



In response to an increase in litter along the Bruce Trail over the past few years and building on a successful pilot project completed in 2021 in the Peninsula club section, the Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) is launching the Hike it, Love it, Keep it Clean project this summer, with the goal of cleaning up the Bruce Trail and learning more about the litter that is ending up on the trail.

Project Goals:

1. Improve the cleanliness of the trail by picking up litter.
2. Learn more about the types of litter found on the trail and hotspots for litter to inform future litter campaigns.
3. Increase awareness of the impacts of litter on natural areas and the importance of trail etiquette, including 'leave no trace' principles.

Become a Litter Volunteer!

Who Can Participate:

- Anyone out hiking along the Bruce Trail or side trails who wishes to participate is welcomed
 - A note on minors volunteering – all ages are welcomed to participate but anyone volunteering under the age of 16 should be accompanied by an adult

How to Participate:

- Review the safety information in the instruction video, linked here: <https://youtu.be/MSrWcmI9KMg> or on the handout
- Ensure you have the necessary equipment for a litter pick up
- Take a hike! Go for a hike, keeping an eye out for litter along the Bruce Trail – choose any section of main Bruce Trail (white blazes) or side trail (blue blazes), or the adjacent parking lots
- Record your findings in the litter data collection form: <https://forms.gle/8cec9igMtXUhd7qu7>

Safety Guidelines While Participating:

- Always follow local COVID-19 guidelines
- Wear appropriate hiking attire – closed toe shoes, dress for the weather – and bring along water, snacks, sun protection, a map, and other items to keep you safe and comfortable while hiking
- Avoid hiking in extreme heat or weather conditions
- Remain on the trail and be aware of surroundings
- Wear gloves, or use tongs or a litter grabber, to handle litter, and wash hands after completing a litter pick up
- Hike with another person when possible



- **Sharps/Syringes:** Please do not pick up sharps, syringes or other items of that nature – if you come across something, local contact numbers have been shared on the form for clean up of these kinds of items

Equipment to Bring for a Litter Pick-Up:

- Gloves (consider getting a reusable pair)
- Litter grapper/picker or tongs
- Bucket for litter collection, and garbage/recycling bags for disposal
- Mobile phone for data recording into the digital collection form, or a printout of the form and a pen to record on paper and transfer later to the digital form
- Hand sanitizer to clean hands after a litter pick up

After the Clean-up:

- Submit your data online using the form: <https://forms.gle/85Az6nbUC1pX22AC8>
- Take photos and share them with the BTC – if you take any photos, please send them to Meghan Croll, mccroll@brucetrail.org
- Dispose of the litter you have collected – recycle where possible, and check out the additional information about disposal of specific items on the collection form

We look forward to seeing your data collection submission! For more information on volunteering as a litter volunteer with the BTC, please contact Meghan Croll by email at mccroll@brucetrail.org.

Be a Top Contributor to the Litter Project!

Become a top contributor by completing 3 or more litter pick-up hikes during the 2022 season, and submit your data forms each time. You will receive a special Hike it, Love it, Keep it Clean badge as a thank you for helping us keep the Bruce Trail clean and learn more about litter!

