

Trash Bash Safety Guidelines and Cautions!!



Keep Morrow County Beautiful!

1. **Create a Plan!** Set a date, time and determine the location(s). Tell someone that is not going along with you where you are, what time you plan on being and approximat time you expect to return.
2. **Never Go Out Alone.** Always use the buddy system or go with a group. If you have minor (youth under the age of 18 years of age), make sure there is adult supervision at all times. Also make sure youth understand the importance of following directions and safety procedures that are outlined here and by the advisor and or adult in charge.
3. **Never Pick-up Syringes or Needles.** Use caution and **call the Morrow County Sheriff's Office at 419-946-4444.** Provide the dispatcher with the location of where you found the items; take note of the closest address or approximat distance for the nearest intersection. If anyone would get stuck with a needle found along the roadway they should go immediately to the emergency room.
4. **Never Pick-up items that may have been related to the use of illicit drug use or anything suspicious.** These items include, but are not limited to: batteries that are near pop bottles that have crusty or solid material inside or on the outside of the bottle, propane tanks that have a valve that is tented blue, guns or money. **If any of these items are spotted DO NOT TOUCH, leave them where they are and call the Morrow County Sherriff's Office at 419-946-4444.**
5. **Always wear gloves!** Gloves help protect your hands. Be careful picking up broken glass, metal and other sharp items that may cut you.
6. **Get help with Heavy Items.** Use the buddy system to lift heavy items. Lift by bending your hips and knees to squat down to your load, keep it close to your body, and straighten your legs to lift. Never lift a heavy object above should level. Avoid turning

and twisting your body while lifting or holding onto a heavy object. Never attempt to lift a heavy object by just leaning forward.

7. **For safety reasons, do not get spread out too far and everyone should walk on the same side of the road at all times and Walk facing on-coming traffic!** Never split the group to cover both sides at once. All members should remain as a group and if the group needs to cross the road, do so as a cohesive group by crossing altogether. Make sure to look both ways ensuring the roadway is clear of all traffic and the entire group can cross safely. Use a crosswalk when available.
8. **Wear a safety vest!** Safety vests are made out of fluorescent colors and have reflective materials on them to make you able to be seen in all-weather conditions. If there are not enough vests for each member of your group, place members who are wearing a safety vest in the front and in the back of the group.
9. **Do not wear earbuds or listen to portable music players or look at your cell phone while participating in the event.** Wearing earbuds or headphones could increase cognitive distraction and it also limits or compromises your ability to hear oncoming traffic, warnings, or other potential hazards putting yourself and others at risk.
10. **Wear proper clothing.** You are encouraged to wear long pants and closed toe shoes or knee-boots.
11. **Do not enter a waterway.** If you think you absolutely must enter a waterway, do so with caution...Do Not enter or go into water that is above the waist!
12. Don't spend too much time trying to pick up buried tires or other large items; **you may have to leave some items behind.**
13. **Use trash grabbers to assist with hard to reach items.** For example, use the trash grabbers instead of entering into muddy areas. The mud can be deeper than what it appears. Pieces of trash that have blown and are now stuck on a tree limb do not climb the tree! Simply use your trash grabbers to reach it. If it is out of reach, leave it for next time. Think Safety First! * **Please treat trash grabbers with care, as we reuse them.**
14. **Do not accept drinks or other items from strangers.**
15. **Do not wander onto private property.**
16. **Watch out for traffic, DO NOT** dart back and forth in front of on-coming traffic or go into the road or street to pick-up trash. Always, **Walk facing on-coming traffic and watch out for vehicles.**

This is not an all-inclusive list and there could be dangerous items and other safety risks, however this document contains the most common safety concerns that one should take into consideration. ALWAYS, THINK SAFETY FIRST! HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE!