

What Happens Next

Town staff will be watching for garbage collected over the two weeks. But please call if:



- You cleaned up in a more remote area
- After three days bags have not been collected.
- Your bags were put out after the end of the cleanup period.

Please also contact us if:

- There are hazardous or bulky items to be dealt with
- There is anything you think we should know about the site

In addition to the Pitch In completion form on the website, we'd love to see some photos of you and your team cleaning up. Submit them by May 11 to be considered for prizes!

Please return any unused supplies to the REAL Deal (Pitch In bags especially!)

Contact Us



Phone: Joanne at (613) 447-6709

Email: PitchInSF@REALaction.ca

Message us on Facebook

Drop into store

Use black mailbox at REAL Deal front door

57 Years of Keeping Canada Litter Free

Pitch In Canada began in British Columbia over 50 years ago. REAL volunteers have participated in cleanups since the group was established in 1989. In 2001 REAL began coordinating groups to locations. Locally REAL makes the cleanup two weeks long to give people more time to participate, and because the weather is not always cooperative in late April.

Most Canadian municipalities participate. If you live outside of Smiths Falls, check with your town or township as they likely supply Pitch In bags, and have arrangements for collection or no cost deposit at your waste transfer site.

REAL would like to thank all the residents, groups, schools and businesses who have participated this year - it speaks well of our community that so many people are willing to take action.



www.pitch-in.ca

REAL people taking REAL action to protect our environment.

REAL Deal Reuse Store

613-283-7999

85 William Street W., Smiths Falls

www.REALaction.ca



**RIDEAU
ENVIRONMENTAL
ACTION LEAGUE**

Pitch In Smiths Falls April 20-May 4, 2024 Shoreline Cleanup May 4

An annual community-wide litter cleanup. Help create a cleaner, greener Smiths Falls!



**Pick up supplies beginning
April 10th at
the REAL Deal Store,
85 William St. W, Smiths Falls
Open Wed. to Sat. 10–5**

We will provide

- a bucket: (optional)
- garbage bags marked "Pitch In" (may be yellow or clear)
- a few small bags. It is easier to collect in small bags (especially for kids) and dump in the larger bag
- a few disposable gloves. Best to bring your own work, garden or rubber gloves.

Please Go Out Prepared

Dress appropriately for outdoor work:

- Sturdy shoes (no sandals), possibly even rubber boots
- Work, garden or rubber gloves
- Long pants and hats
- Sunscreen
- Consider orange safety vests or reflective bands for visibility

Also consider:

- A long stick with a nail in the end ('litter picker') for snagging hard to reach garbage (or a purchased "grabber")
- Water and/or treats for your group!
- Wipes or hand sanitizer.

Where to Clean Up

REAL will not be matching groups to locations this year, with the exception of shoreline sites.

Some groups have traditionally done certain areas (often schools or parks), so please consult the list on our website so you can avoid those spots. There is lots of trash to go around!

Take a look at the area before taking a group there, and consider whether it is safe for children in your group.

If you need suggestions, please call or email REAL or check our website.



Safety Considerations

- Closely supervise your group, especially children (do not allow children in wooded areas or near water)
- Do not go on private property without permission
- Be cautious near parked cars and along roads or driveways
- Do not attempt to move heavy/bulky items
- Wash hands thoroughly after collecting garbage and before eating.

Exercise Caution With These Items

Condoms, needles, sharp or rusty metal, broken glass, submerged items, particularly submerged aerosol cans, and heavy items.



- Consider having one person in your group be responsible for handling these items.
- Be sure to wear gloves
- If you need to pick up a needle, use pliers or tongs and place it in a hard plastic container with lid
- See the Health Unit website for needle collection box locations. In Smiths Falls there are black boxes at Lower Reach Park, at the corner of Church and Elmsley St. N, and the Health Unit, 25 Johnston St.

Please notify us or the town of any hazards you may find

What to Do

- Put all garbage in bags unless it is very bulky: tires, bikes, tents etc.
- Start with the Pitch In bags, use plain bags if necessary.
- Place large recyclables in a separate clear bag: cans, unbroken glass bottles, or plastic bottles ONLY.
- Do not put any other materials like paper wrappers, in the bag, it will not get recycled!
- If the recyclable item is very dirty, please just put it in the garbage bag.
- Broken glass can be put in the plastic bucket.

When You are Done

- Place the filled bags together in a pile near the road or parking lot so that town staff can access it by truck
- Leave any large unbagged items beside it.
- Make sure a marked Pitch In bag is clearly visible.
- Go to our Pitch In page and submit the Pitch In Completion form:
<https://www.reaction.ca/waste/pitch-in-response/>

