



AUTUMN TRAIL CLEANS

Digital Pack

This year is going to be unforgettable, thank you for being part of it!



This Autumn, the Trash Free Trails community are hosting local trail cleans, all on the same weekend! That's right, one weekend and one weekend only to make it count. The **25-26th October** will be one to remember.

Whatever the weather throws our way, we'll be out there - together, for each other and for our trails. We'd love you to be a part of it by hosting your own trail clean!

What's included in this pack:

- Choosing a trail clean location
- How to promote your local trail clean
- Equipment for hosting your clean
- Talking points for a trail clean
- On the day information

Choosing a Trail Clean Location



Here's some questions to ask yourself when choosing a trail clean location. You don't have to answer or provide for all of them, but they will help narrow down your choice:

- Is the location a public space? (eg. park, trail, managed woodland)
- Is the location accessible on foot, bike or by car?
- Does the location have parking?
- How long does it take to travel to the location from the nearest residential area?
- What time does the location open and close to the public?

Promoting your Trail Clean



With the 25-26th October being 6 weeks away it's never too early to start shouting about what's happening. So where you should you shout about it?

- Pop a post in local Facebook groups such as 'Friends of' the location, or activity based groups
- Write into WhatsApp group chats and communities, this is great for quick Q&As
- Ask a friend to bring a friend along to the clean
- Pop into local cafes or community centres to use their noticeboards
- Ask to do a newsletter swap with similar organisations or schools
- Publicise on local 'what's on' websites in your area

When sharing your event, make sure to include these points of information:

- Location: Use [What3Words](#) for precision, mention if there is a car park or not/ what public transport links are available to your location
- Date and Timings: include both start and end time to manage expectations
- Extras: Coffee and cake? Let people know if any special treats are being provided to entice them in!
- Don't forget to tag [@TrashFreeTrails](#) [#AutumnTrailCleanWeekender2025](#) and use our [roundel design here](#)
- Remind attendees when there is 1 or 2 weeks to go with an updated check on the weather forecast

Equipment for a trail clean



- Bin bags
- Gloves
- Clipboard and pen
- Tally sheet
- Personal first aid kit
- Water bottle
- Reusable coffee cup
- Lunch with plenty of snacks!

Optional:

- Bin bag hoop holders
- Bandit bingo
- The 9 steps for a trail clean info sheet

Talking points for a trail clean



It's great to start a trail clean with an introduction with bit of information about you, your local area, your link with TFT and how this is more than 'just a trail clean'! Feel free to use any of the pointers below and adapt into your own words:

- TFTs Mission: To (re)connect people with nature through the simple yet meaningful act of removing single-use pollution (SUP) from places we love.
- TFT believe disconnection from nature, each other and ourselves is the heart of the 'littering issue', and so by tackling disconnection we can change the state of our trails.
 - (Bonus points to explain why we call it single-use pollution, not litter!)
- It's incredibly important we record what we find, as this information will be submitted to the UK's first study into terrestrial pollution on recreational trails. ([The State of Our Trails Report](#))
 - This works well by pairing up or grouping together, where one person has a Tally Sheet, and the others clean, stating what they've found.
- If you are a TFT Community Hub, perhaps explain a bit of your locations history and how it came to be a Hub.

On the day!



Wow, that rolled around quick didn't it?! Some key pointers for the day itself!

- Make sure to arrive early and get familiar with the surrounding area
- Lay out the supplies in a clear way
- Before you start cleaning, run through a quick safety briefing and check that attendees are okay with being photographed
- Encourage conversation by chatting with attendees, asking them where they've come from, how they found out about the clean
- Collate all of the data for a big 'total items removed' reveal and report your findings [here](#).
- After the clean make sure to reward yourself afterwards! Either head out on the clean trails for a ride, run or roam or grab a slice of cake nearby!
- Don't forget to snap that all important group photo with a TFT roundel and upload them [here](#)

School Poster Competition



As part of hosting an Autumn Trail Clean we have introduced a 'poster design competition', for students to creatively think how they can encourage others to help keep their trails as clean as they can be!

Let local schools in your area know this is happening by emailing them the [design brief](#), with the accompanying email template [here](#)!

Once submissions have closed, we'll then ask you to choose a winner from a school nearby. TFT HQ will then print up some copies of the winning design, and you'll reveal the winner at your trail clean!

We'll be in touch after the competition deadline to share the posters for you to choose your winner from!