

Safety Guidelines

Please follow these guidelines to ensure a safe clean up day

- Your safety is the most important aspect of your clean up day. Be alert for hazards: learn to identify poison ivy; be cautious of bees, wasps, hornets, fire ants and snakes; pay special attention when handling of broken glass. Cancel clean up during extreme weather conditions.
- **Before beginning your clean up, instruct all participants not to pick up anything that is unknown or potentially hazardous (e.g. medical waste, unidentified liquids/chemicals, car batteries, etc.). If you find abandoned drums or pails, do not touch or move them. Should you find any such items leave them in place and contact the local police.**
- Familiarize yourself with emergency procedures such as the location of the nearest emergency facility and how to summon the police or an ambulance.
- Have a first aid kit available on site.
- Avoid potential problems from over-exertion by drinking plenty of water and taking rest breaks.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, jeans or long pants, leather or heavy soled shoes or boots and gloves.
- Be sure you are visible to all motorists and walk facing oncoming traffic. Ask Clean Communities Coordinator to loan your group safety vests and a litter patrol sign if you are working in a high traffic area.
- Stay clear of all construction areas.
- Avoid unsafe behavior such as standing or jumping on guide rails, drainage pipes or concrete walls.
- All alcoholic beverages are forbidden on the clean-up sites.
- The following are important emergency phone numbers your group should be aware of:

NJ Department of Environmental Protection (877) WARN-DEP

Bergen County Police Dept. (201) 646-2700