

BEACH CLEAN UP KIT



Why Clean Up?

Rottnest Island attracts around half a million visitors every year, which generates quite a bit of packaging and rubbish on the Island!

Even when people do the right thing with their litter, some can be blown by the wind and end up on the beaches and in the ocean. Rubbish and debris from ships and boats also contributes significantly to the litter found around the coastline.

Litter has visual impacts and raises concerns for the health and safety of people on the island (eg broken glass, cigarette butts). Rubbish of all types also has serious consequences for the health of native animals and the marine environment.

What's in it for you?

- Take a hands-on approach to caring for the environment
- Help protect the environment and animals of Rottnest Island, an A Class Reserve
- Learn about human impacts on the natural environment, particularly the effects of litter

What's in it for Rottnest Island?

- A clean environment for people to enjoy
- A healthy environment for wildlife
- Your help assists us to manage the pressure caused by high visitation to this popular Island

Keep it Simple or Contribute to Something Bigger

1- If you have limited time (1 hour or less), you can complete a simple data sheet to submit

2- If you have more time (1.5 hours+): The Rottnest Island Authority contributes more detailed data sheets to Tangaroa Blue Ocean Care Society. Tangaroa Blue is a non-profit organisation that aims to raise awareness of marine environmental issues, and encourages people to participate in conservation projects.

In the Marine Debris Project, participants record information about what types of items are found during beach clean ups. This information is used to trace common items back to their source. Tangaroa Blue then works with Government agencies and industry in an effort to influence the design or use of these items to reduce their need and resulting occurrence on our beaches.

More information and resources: www.oceancare.org.au

How to Get Involved

You can borrow a 'Clean Up Kit' from Rottnest Island Authority Education staff or the Volunteer Coordinator.

You need to book a kit to ensure that one is available. Please let us know how many people will be involved as kits contain equipment for 20 participants. We should be able to offer you multiple kits if required.

It is best to allow 1½- 2 hours for this activity so that you have time to go through the rubbish collected and fill in the data sheet for Tangaroa Blue.

When you borrow a kit you will be asked to leave the phone number of a leader with each group of up to 20- this will ensure that we can contact you during your activity if necessary.

Clean Up kits contain the following, contained in a calico bag:

- 20 x pairs of gloves (please keep in pairs!)
- 2 x tongs
- 1-2 sharps containers
- 10 x plastic bags
- 1 x sanitising gel
- 1 x clipboard and pen
- Data sheets (Rottnest Island Authority and Tangaroa Blue Ocean Care Society)
- Marine Debris Identification manuals
- Rottnest Island map
- Information about the effects of litter on the marine environment

Please take your own sunscreen and first aid kit

Taking part in a Clean Up

Choosing a site & getting there

Rottnest Island Authority staff will help you select a beach to clean up so that we can direct you to a safe site and one that needs a clean up.

If you have bikes for your group you may be able to ride to a beach out of the Thomson Bay settlement, otherwise you can walk to a beach close by.

Preparing your group

Groups must be well prepared for outdoor conditions. We recommend the following:

- Sunhat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Long sleeved shirt or t-shirt
- Footwear
- Warm clothing/ rain wear in cold weather
- Water bottle

*It is essential that all participants carry water with them, as there is limited drinking water available around the Island.

Gloves, tongs and plastic bags are provided by the Rottnest Island Authority.

Insurance

Participants are covered by the Rottnest Island Authority's Public Liability (\$10 000 000) and Volunteer Workers Insurance policies when undertaking volunteer tasks.

Managing your group on site

Each 'Clean Up Kit' contains a risk assessment relevant to the activity. Group leaders are responsible for passing on this information to participants and overseeing their safety.

If possible, keep recyclables and general rubbish in separate bags so that they can be put into the right bins at the end of your clean up.

To complete the Tangaroa Blue Debris sheet you will need to look over all of the rubbish collected and arrange it into categories to establish its origin and record it accurately.

All rubbish that you collect must go into rubbish bins at your clean up site. General waste and recycle bins are located right around the Island at beach access points.

If you have rubbish that doesn't fit in the bins, leave it in a pile beside the bins. It is important to let Rottnest Island staff know if there is additional rubbish when you return your kit. We will arrange to have that rubbish collected.

*Please check everything is placed back in the kit

*Return the kit to the Rottnest Island Authority staff/ Ranger office

Remember that Rottnest Island is an A Class Reserve, and natural and cultural objects found cannot be removed from the Island

Thank you for helping keep Rottnest Island's beaches clean!

