



Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the Texas Adopt-A-Beach program?

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program is an all-volunteer beach cleanup program started in 1986 that is dedicated to keeping Texas beaches clean and educating our communities about the detrimental effects of marine debris on people and our environment.

2) When are the beach cleanups?

We coordinate two coastwide cleanups each year, one in April and one in September. Dates are generally the third Saturday of the month unless it conflicts with a national holiday. We also host two smaller, regional cleanups the first week of February, one on South Padre Island and one in the Corpus Christi area.

3) How do I register for Adopt-A-Beach?

You can register online at texasadoptabeach.org and go to our [Cleanups](#) page.

4) Where do I go to clean the beach?

There are site locations all along the Texas Coast. Almost all coastal counties have a check-in site for cleanups. When you pre-register, select the location where you want to pick up your supplies, then go clean your favorite beach!

5) What time does the cleanup start/finish?

All Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach cleanups are held from 9 AM to 12 PM. Check-in will open the morning of the cleanup at 8:30 AM and you can pick up your supplies.

6) Will there be any food?

Some sites provide food for the volunteers. To get details on the site you plan to visit, contact the local site coordinator directly.

7) What if it is raining on the day of the cleanup?

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach cleanups are held rain or shine. However, if threatening weather endangers the safety of our volunteers, or a site becomes inaccessible, that particular site may be canceled. If you pre-registered online, you will be notified by the email you provided during registration if your site is canceled due to dangerous conditions. You may also contact the Site Coordinator for your chosen location to get more details. Please pay attention to the local forecast before heading out to the beach.



8) What should I wear to the cleanup?

On cleanup day, you should wear closed-toe shoes, sunglasses and a hat. Also, please consider a high-SPF sunscreen for you and any children who might also be volunteering, and bug repellent just in case.

9) Do I need to bring my own supplies?

The local Adopt-A-Beach Site Coordinators will provide you with trash bags and non-latex gloves to clean the beach, plus other gifts from Adopt-A-Beach. Consider bringing your own work or garden gloves if you have some. If you would like to track the trash you find, you can download the [CleanSwell app from the Ocean Conservancy](#). ***Please remember to bring plenty of drinking water, especially if children will be joining you at the cleanup.***

10) Do I have to pay to get involved?

All Adopt-A-Beach Cleanups are free to participate. If you would like to support our efforts, please consider making a donation to help us purchase cleanup supplies and educational materials. You may donate online at texasadoptabeach.org or mail a check to: Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Program P.O. Box 12873 Austin Texas 78711.

11) Where can I stay when I go to a beach cleanup?

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program is fortunate to have coastal hotel partners who offer discounted rates for Adopt-A-Beach volunteers on our cleanup weekends. Visit our [Cleanups](#) page to see a list of our sponsor hotels and get their contact information.

12) What is the minimum age requirement to participate in an Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup?

There is no minimum age requirement as long as anyone under the age of 18 is accompanied by a parent, guardian or chaperone. We require all volunteers who participate in an Adopt-A-Beach event to sign a liability waiver/photo release form, and if they are under 18 they must have a parent, guardian or chaperone sign for them.

13) How can I get my school and/or organization involved?

Schools, businesses and volunteer organizations are the backbone of the Adopt-A-Beach cleanup effort. The first step in getting your school or organization involved is to decide which location you plan to attend. Next, you can register the group online (one person can sign up for the group).



14) If I am assigned a section of beach to clean in an area that requires a beach permit or entry fee, must I pay to enter the park or buy a beach permit?

Most local beach authorities waive the entrance fee and beach permit requirements on our official beach cleanup days in April and September during our cleanup time of 8:30 AM until 12 PM. Outside of that time, the fees will apply.

15) What's the International Coastal Cleanup? Is the Texas Adopt-A-Beach program part of that or is it different?

The International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) is an annual event hosted by the Ocean Conservancy usually on the third Saturday of every September. The Ocean Conservancy works with various organizations and agencies around the world to coordinate volunteers to clean beaches and record their findings in different states. The Texas Adopt-A-Beach program serves as the ICC coordinator for Texas.

If you still need assistance after reading this information, please [email the Adopt-A-Beach program](#) or call toll free in Texas 1-877-TXCOAST (892-6278).