

Pitch-In Smiths Falls: April 21 – May 6, 2018 Safety Tips and Instructions

PLEASE SHARE THESE INSTRUCTIONS WITH YOUR GROUP

Please Come Prepared

- Pick up your supplies in the weeks prior to your cleanup at The REAL Deal Store, 85 William St. W., (across from the Railway Museum) phone 283-7999, and leave a name and contact information on the list.
- On your cleanup day, wear gloves, sturdy shoes (no sandals), long pants, hats, and sunscreen
- Consider wearing orange safety vests or a reflective band
- You may want to bring a pole or long stick with a nail in the end of it to snag hard to reach garbage.

REAL Will Supply You With:

- Garbage bags – Some will be marked PitchIn, but any of them are acceptable. Use clear ones for recyclables.
- A handful of grocery sized bags. It is helpful to collect in smaller bags and empty into the larger bags periodically. Bring more if you have a large group!
- Some disposable gloves for those who don't have their own work gloves.
- A Group Leader Report Form to complete (although you can get us your results in many other ways.)

Please Think Safety at all Times

- Closely supervise your group, especially children.
- Do not allow children in wooded areas or near the water.
- Do not go on private property unless you have permission.
- Be careful around parked cars, or along roads or driveways.
- Do not carry heavy or bulky items.
- Wash hands thoroughly before eating or after collecting garbage.

Hazardous Items

- **DO NOT ALLOW PARTICIPANTS TO PICK UP HAZARDOUS ITEMS SUCH AS DISCARDED NEEDLES OR CONDOMS. THIS IS A SERIOUS HEALTH RISK.**
- Notify organizers of any hazardous items, and we will send a designated person to collect them.
- Be cautious of: broken glass, sharp or rusty metal, and partially submerged aerosol cans. Consider having the leader or just one person responsible for these items. IF IN DOUBT, DO NOT PICK IT UP.

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General Instructions

- Pick up your supplies at the REAL Deal Store, 85 William St. W., Thurs through Sat., 10 – 4 p.m.
- You may work anywhere you choose, but please try to avoid the areas already claimed by schools and groups who traditionally do certain sites (see website.)
- Go over all safety instructions with your group.
- Pick up all garbage except for the hazards mentioned under “Hazardous Items”.
- Place the garbage into separate bags: recyclable items in a clear bag so it can be identified, and other garbage into other bags provided.
- Separate recyclable bottles, cans, and plastic drink bottles only, do not separate miscellaneous small bits of paper or miscellaneous plastic. If in doubt, or if an item is particularly dirty, place it with the regular garbage.
- Place the filled bags together in pile near the road or parking lot for easy pickup by town staff in trucks.
- Make sure a marked Pitch In bag is clearly visible.

After the Clean Up

- Contact us so we can make sure what you collected is picked up.
- **Fill out and complete your Group Leader Report by May 13.**
- Don't forget to notify us of hazardous or bulky items to be picked up.
- Return any unused bags or other supplies to The REAL Deal Store
- If after a week your garbage has not been collected, please contact us again.
- Thank your group for a job well done!

Thank you for Pitching-In to Clean up Smiths Falls

Questions?

Contact: Cathryn Davidson (613) 283-9819 / info@REALaction.ca
Or the REAL DEAL Store: 613-283-7999

For more information about Pitch-In Smiths Falls see: www.REALaction.ca, the website of the Rideau Environmental Action League