



Parks Cleanup Guide

Once you have decided to volunteer yourself or a group, contact Poplar Bluff Parks and Recreation, 573-686-8645. You choose the date and organize your volunteers if working with a group. We will help you choose a park.

Stop by our office located at 430 North Second Street prior to the clean-up day and we will be glad to provide trash bags, gloves, safety vests, and reacher/grabber tools.

Not all of our parks have dumpsters so you will be instructed what to do with the bags of trash collected.

SAFETY TIPS FOR CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS

- Wear gloves and thick-soled, closed shoes.
- Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts.
- Wear safety vests or bright colors for roadside cleanups.
- Wear sunscreen and bug repellent.
- Drink plenty of fluids and keep “quick energy foods” on hand.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the potential hazards associated with them (e.g. passing cars, hazardous tree branches, poison ivy, etc.).
- Use the “buddy system” and work in teams of two or three to maximize safety.
- Wash hands with soap after the cleanup.
- Bag litter according to directions and place in designated locations.
- Remember to take breaks when needed.
- Don’t pick up hazardous materials such as hypodermic needles, sharp objects, old car batteries, condoms, animal carcasses or other unidentified, questionable objects. Report these items to the staff at Park and Rec.
- Don’t overstuff bags.
- Don’t bring pets to events, as they may distract participants or even detract from the cleanup.
- Don’t attempt to move large, heavy objects. Report illegal dumping, graffiti, tires and bulky items to the event coordinators.

Thank you for volunteering to clean up a park in our community!