plastic.
- Storm water is untested and can carry bacteria and fecal coliforms.
 - Heal the Bay created the Beach Report Card so you know when it's safe to swim.
- The LA River watershed is a huge part of our county's storm drain system.
 - Heal the Bay is part of the LA River revitalization effort to enhance its ecological habitat.

CLEANUP INSTRUCTIONS

- **Minors (under 13 yrs) must be supervised at all times.**
- Work together.
- Supplies- one bucket, one data card, and one pencil. Each person gets one glove.
- Always use your gloved hand to pick up trash.
- Fill out the data card carefully; we use this for advocacy and education.
- Come back at [set time].
- Dispose of trash and submit data cards at the end of the cleanup.

What NOT to Pick Up

- 1) **DO NOT** pick up medical, hazardous, or waste materials, etc.
- 2) **DO NOT** pick up any weapons – notify the Police Dept.
- 3) **DO NOT** pick up dead/injured animals.
- 4) **DO NOT** pick up natural things (plants, rocks, sticks, feathers)- these things belong in nature.
- 5) **DO NOT** pick up syringes, needles, sharp objects, condoms, tampons, etc.
- 6) **WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T TOUCH IT!**

Cleanup Boundaries & Safety

- Be mindful of your surroundings and health:
 - 1) **BE CAREFUL OF** uneven terrain & bike paths.

Swimming Health Risks (See the Beach Report Card)

- Download the Beach Report Card app or find it on Heal the Bay's website.
- Swim at least 100 yards away from flowing storm drains and piers.
- Avoid swimming at the beach for 3 days after a rainstorm.