

# BEACH CLEANUP GUIDE



(Composite image. Beach by Dottie Riley; sign- RF photograph)

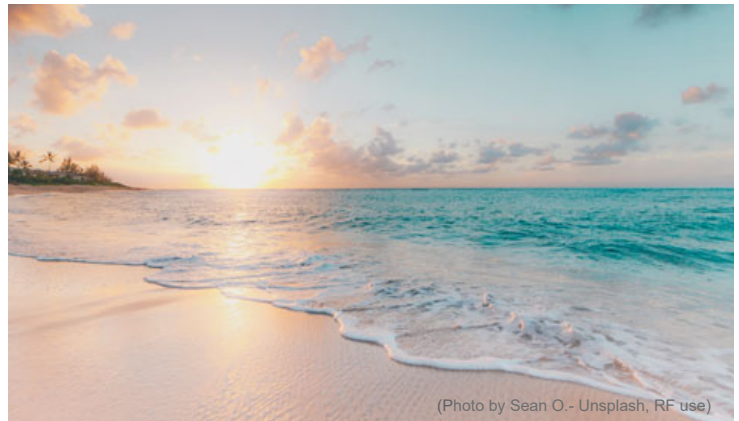


# Beach Cleanup Guide

Would you prefer our waterways to look like this



...or like this?



## ***The Auxiliary can help!***

Part of our Marine Safety mission is Environmental Protection, which includes beach and waterway cleanup events. These events even help to satisfy Auxiliary Outreach Specialist (AUX MEES) Performance Qualification Standard requirements.

But with all the different kinds of garbage and trash improperly disposed of that ends up littering our waterways and beaches, how do we execute this mission safely? Do you know what to do and how to do it if you encounter hazardous or biohazardous material during a beach cleanup? What are we supposed to do if we encounter materials that might be part of a crime scene or a cache that could be used for terrorist activities?

These questions arise every year, both concerning Auxiliary-only activities and beach cleanups sponsored by other organizations such as the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal

Cleanup Day every September. So where do we find the answers to these questions to help our members conduct these missions safely?

This publication is intended to provide consistent guidelines for conducting or participating in such missions safely and knowledgeably, whether

they are conducted by an Auxiliary unit or by a community group. Following these guidelines will help to maintain member safety by reducing risks to participants in these missions. The Auxiliary contributions to environmental protection through these events serve as an example to the general public of what can be accomplished by people

who care enough to give their time to maintain clean beaches for everyone, but even more importantly, they help educate the public about the prevention of environmental damage. This is something all Auxiliary members can do – the benefits are for all to enjoy, and the fellowship is rewarding, so join the beach cleanup effort! 🌊



## Beach Cleanup Guidelines

*For AUXILIARY activities only: Cleanup events performed by either Flotilla or Division groups.*

- Operational dress uniforms (ODU) will be worn.
- Not open to anyone except Auxiliary members.
- Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must be used including puncture resistant gloves.
- Equipment:
  - Heavy duty garbage bags for collection
  - Minimum one camera and one cell-phone per team
- Pre-Event Briefing must include:
  - Description of the mission
  - Description of methods to be used (who does what and where, timing, disposal or placement of filled bags, final disposition information for removal upon project completion).
- Safety
  - Team Coordination Training awareness: risk management, sharp objects, hazards, etc.
  - How to bag or remove various materials
- Security and forensics: leave in place, locate and photograph.
- Requires notifying your Flotilla Commander, Flotilla Vice Commander or Flotilla Staff Officer-Marine Safety in writing.
  - Assignment to Duty (TAD) may be necessary if working outside your chain of leadership. In that case, Auxiliary Liaison would issue orders to participate and a sign-in sheet will be made available to the participants to record participation in the event.



(Coast Guard photo/Petty Officer 3rd Class Jon-Paul Rios)

- Record hours on ANSC Form 7030 using code 70N for Sea Partners; report time and activities to Branch Chief-Sea Partners Liaison (BC-PWS) on National Prevention Directorate Outreach staff.

- Verify participation by letter from Flotilla Commander or Division Commander stating date, time, place, purpose and number of hours for use in Auxiliary Administrative and Management Specialist (AUX MSAM) or Prevention Outreach Specialist (AUX MEES) Performance Qualification Standard task sign-off.☞

### Public or Private Organization Sponsored Beach Cleanup Events:

- Auxiliary members may participate.
- Assignment to Duty (TAD) is required when working outside your chain. In that case, Auxiliary Liaison Officer (AUXLO) would issue orders to acknowledge authority to participate and a sign-in sheet will be made available to the members to record participation in the event.
- Operational Dress Uniforms will be worn. If not participating as an Auxiliarist, civilian clothing will be worn.
- Record hours on ANSC Form 7030 under 70N code for Sea Partners activity and send report of same to BC-PWS on National Prevention Directorate Outreach staff.
- For purpose of AUX MEES or AUX MSAM Performance Qualification Standard task sign-off, verify participation by letter from sponsoring organization on their letterhead stating date, time, place, purpose and number of hours.
- Verify proper procedures to follow, equipment to use, etc. at pre-clean-up meeting.
- If safety precautions are not mentioned, ask questions! ☞



## **SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS!**

### **!! IMPORTANT !!**

**IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CASES, DO NOT REMOVE OR APPROACH!**

- **Any substance or item(s) that is unidentifiable**
- **If the material is hazardous (syringes, medical waste)**
- **Biohazards of any kind**
- **Potential crime scene (weapons, bomb-making materials, etc.)**

**In all of the above cases, DO NOT TOUCH! Locate with GPS, photograph, report to local law enforcement or America's Waterway Watch at the National Response Center @ 1-877-249-2824.**

This *Beach Cleanup Guidelines* is not a Coast Guard guidance document but was developed by the Coast Guard Auxiliary's Prevention Directorate in consultation with the National Executive Committee for use by members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary when participating in Auxiliary, or non-Auxiliary sponsored beach cleanup projects. If assignment to duty status is desired, Coast Guard issued reimbursable or non-reimbursable orders specific to the non-Coast Guard Auxiliary sponsored beach cleanup event are required.