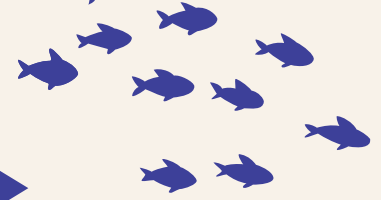




Keep Texas
Beautiful



Trash Free Gulf *Data Submission Guide*



Turn the Tide for Texas Waters

We can work together to keep Texas waterways clean and create a lasting impact downstream. In Spring 2025, partners across Texas will conduct litter cleanups in every major watershed and along the coastline to work toward a **Trash Free Gulf**.

Our Goals

- 1** Connect Texans with their waterways and the Gulf.
- 2** Reduce single-use plastics and polystyrene foam.
- 3** Prevent trash from reaching our waterways and the ocean.
- 4** Promote proper recycling and sustainable materials.

Cleanup Data Collection

Make a Plan in Advance

Team Captain: Assign a leader responsible for cleanup report data.

Litter Audit Organizer: Identify who will conduct the litter audit.

Data Submission: Ensure someone is in charge of submitting reports.



Types of Reports

Cleanup Reports (One per location)

- Contact Information
- Location & Site Details
- Trash Volume Collected
- Volunteer Data
- Location marked on the map

Trash Survey Reporting - Random Bag Audit Method

1. Bring all collected trash bags to a central location.
2. Randomly select a number of bags.
3. Dump contents, categorize, and inventory using the [STOP Field Sheet](#).
4. Submit all data to the [Texas Litter Database](#) as a Trash Survey.

Timeline & Resources

Order Cleanup Kits: Up to 3 kits available via [Keep Texas Waterways Clean](#) (must order at least 3 weeks before your event)

Submit Data: Deadline is **June 11, 2025**.

Get Help: Attend the [Texas Litter Database Office Hours](#) webinar on **June 4 at 12:00 PM**.

Together, we can protect Texas waterways and ensure a cleaner future for our communities and the Gulf!





Submit Data

Cleanup Report Worksheet for the Texas Litter Database

Use this worksheet in the field to capture data about your litter cleanup. The questions asked in this worksheet are in the same order as they appear on the web form. Required questions are marked with an ***asterisk**. This form is for your use only; data must be submitted to texaslitter.org

***Organization Name:**

***Contact First and Last Name:**

***Contact Email:**

***Where did you complete the cleanup?** Please be as specific as possible describing the location of your cleanup. Whoever submits the data will be drawing the exact location on a map of where your cleanup took place. Use descriptors like, "We cleaned up both sides of the road from the intersection of Main St to First St, and we went all the way to City Hall," or "We cleaned up City Park from the parking lot to the stream."

***Was this event part of a KTB sponsored event?** (ie Fall Sweep, Great American Cleanup, etc)

Trash Free Gulf

Site Name: If doing a repeated cleanup at a site, try to use the same name! If the cleanup was completed in a named area, use that facility's name, site number, etc

Do you have an external ID for this site? Enter any organization specific external ID/names.

Site Notes: Is there any information you'd like to capture about the site?

Event Notes: Is there any information you'd like to record about this event?

***Date of Event:**

***Is there a trash can visible from the cleanup location?**

***Is there a recycling bin visible from the cleanup location?**

***Is this an illegal dump site?** (Is there evidence of illegal dumping like large abandoned items or piles of trash bags?)

What were the site types at the survey location? Select as many habitat types/land cover categories as needed.

- Beach (fresh or salt water)
- Downtown/Business
- Greenbelt
- Neighborhood
- Other
- Park
- Road
- Trail/Path
- Waterway

Trash Volume and Weight Data

How many SMALL bags were collected for the cleanup? count all bags in 0-9 gallon range **How**

many MEDIUM bags were collected for the cleanup? count all bags in the 10 to 29 gallon range **How**

many LARGE bags were collected for the cleanup? count all bags in the 30 gallon and up range **How**

much did trash collected for the cleanup weigh (in pounds)?

Volunteer Summary Data

What was your total number of volunteers?

What was your total number of volunteer hours? multiply your number of volunteers by the hours at the event

Did you track volunteer ages?

- How many volunteers were 18 and under?
- How many volunteers were 19 to 25?
- How many volunteers were 26 to 40?
- How many volunteers were 41 to 65?
- How many volunteers were over 65?

Miles Cleaned

TxDOT road miles cleaned:

Waterway miles:

Thank You!

Once finished, submit your data to texaslitter.org OR return this data sheet to the organizer of your cleanup, so they can complete the data submission for you. Remember to be as specific as possible about your cleanup location, and include as much data as possible (* items required)

Site name:

Date surveyed:

Contact name:

Contact email:

Scan this QR code for the online reporting form!



Type of Survey: (circle) Transect or Random bag sample

What was the transect distance/ area?:

Weight of bagged trash: SURVEYED: ENTIRE CLEANUP: (Only needed if random bag sample)

Number of bags collected: SURVEYED: ENTIRE CLEANUP: (Only needed if random bag sample)

Circle if the following are visible from the survey site: Trash Can Recycling Bin Is this an illegal dump site? Yes No

Examples: any "hard" plastic that is not styrofoam or plastic film

Examples: styrofoam cups, to-go boxes, insulation

Hard and Solid Plastic

Table with 3 columns: Item, Tally (1-25, 26-100, 101-999, Over 1000), Total #. Rows include: 6 pack rings, Beverage Bottles/ Containers, Bottle/ Container Caps, Buoys and Floats, Cigarette butts, Cigar Plastic tips, Vape pens/ cartridges/ e-cigs, Disposable lighters, Fishing Lures and Line, Food Containers, Non-Food Containers, Personal Care/ Hygiene Products, Plastic Cups/ Plates, Plastic Utensils, Straws, Plastic Rope/net pieces, Plastic Toys, Shotgun Shell/ Wad, Writing Pens, Markers, Other.

Styrofoam

Table with 3 columns: Item, Tally (1-25, 26-100, 101-999, Over 1000), Total #. Rows include: Styrofoam Cups/ Plates, Fishing Buoy/ Floats, Food Wrappers/ Containers, Non Food Container, Insulation, Jugs/ Containers, Foam ear plugs, Other.

Enter your data at:



www.texaslitter.org

Examples: chip bags, clear wrappers, candy wrappers

Plastic Films

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Abandoned Utility Flag		
Shopping/ Trash Bags		
Food or Drink Wrappers		
Non Food/ Drink Wrapper		
Latex Balloons		
Mylar Balloons		
Personal Care/ Hygiene Products		
Large pieces of film		
Ribbon		
Other		

Examples: any metal including foil, aluminum, iron, tin, etc.

Metal

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Aerosol cans		
Aluminum Foil		
Aluminum/ Tin cans		
Crab/ Fish traps		
Metal Bottle Caps		
Metal Wire		
Shopping Carts		
Other		

Glass

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Beverage Bottles		
Jars		
Other		

Rubber

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Flip flops/ Shoe soles		
Work (Thick) Gloves		
Tires		
Partial tires/ fragments		
Rubber Balls		
Other		

Examples: any wearable object used to protect the wearer from illness

PPE

Item	Tally	Total #
PPE Disposable Gloves		
PPE Face Masks		
Other		

Examples: any **MAN MADE** products made from trees/ wood

Paper/ Lumber

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Cardboard Cartons		
Lumber/ Building Material		
Paper/ Cardboard-NON Boxes		
Paper Bags		
Food Container/ Wrapper		
Other		

Clothing/ Fabric

ESTIMATED FRAGMENTS (Circle best choice)	1 - 25	101 - 999
	26 - 100	Over 1000
Item	Tally	Total #
Clothing		
Gloves (non rubber)		
Rope/ nets NON NYLON		
Towels/ Rags		
Shoes/ Shoe Tops		
Other		

Large/ Hazardous

Item	Tally	Total #
Regular Household Batteries		
Car/ Boat Batteries		
Lithium Batteries		
Biological/ Hazardous Waste		
Used Diapers		
Abandoned Boats/Vehicles		
Appliances		
Furniture		
Medical Waste/ Needles		
Construction Material		
Other		

Thanks for taking time to collect valuable data!