

## What Happens Next

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



- You cleaned up in an out of the way spot
- After a three days you notice the bags have not been collected.
- You end up putting out bags shortly after 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

Please take a moment to send us a Pitch In completion form available on the Pitch In Smiths Falls page of our website.

**Return unused supplies to the REAL Deal, especially marked Pitch In bags.**

## Contact Us



Phone (613) 283-7999  
Email [info@REALaction.ca](mailto:info@REALaction.ca)  
Facebook message  
Drop into store  
Black mailbox at REAL Deal front door

## A Short History of Pitch In

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. This will be the 20th year for a community wide cleanup. 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.



[www.pitch-in.ca](http://www.pitch-in.ca)

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.

***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](http://www.REALaction.ca)



**RIDEAU  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTION LEAGUE**

# Pitch In Smiths Falls April 24—May 8, 2021

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



**Pick up supplies beginning  
April 7 at the REAL Deal Store,  
85 William St. W, Smiths Falls  
Open Wed. to Sat. 10—5**

We will provide

- a bucket:
- garbage bags: some yellow and clear bags marked Pitch In, some plain
- a few grocery 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.

## Please Go Out Prepared

Dress appropriately for outdoor work:

- Sturdy shoes (no sandals), possibly even rubber boots
- Work gloves or garden 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 for snagging hard to reach garbage
- 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.



## 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 cautious near parked cars, or along roads or driveways
- Do not attempt to move heavy or bulky items.
- Wash hands thoroughly after collecting garbage or before eating.

## Avoid Handling These Items

Exercise extreme caution with these items:

- condoms
- needles
- sharp or rusty metal
- anything submerged
- particularly submerged aerosol cans
- anything heavy



Consider having one person in your group be responsible for handling these items.

**Let us know about any hazards after your cleanup and we will notify authorities.**

## What to Do

- Put all garbage in bags unless it is very bulky: tires, bikes, tents etc.
- Start with the yellow Pitch in bags, use plain bags if necessary.
- Place large recyclables in a separate clear Pitch In 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 yellow Pitch in bag is clearly visible.
- Go to our Pitch In page and submit the Pitch In Completion form

