

the 'clean up' book



for a happier, healthier, cleaner future

**DO THE
RIGHT
THING**





Kalaulagau Ya (QLD)

*Ngalmun lag mina kapunga ngalpa mus mina thumayiwaipa.
So ngalpa mus ngalpun rubbishal binanu tharai.
Ngalmun lagapa mina ngathap .*

Alyawarr (NT):

*Apmer anewantherrenh mwerr-angker innga impen-then.
Kel apmer arraty-angkwarr arntarnt-ayntey,
Apmwamwam akwetyel-ayntemel teram-warl iwemel*

Eastern Arrernte (NT):

*Apmere mwerre anwernekenhe.
Anwernele arntarnte-arerle-anetyeke.
Rapetye teram-eke mwantyele iwetyeke.
Alakenhe apmere mwerre atnyenetyeke.*

Eastern Anmatyerr (NT):

*Apmer tyeperr anwekantherrenh.
Anantherr renh arntarnt-arerl-anetyek.
Rapety-then mwantyele iwetyek drum-warl.
Alakenh apmer mwerr atnyenetyek.*

Ngaanyatjarra (WA):

*Ngurra-lampa mungutjamunu.
Nyangka-la walykumunura kanyinma.
Palunyalu-la rapitji pinninya binta tjarrpatjunama.*

Pitjantjatjara (SA):

*Ngura nganampa wiru mulapa.
Wanyula atunymara kanyinma,
Munu raputji mantjira pitingka tjarrpatjura!*

Taungurung (VIC):

*Ngalangum biik magigal damboonamon ba yeadabilling.
Wonga-gat ngangnak goorrengerin ba maba doorong.
Yering noorong goorrngee gee moondani.*

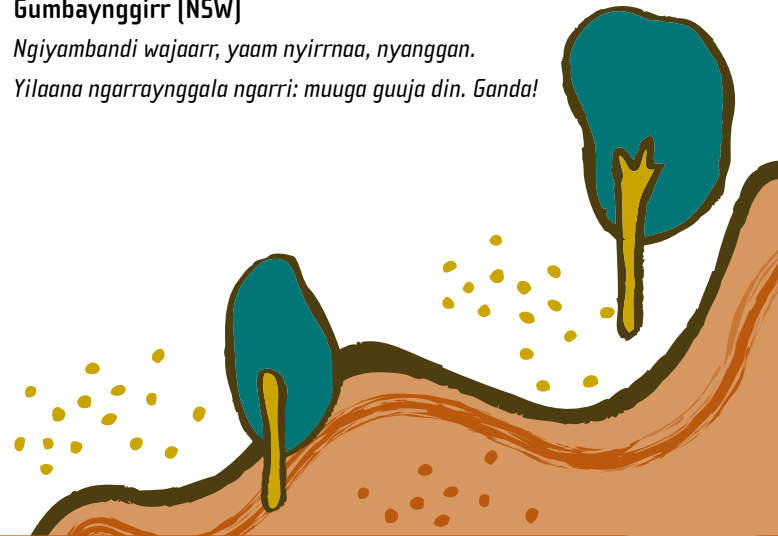
(Translation thanks to Lee Healy, Taungurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation)

Gunnai Yirruk-Tinnor (VIC):

*Wurk wurk Ninedhana thindu. Woolartbe Werna work wurk.
(Translation thanks to Lynnette Solomon-Dent at the Gunnai Yirruk-Tinnor
Community Language Program)*

Gumbaynggirr (NSW)

*Ngiyambandi wajaarr, yaam nyirrnaa, nyanggan.
Yilaana ngarraynggala ngarri: muuga guuja din. Ganda!*





PACKAGING STEWARDSHIP FORUM

This booklet was funded by the Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council.

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The forum would like to acknowledge the assistance from the large number of people and organisations who contributed to this booklet including Kalano and Tanengtyere Communities.



Introduction

This booklet aims to provide regional shire remote Community Managers, Community Development Associations and Community Waste Service Managers with practical, easy to apply information on how to prevent and reduce litter.

With this program, the community can target reducing litter by about 20% per year, at very low cost.

Changing habits takes time. This booklet tells you how to start and sustain a program that will see a change in littering behaviour and attitude in your community.

Why bother?

New and non-traditional products have resulted in increased amounts of packaging coming into remote communities. Often, residents are not aware of the impact of littering. The result is a high level of litter and rubbish in remote communities, which can be a health and safety hazard plus a loss of valuable resources.

Reducing litter in nine easy steps

This booklet provides practical, low cost and easy to apply information on how to prevent and reduce litter.

The program is based on the community taking responsibility for and participating in addressing litter and recycling in the community.

The nine easy steps are:

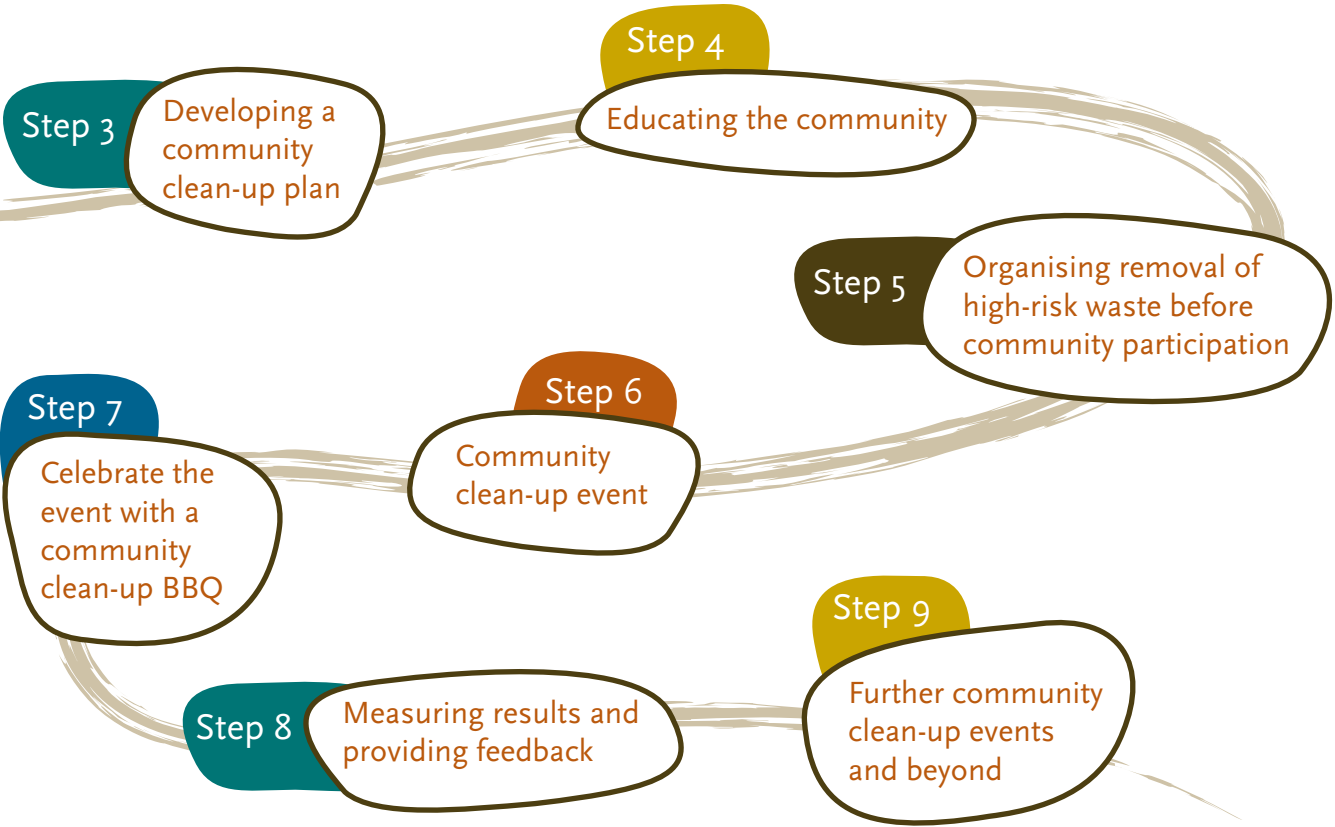
Step 1

Deciding to introduce the program

Step 2

Finding out what litter there is and where it is coming from

You will find further information about these nine steps in the pages that follow.



Step 1: The Community Committee decides to introduce community clean-ups

What

The Community Committee agrees to introduce programs to reduce litter in the community.



How

- Set up an organising committee and/or appoint a project 'champion', who will be responsible for making things happen. In most regions, this is a responsibility of Council so the committee could consist of a Community Development Advisory (CDA) member together with representatives of the appropriate departments within the community i.e. Environmental Health or Parks and Gardens plus representatives from community residents.
- Identify stakeholders – people and organisations who have an interest in and might be able to help with the project by providing support, services, funding or knowledge.



Examples of stakeholders include: traditional owners, regional shire council, shire Chief Executive Office (CEO), Community Committee members, Community Manager (CM), residents, Community Development Employment Program (CDEP), waste services company, environmental rangers, store owner/manager, freight company, regional businesses, Local Government Council, Local Government Association, government departments (eg. environment, health and community services, education) and not-for-profit organisations such as the Packaging Stewardship Forum (PSF), Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB), Aboriginal Land Education Program (ALEP).

Considerations

- It is important to have written confirmation of stakeholder support and commitment, so everyone is clear about what has been agreed.

Further information

In Appendix A you will find more information about:

- Sample stakeholder agreement. *See page 28*
- How to identify and appoint a 'project champion'. *See page 29*
- Litter prevention motivators. *See page 29*
- Internal checklist for Community Committee and CM. *See page 31*

Step 2: Find out where the litter is coming from and what infrastructure is in place

What

- Carry out a litter survey (available in [Appendix B](#)) to identify where the litter is coming from and why. This information will form the basis of your plan.

There are four key areas that need to be targeted to reduce litter:

- » Infrastructure,
- » Service,
- » Awareness and
- » Education.

The litter survey looks at each in turn to see how they contribute to the problem in your community or drinking areas.

How

- The organising committee may ask the Community Manager, the waste services provider, or the Environmental Health officer, to carry out a litter survey and infrastructure audit.
- Litter Questionnaire/Survey Sample guidelines are provided on [page 40](#) of this booklet.
- What is the littering behaviour in your community?– make a note.
- Ask community residents, store manager, waste services operator and others for their views about what is causing the litter.
- Use the litter questionnaire on [page 41](#) to get information from residents and others.



Considerations

- Record keeping is important as it helps to show how things improve over time. In *Appendix B* you will find information about the types of records that are worth keeping.
- Conduct an analysis of the source and amount of litter before carrying out community clean-ups. This will help you identify the cause of litter, form the basis for new plans which will also help prevent litter recurring.
- Analyse the information you collect to identify what is causing the litter or rubbish.

Further information

In *Appendix B* you will find more information about:

- Litter and infrastructure survey guidelines. *See page 34*
- Litter questionnaire. *See page 41*



→ What is the littering behaviour in your community? ←

Step 3: Develop your clean-up plan

What

The clean-up plan will involve

- Selecting what areas to clean up
- When this will be done, timing and dates
- Arranging the necessary tools, materials and equipment
- Deciding how you will promote the event and involve the community
- Identifying any occupational health and safety issues and how you will address them
- Details of the actual clean-up
- Data collection and evaluation, and
- Ways to recognise and appreciate participants efforts.

How

Determine the area for the clean-up

- It is easier to focus on one site at a time.
- List all areas needing attention and prioritise them. Consult with the Community Committee and/or the CEO, as they may have views regarding what areas are important to address first. Examples of important areas are the main street, store, park, drinking areas, and residential yards.





Decide on the timing for clean-up events a year ahead

- Set regular dates for community clean-ups and include them in a yearly planner. Depending on community needs consider carrying out community clean-ups every month, or fortnight.
- Consider including clean-up dates before special events or community celebrations.
- Make sure that you choose dates and times when most residents will be able to participate.
- Clean-up events should last no more than 2-4 hours each time.

→ *Consider including clean-up dates before special events or community celebrations.* ←

Identify the type, size and quantity of rubbish to be collected in each clean-up area (you collected this information during the litter survey!).

- Make a list of litter by type of material (ie, paper, bottles, etc) and the estimated quantity within the clean-up area.
- Make a special note of any litter items that must be removed by competent staff before the community clean-up event, either because they pose a high-risk or they are too big for individuals to handle, or both. An example of this is a car body.
- Determine what tools and other resources will be required to clean up the area in a safe manner. For example, if removing broken glass, you require shoes, gloves, long-handle pick-up tongs and a container for safe collection, removal and disposal.



Litter is a pain in the grass

ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICES
100 West Street, Suite 100, Perth, WA 6000
Phone: (08) 9442 1111
Fax: (08) 9442 1112
Email: info@acs.org.au
Website: www.acs.org.au

SEARCH FOR A MEMBER
Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Status: _____
Date: _____

THIS COMPUTER
KABCNT - 0702

Identify and address any risks associated with the community clean-up

- List the risks you identified during the litter survey and how you will manage them. www.worksafe.nt.gov.au (information bulletins, safety management, guide to assessing risks)
- Make sure that these risks and how to minimise and manage them are discussed with participants on the clean-up day.

Define what data is to be collected ('key performance indicators')

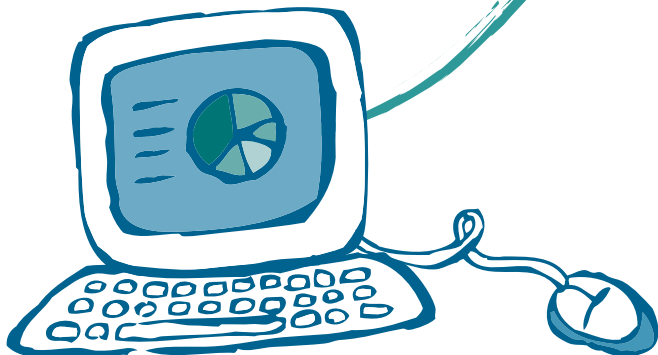
- Define what measures you will monitor and record. Some examples are: volume and/or weight of rubbish collected; community attitude to litter; number of bags used.

Define roles and responsibilities

- Who is going to do what and by when?
- How will the organising committee make sure they keep things on track?
- Do you have a 'project champion'? If not, should you appoint one? What exactly will be this person's role?

Define how you will promote the event and involve the community

- Organise a community information session – make sure as many community members as possible attend.
- Communicate what you plan to do, why you want to do it, how you intend to do it and the community's role in the project.
- Obtain feedback. Address all questions and concerns raised in a respectful and effective manner. Take on board any suggestions and amend your final plan if necessary.
- Ask participants to sign up to the program and get an idea of the numbers of volunteers for the clean-up day.
- Consider introducing the "Litter Awareness Presentation" education program (*see page 51*) included in this booklet. Keep in mind that English can be a second or even third language with some community residents and that pictures and illustrations can be very effective forms of communication.
- Involve schools and school children in promoting the event
- Involve the local radio station, community news and groups to promote the event.



→ *Data collection is an important part of the program over time.* ←

Prepare your Budget – some possible areas for sponsorship or expenditure include:

- Bins and bin repairs
- Signage
- Community meetings
- Promotion (radio, posters, flyers, banners, etc)
- Clean-up event protection equipment (gloves, safety glasses, tongs, etc)
- Bags, rakes, shovels
- Transport and handling of collected rubbish
- Community clean-up BBQ
- Awards or prizes for example, cleanest houses, can be donated by community based organisations, etc.

Considerations

- Some communities might prefer to conduct clean-ups during the dry season or before the wet.
- How will you fund the program if funding is required? Can you get sponsorship from others in money or in kind or both? For example, extra funding can be in the form of donations for prizes or cleaning up gear and equipment.
- Some problem areas may be located outside the community boundary lines e.g. drinking areas.
- Data collection is an important part of the program over time. It helps monitor results and progress over time.
- Does the store sell cleaning equipment such as rakes, brooms, gloves, rubbish bags, etc? If not, how are residents going to access the necessary tools to keep their yards clean?
- English might be the second or third language for many residents – How are you going to communicate effectively with residents?

Further information

In *Appendix C* you will find more information about:

- Roles and responsibilities. *See page 43*
- Data collection and key performance indicators. *See page 45*
- Risk Assessment tools. *See page 45*
- Sample program budget. *See page 47*
- Clean-up tools and materials. *See page 49*
- Community Information Session. *See page 49*
- Litter Questionnaire. *See page 40*
- Monthly Litter Rating. *See page 46*
- Litter Awareness Presentation. *See page 51*



Step 4: Education

What

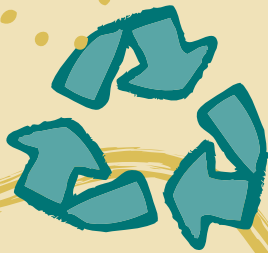
Over the years there have been limited successful sustainable results changing attitude and behaviour of littering in remote communities. At the same time, the availability of new and non-traditional products has led to increased amounts of packaging in remote communities. Habitual littering is common.

Through education and awareness, residents can be made aware of the consequences of littering and how to better dispose of rubbish.



How

- Run 'Litter Awareness' sessions prior to the community clean-up event. This can be done as part of the community information session and regularly after that.
- Use this booklet's 'Litter Awareness Presentation' material or links.
- Conduct the litter questionnaire in *Appendix C* both before and after the litter awareness presentation to obtain valuable information about residents' attitudes to littering. Community residents might be unfamiliar with completing questionnaires and it might be better to read aloud the questions and have participants use show of hands or speak. Make a note and compare the results to determine effectiveness of litter awareness sessions.



Considerations

- The “presentation” should be viewed as a community social event. Consider providing refreshments after the presentation if costs allow. This can be used to show appreciation and to demonstrate and encourage the practice of binning rubbish.
- English might be the second or third language for the participants. Consider how you will communicate with residents.

→ Conduct ‘Litter Awareness’ sessions prior to the community clean-up event. ←

Further information

In *Appendix C* you will find more information about:

- Litter questionnaire. *See page 40*
- Litter awareness education program details and speaking points. *See page 51*



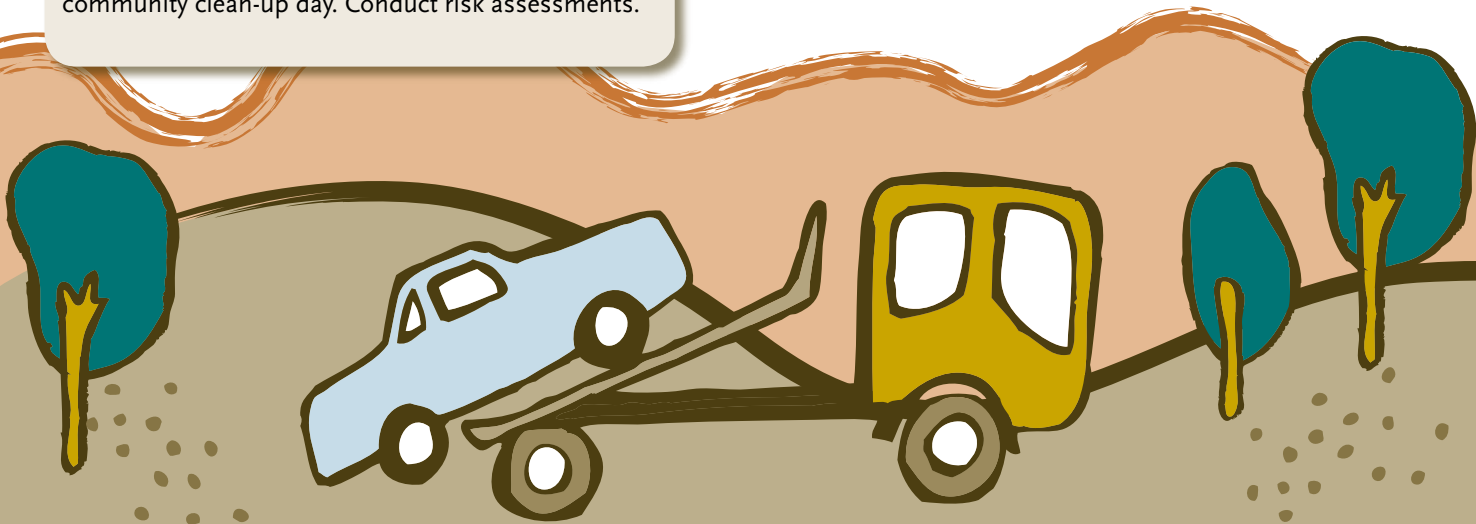
Step 5: Organise the removal of high-risk waste before the clean-up day

What

The Community Committee/ CEO / CM may need to engage experienced people from waste services or Community Development Education Program (CDEP) to remove high risk litter such as broken glass, soiled nappies or car bodies before the actual community clean-up day. Conduct risk assessments.

How

- Get competent people with the necessary expertise and equipment to carry out this work.



Considerations

- What type of high-risk rubbish needs to be removed? For example, if there is a car body, do you need to get a tow-truck or tractor?
- Is this something that can be coordinated in partnership with neighbouring communities?
- Consider programs like the Smorgon Steel Great Scrap Round-Up, SIMS or CMA Car Muster Programs

<http://cleanup.org.au/au/Campaigns/smorgon-steel-great-scrap-round-up.html>

→ *What type of high-risk rubbish needs to be removed?* ←



Step 6: Carry out your Community Clean-up Event

What

Community volunteers with appropriate tools gather at the specified time and place and work to collect the litter and rubbish in the area.



How

- Brief volunteers on the purpose of the day and clearly define the area to be cleaned
- Discuss any possible risks and how to handle them.
 - » Make sure that everyone knows how to lift to prevent back injury (bend knees)
 - » Demonstrate how to use the tools provided to pick up litter.
 - » Emphasise the dangers of broken glass and other sharp objects. Make sure volunteers understand that these must not be put into plastic rubbish bags.
 - » Explain the dangers of handling soiled nappies left on the ground (risk of bacterial infections) and what to do with them if the volunteers come across any.



- Volunteers can move in an emu bob style formation, that is, in a straight single line moving forward together to effectively clean up an area.
- Volunteers work in waves, with the more able in front and the elderly and children behind as the last wave. In highly dense littered sites volunteers work in a group with rakes and shovels to collect litter.
- A truck or trailer follows the volunteers to collect the bags of rubbish and bagged recyclables. The truck or trailer should be well behind the volunteers for safety reasons.
- Make sure data is obtained regarding what litter is collected as specified in *Step 3*. This will assist in reporting back to the community on their achievements.
- Make sure that participants know of future scheduled clean-up dates.

Considerations

- A small group of volunteers can be dedicated to collect aluminium cans in bags of a different colour to other rubbish, to identify them as 'recyclables' if there is a market for these.
- High-risk litter must also be clearly identified and be collected by trained personnel.

→ *Demonstrate how to use the tools provided to pick up litter.* ←

Step 7: Celebrate - the Community Clean-up BBQ!

What

A community BBQ held at the end of the clean-up event is an effective way to show appreciation for the efforts of volunteers. It also emphasises the social aspect of the clean-up event and may strengthen bonds between people.

How

- Make sure that you have ordered meats and/or other food and refreshments.
- Invite all volunteers to participate in the celebration.
- Please ensure hands have been washed before eating



Considerations

- Venue, location for the BBQ.
- Create a festive, celebratory mood.
- Get sponsorship for the BBQ.
- Provide handwashing station set up
- Clean up after the BBQ.

→ *Recognition and appreciation of efforts* ←



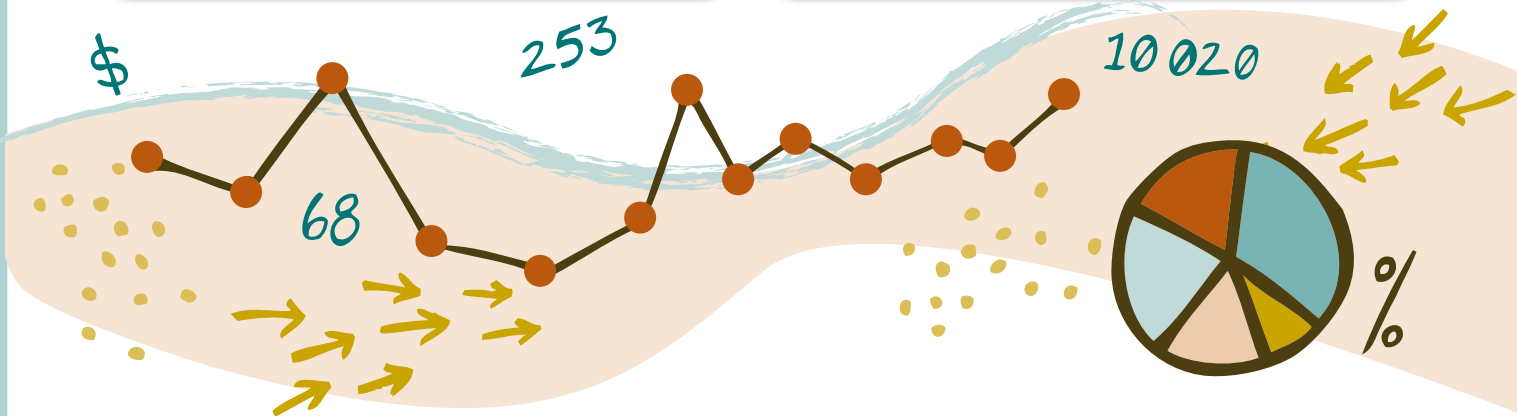
Step 8: Monitoring, reporting and feedback

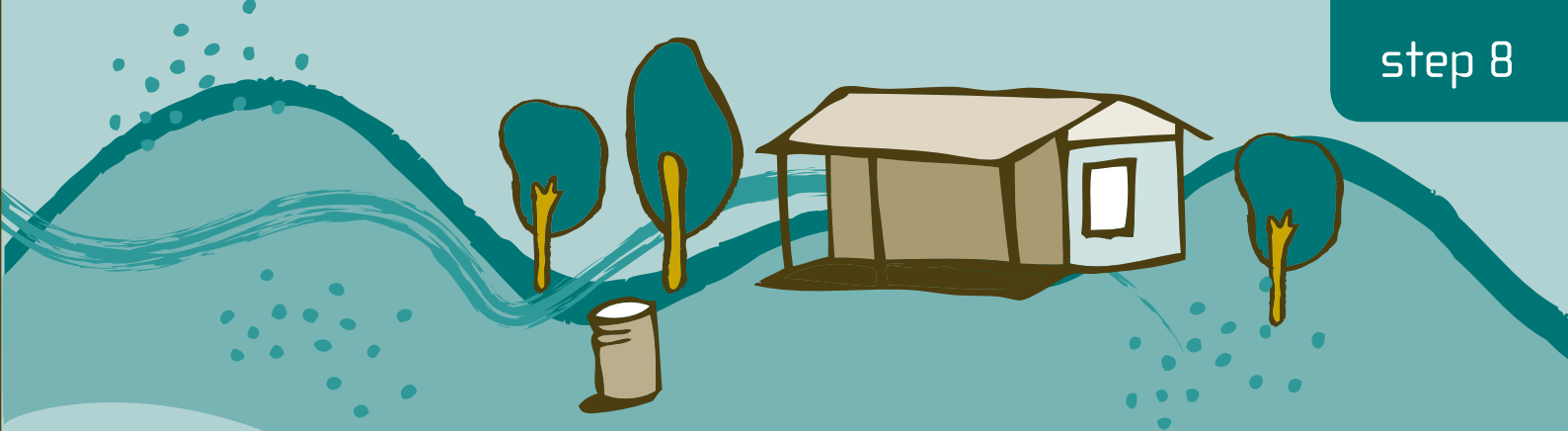
What

It is important to record data to be able to monitor progress within the community, identify opportunities, assist with prioritising and budgeting plans.

How

- You defined what data was required ('key performance indicators') under *Step 3*. Make sure that all data is collected.
- Use data to make comparisons over time and analyse variances.
- Use data to provide feedback to all participants and stakeholders.





Further information

In *Appendix C* you will find more information about:

- List of possible measures to be used. *See page 45*
- Monthly litter index rating. *See page 46*

→ *Record data and
monitor your gains* ←



Step 9: Subsequent community clean-up events and beyond

What

Regular community clean-ups are essential to developing community awareness and ownership of the litter problem, and achieving the desired change in littering behaviour.

How

For each subsequent community clean-up event:

- Carry out a litter analysis to identify the reasons and source of littering prior to the clean-up.
- Implement the Steps 1 through to 8 as described above.



Considerations

- As the program develops, the Community Committee might consider introducing a recycling program for the community. This could be done in conjunction with a voluntary logistics program or free freight back loading of collected bagged recyclable materials to a major hub or recycler (this is about asking freight companies delivering goods to the community to take back recyclable materials on their empty trucks – at a reduced cost or no cost).
- There are other waste management programs that can be considered as extensions of the community clean-up events. These are listed in *Appendix D*. Consider applying for funding from your State or Federal Government for these programs. An example is the annual Environment Grant offered by the Northern Territory Government.

Further information

In *Appendix D* you will find more information about:

- Remote community waste management,
- Recycling and beautification programs.
- How to provide feedback about the 'clean up' book

→ *After each clean up conduct a litter cause analysis with corrective actions to prevent further littering.* ←

A stylized illustration on a blue background. On the left, a white toilet is shown with a splash of water. From the base of the toilet, a large, light blue splash of water extends across the bottom and right. Within this splash, there are several circular patterns of smaller circles, representing bubbles or water droplets. The overall style is clean and graphic.

APPENDICES







APPENDIX A

Sample stakeholder agreement -

Agreement between the Community Committee of *(name of the community)* and *(insert name of stakeholder)*

The Agreement

This agreement defines the partnership between the *(name of the community)* and *(name of the stakeholder)* to achieve a reduction in litter and a safer environment, building community strength at the same time.

The Project

(insert a description of the project)
(stakeholder name) agrees to *(description of how the stakeholder will help – money, services, goods, etc.)* in support of maintaining a clean, safe and healthy environment in *(name of community)*.



How to identify and appoint a 'project champion'

A "Project Champion" can provide an important link between the Community Committee and the community. We strongly recommend that this person be identified and appointed beforehand by the Committee.

The "Project Champion" will liaise between the Community Committee/ CEO and the residents, communicating information and providing feedback to both groups. This person should be able to provide Council with an indication of the community's opinion or littering-related issues and can also act as a community representative in relation to the Clean-up program plan (eg. attend formalities, thank sponsors, motivate community, etc).

Ideally this person should be well known and respected, and be someone with passion, commitment, motivation and who has a positive influence in the community.

What motivates people to reduce litter?

Some motivators have been identified as central to changing littering behaviours, these are:

- Self pride and self respect.
- Community pride.
- Respect for Country (care for country).
- Improve quality of life.
- Improve living areas and environment.
- Improve health and well being.
- Improve community safety and reduce injuries, for example, rubbish clean-up will reduce broken glass and other sharps that could injure children and residents.
- Possibly create opportunities for business enterprises such as arts, crafts and markets.
- Increase the areas of play and use by community residents.
- Not wanting plastic, glass, nappies and cans to be left on the Community ground.
- Rubbish detracts from the beauty of the country and devalues the natural land.
- Reduction in vermin and rodents.
- Reduction in animal suffering.





Checklist for Community Committee and Community Manager

The checklist below is designed to help the Regional Shires Council, CEO, and CM identify possible opportunities to improve waste management, reduce litter and/or increase the recovery of recyclables.

Service, Accountability and Planning

- Is there a waste management plan in place and is it reviewed regularly? Who is responsible for it? What is the long term vision for the community (10 - 30 years)?
- Who is responsible and accountable for waste management in the community at the various levels (household, community, regional council, stores, clinics, commercial, etc)? Effective management is essential for the waste management plan to succeed.
- Is the waste collection service provided by an independent organisation outside the Community Committee? Do you have in place controls to make sure that waste services are satisfactory?
- Is there a system in place for feedback relating to unsatisfactory service or failure to resolve waste issues?
- Is there an operation manual for community waste management including landfill sites? (Contact Local Government Association or Environment Protection Agency (EPA) for detailed information). Is funding for waste management services and landfill adequate?
- Who is responsible for implementation of regional waste management plans or strategies?
- Are there large producers of waste in the community (store, businesses, etc)? Do they have waste management plans?
- Who is responsible for picking up spilled waste from knocked over bins?
- Is the committee or CEO able to compare the cost of the waste management services per household with other communities?
- In the past, has there been any waste management programs that were effective? If so can they be re-introduced.
- Who is responsible for community litter patrols and cleaning up roadside litter?
- Have you considered all alternative options for waste management, such as minimising waste (waste reduction) or incineration of waste to create energy?
- Have you considered alternative options for glass (crushed, aggregate substitute, pipe underlaying, walkways, etc)?
- Are there regular meetings with other community stakeholders such as the store manager, clinic staff, school principal, childcare, etc to discuss their issues and opportunities relating to litter control and waste management?



Infrastructure and equipment

- How many public place waste bins are there? Where are they located? Are they effective?
- Are public bins of a design closed to dogs, wind and rain?
- Does each property have a mobile garbage bin (wheelie bin) of a suitable size and with a lid?
- Are they serviced (emptied) regularly?
- Are there spare parts available for wheelie bin maintenance and repairs?
- Are waste collection machinery and equipment currently used adequately and effectively?
- Is the working storage capacity of the waste collection vehicle in use adequate?
- Does waste collection vehicle have an effective side or rear bin lifter to reduce OH&S risk issues?
- Does vehicle have a compactor onboard? Is it caged or fully enclosed?
- Have you identified a need for more infrastructure and equipment? (conduct a litter cause analysis with corrective actions after each community clean-up to prevent recurrence of litter).
- What other waste management equipment does the community or surrounding communities have that can be shared (Compactors, balers, Tommy Vacs, etc)?
- What are the current waste management infrastructure, practices and services? Are there areas of opportunity for improvement?
- Ask your community waste service provider to visually audit the waste stream (residential, commercial and at tip) and estimate the materials mix make up split.
- What is the current daily/weekly waste generation rate (xKgs/person/day)?
- What is the estimated highest peak daily/weekly/seasonal waste generation rate?
- Is waste collected taken directly to land fill site?
- What is the expectant life of current landfill site? Has a future landfill site been identified?
- What is the long-term plan for the landfill site?
- Does the existing landfill site meet code? (cells lined, etc)
- Is there a 'voluntary drop-off' for recyclables such as aluminium? Is it clearly sign-posted?
- Have you considered the viability of setting up a close proximity waste transfer station with opportunity to develop commingled recycling station (recovered materials markets viability)?
- Is road to landfill site sealed or gravel surface and are they well maintained? Is there a fence around it?



- Is current landfill site accessible during the wet?
- Is any waste burnt in residential or business back yards? Why? (lack of servicing, waste to energy keeping warm, etc)
- Is landfill site rubbish burnt? Is it left above ground or is it buried? (Regional Shire Council assistance and guidelines are available)
- After rain is landfill site 'run off' contained? Does it run into the bush or water ways?
- Is leachate (liquid waste produced when liquid/water seeps through the landfill) removed via pumping from landfill site trench? Is it contained?

Community Attitudes and Behaviours

- Does the community have education and awareness programs in place relating to litter?
- What will motivate the community to act on litter with sustainable outcomes?
- What is the community's understanding and awareness of litter control and recycling?
- Does the community support litter control and recycling?

- Does the community accept responsibility for binning their own waste? Even in drinking areas?
- Are rakes readily available to residents?
- Are household bins knocked over regularly? (dogs, wind, people, etc) Are bin stands used?
- Are household bins lids closed at all times? Do lids get broken regularly? And are they repaired?
- Are there recycling programs available to community? Do residents know about them? (for example, is there aluminium can and cardboard collection?)
- Is littering at landfill site occurring? (Scattered unmanaged dumping of rubbish).
- Vehicles that travel to landfill site – do they cover their load to avoid spillage or loss of litter?
- Do residents currently place car batteries and motor oils in mobile general bins?



APPENDIX B

Litter and infrastructure survey guidelines

When a community has a litter problem there are four basic areas that could be contributing to the cause:

- Infrastructure (are there enough bins, signs, etc? are they effective in delivering outcomes, in the right places etc?)
- Service (how often are bins cleared? under and over servicing, too often or not enough?)
- Awareness (are people aware of the impact and consequences of their littering?)
- Education (have people been properly instructed in how to dispose of rubbish appropriately? Desirable Disposal Practices?)



Data can be collected by several methods:

- Direct observation of community residents attitude and litter disposal behaviour.
- Obtain feedback from community residents, store manager, bin clearance service operators, etc to obtain a picture of the community's general attitude and awareness levels about littering.
- Use of the questionnaire will give valuable data that can indicate community attitudes to rubbish disposal. Continued regular use of the questionnaire will provide data that can be compared over time to assess progress.
- Monthly Litter Index rating on [page 46](#)
- Quarterly 'Litter Abatement' assessments forms, tips self assessment forms and recycling self assessment forms – view KAB (NT) web site:- www.kab.org.au

Litter survey prior to community clean-up

- Make a list of actual litter by type of material and the estimated quantities.
- Make a special note of the high risk litter items that must be removed by competent staff.
- Physically flag or use ribbons to warn of danger or dangerous items.
- Identify litter source – where is the rubbish coming from?
 - » Is it wind blown residence waste?
 - » Does it come from the store?
 - » Has it come from a 'knocked over' bin?
 - » Is it externally introduced litter?
 - » Is it micro litter resulting from not picking up litter before mowing or slashing of grass?
 - » Where is the rubbish? Outside the store, outside homes, in the main street, etc.



Bins and Infrastructure Audit

A lack of infrastructure, poor bin servicing, placement and positioning can contribute to remote community littering.

Before starting the clean-up program, it is a good idea to review the current placement of all public placed and residential bins and their frequency of servicing. This may identify opportunities that reduce litter levels and can lead to possible cost savings.

Bin type/condition

- What types of bins are being used?
 - drum bins can present an OH&S lifting risk. They don't have lids, which contributes towards flies, wind blown littering and leachate. Wheelie bins have lids, which prevent rain from entering the bins, eliminating possible leachate issues or wind blown litter. They are easy to move and mechanical lifts for wheelie bins are readily available. They also look attractive and their introduction would bring remote communities in line with major hubs.
- Are bins maintained and in good condition? Are spare parts readily available? Poor bin condition such as missing wheels or holes in bin body can result in spilled waste. We recommend setting up a regular maintenance system for bins. The waste service provider can visually check, record and report bins in need of repairs during their scheduled bin service delivery. They could also provide immediate repairs services if spares are stored onboard their vehicle.



- Using a different type of bin or repositioning could reduce litter?
- Is the size of the bins adequate for the frequency of servicing? (as a benchmark Darwin residential kerbside general waste bins are 240lt sized wheelie bins, most public place bins are 120lt volume).
- Are all the bins same in size and colour or are they different? The Australian standard dictates that waste bins should have a red lid/signage, while recycling bins should have a yellow lid.
- Are bin stands used to prevent public placed bins from being knocked over?
- Do community residents know what kind of rubbish can be put in each type of bin? – visually inspect bin contents on a regular basis.
- Conduct regular education and awareness programs.

Bin Placement

- Are there enough bins in public places such as the store, main street, park, licensed premises, etc? Are they highly visible and easily accessible all-around? Are they big enough and serviced regularly?
- During busy times, are store, businesses and licensed premises staff proactive in maintaining litter-free premises and grounds (in doing so it sends out a message of littering standards expectations that the community residents can be continually and repetitively exposed to, contributing towards the gradual change to desired attitude and waste disposal behaviour). Staff at premises can politely remind customers to place rubbish into bins on their way out.
- Are the store, businesses and licensed premises currently contributing towards the litter control plan and are they playing a responsible role in community litter awareness and education?
- Is there adequate bin signage in place? Signs should be easily identifiable and provide effective communicated messages to the residents, many of whom have English as a Second Language.



- Has crowd density, high activity zones and peak flow been considered when placing public bins and during special community events?
- Is the immediate area around the public place bin clean, tidy and regularly serviced?
- If the community has started recycling aluminium cans - are bin opening limiters and rosettes used to reduce possible contamination?
- Is there adequate night time lighting of publicly placed bins?

Bin Service

This refers to the clearance, maintenance and clearing of residential and public place waste disposal and recycling bins.

- The frequency of service (bin clearances) plays an important role in litter prevention.
- Are public placed bins of the right size? Are bin liners used?
- What is the current regular clearance frequency for residential bins and is this at the most efficient level? (Do not over or under service)
- What is the current regular clearance service frequency for public place bins and is this at an optimal efficient level?
- Are residential or public place bins being over- or under-serviced?
 - » Over-servicing is an unnecessary expense to the community in fuel, vehicle, wear and tear costs, and people time. Over-servicing of bins will result in increased damage to the lids, wheels and bin body. Review your clearance schedule frequency and reschedule accordingly – residential bin clearance scheduling will generally be less frequent than clearance for public place bins.



- » Under-servicing can result in overflowing bins with rubbish spilled around on ground, this can also create health and injury risks, reducing quality of life in the community.
- What are the current community bin servicing costs per household?
- Do all households have a bin supplied and cleared on a regular basis?
- Are bins returned to resident's yards after clearance servicing or are bins left on the kerbside seven days a week? It is recommended that all residential bins be returned to resident's yards after emptying, to reduce littering from 'knocked over' bins.
- Are Community bins knocked over? Are dogs / feral animals accessing bins for food?
- Are bin stands used for public place bins? Bin stands are readily available on the market for both wheelie bins and drum bins, preventing bin from being knocked over by vandals or animals.
- Are procedures in place for 'spilled' bin waste? Are bin clearance service staff directed to pick up 'spilled' rubbish or waste from knocked over bins? The bin clearance service provider should be responsible for the immediate removal of spilled litter from bins – confirm that the practice is carried out and check service vehicle for the appropriate necessary tools such as rake & shovels.
- Does the Community Store / Supermarket sell items such as rakes, shovels, gloves, brooms, rubbish bags with ties, etc in an effort to provide the necessary basic tools required to maintain litter control within the community residence yards? If so are there enough for the community?
- How many staff are directly associated with the bin clearance service? Using more staff than necessary is a waste of resources and increases costs (as a guide, bin clearance services are usually conducted with one driver in the vehicle.)
- Will the requirements for bin clearance service during 'peak' periods such as school holidays, community festivals, etc be reviewed?



APPENDIX C

Community

Litter Questionnaire/survey

The survey objective is to track changes in littering habits, behaviours and attitudes. The questionnaire can be handed out for completion by community people during the consultation stage. Keeping in mind that English is the second language for most residents, the audience may prefer the “show of hands” to answer each question with counts recorded by the presenter.

The questionnaire should be completed before and after the education program to gauge program effectiveness.

Reinforce that there are no right answers or wrong answers and that we just want to understand attitudes and identify any possible issues or areas that need additional attention.



Sample Litter Questionnaire/survey

Do you live in this community (or are you a visitor)?

- Yes No (I'm a Visitor)

Tick which items below are rubbish when left on the ground.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass Bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beer / Soft Drink Can |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Car Body |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used Nappy | <input type="checkbox"/> Food leftovers & scraps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All the above | <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know | |

Do you leave rubbish on the ground and walk away?

- Yes No

Is it bad to leave your rubbish on the ground and walk away?

- Yes No

If you leave your empty bottles and cans on the ground, who cleans it up?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Me / mine | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the Government | <input type="checkbox"/> CDEP
(Community Development
Employment Program) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workers | <input type="checkbox"/> Everyone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know | |

Is it "good" to drop or leave rubbish on ground and not place it in a bin?

- Yes No

Do you leave rubbish on the ground in other communities or city?

- Yes No

Is rubbish on the ground a "mess" and a problem here?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Is rubbish left on ground dangerous to children and people?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Is rubbish left on ground dangerous to animals, birds & fish?

- Yes No
 Don't Know



Is rubbish left on the ground bad for this Community?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Is rubbish left on the ground bad for your Country?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Does rubbish left on the ground make you feel shame?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Would you walk to a bin to place your rubbish, bottles and cans into it?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

Does picking up rubbish and placing it into a bin make you feel shame?

- Yes No
 Don't Know

If you saw someone drop or leave rubbish on ground what would you do?

- Nothing Not sure
 Tell them to pick it up
and place rubbish into bin
 Pick rubbish up myself and
place rubbish into bin.

What gender and age group are you?

- Male Female

- 0 – 10 years old
 11 – 20
 21 – 30
 31 – 40
 41 – 50
 51 – 60
 61 – 70
 over 70

Do The Right Thing - THANK YOU



Roles and responsibilities

It is important that roles and responsibilities for all those involved in the community clean-up program are clearly defined. These might include:

Regional Shire Community Committee

- Future community direction towards sustainable waste disposal practices, development of the waste management plan.
- Provision of adequate resources.
- Encourage Community support for 'Clean-up' projects.
- Maintain a regular review of progress in litter control.
- Appreciation and recognition of efforts by others.
- Reporting results to community and key stakeholders regularly.

Regional Shire CEO, Community Manager

- Risk assessment (OH&S).
- Strong waste management leadership and guidance.
- Waste management planning and budgets.
- Data collection, recording, monitoring & reporting.
- Coordinate regular planned clean-ups.
- Ensure first aid is readily available at all clean-up events.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of each clean-up.



- Conduct regular, litter origin and cause analysis, plus development of corrective actions.
- Provide necessary resources and support.
- Coordination of operational procedures documentation.
- Identify training requirements associated with the plan.

Community Residents

- Individual commitment to support and participate in the community clean-up.
- Responsive to OH&S briefing.
- Individual responsibility to change attitude and disposal behaviour.
- Contribute community knowledge.
- Feedback to Council and other stakeholders.

Manager, community waste management service

- Assist in coordinating community clean-ups.
- Supply of skilled labour.
- Supply equipment and tools, as required particularly during initial community clean-ups.
- Collection and removal of high risk litter (pre community clean-up).

- Arrange transportation of collected litter to landfill.
- Record data including written and photographic evidence.
- Distribute flyers and school children's posters to promote and create awareness of 'Community Clean-up' before event.

Organisations, eg. Packaging Stewardship Forum, Keep Australia Beautiful, LGA, Aboriginal Land Education Program, Rangers or Departments of Health or Community Services,

- Support the community in achieving its objective of sustainable waste management.
- Ongoing community awareness, co-ordination and delivery of education programs in conjunction with the Community Committee and/or Community Manager. Programs that support litter control need to reinforce the positive links and make community residents aware of negative consequences and possible damage caused by not placing rubbish into bins.



Data collection and key measures

Confirm what measures will be monitored and recorded during the Community Clean-up event.

Data collection can help monitor results and progress, assist with funding, and requires very little effort.

Some examples are

- Waste and recycling volume and weight.
- Residents' attitude and behaviour towards littering and rubbish on the ground.
- The amount of litter collected during a Community clean-up can be recorded by total weight, volume or number of bags.
- The data collected can be displayed for feedback and motivation to the community, and to set targets for the next planned Community Clean-up.
- Community Manager reporting 'monthly litter index ratings' to community and regional Councils is another measure that can help monitor trends, as well as flagging the need for early intervention or more support in expertise or funding.

Risk assessment tools

Introduction of new procedures, processes and culture means checking possible risks involved, and developing measures to control or reduce that risk.

The 'Risk Table' method is one way to assess the level of risk associated with identified hazards or new changes to be implemented to the community or staff. Contact or view your state or territory Worksafe web site for more information (Information Bulletins, Safety Management, Guide to assessing risk).

Please remember to always record and file all risk assessments conducted.



Monthly Litter Index Rating

COMMUNITY: _____

DATE: _____

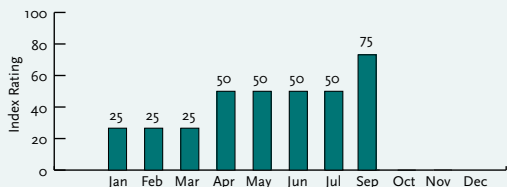
MONTH: _____

RATING LEVEL: _____

FROM (CM): _____

To: _____

COPY TO: _____



ACTIONS/COMMENTS: _____

ISSUES: _____

CM Signature: _____

Index Rating Criteria

0-24

No monthly Litter Index Rating in use
 Very noticeable amounts of litter on the ground everywhere
 No Regular Community Clean-ups planned and conducted
 Poor/ No Community Commitment
 No bin infrastructure, services, awareness or education in place

25-49

Monthly Litter index in use
 Some litter on ground in 'hot spots' only
 Regular Community Clean-ups conducted
 Community commitment at low level
 Bin infrastructure and services in place, no to little awareness or education in place

50-74

Monthly litter index in use
 Small amount of litter on ground only every now and again
 Regular Community Clean-up planned and conducted, good level of support
 Bin infrastructure, services, awareness and education in place
 Commenced recycling program

75-100

Waste Management Plans in use
 Monthly litter index in use
 Recycling programs in place
 Very little to No litter on ground
 Regularly planned Community Clean-up no longer necessary
 Beautification program implemented
 Highly motivated Community



Sample program budget

This list will give an indication of possible areas of expenditure relating to a community clean-up program and will assist with budgeting and seeking sponsorship and support.

- Additional bins and infrastructure (skips, balers, etc), repairs and maintenance (spare wheelie bin parts, replacement bins).
- Additional waste service requirements (paid skilled labour, data recording).
- Internal audits and external auditing costs (if applicable).
- External stakeholders community visits (expertise, experience and report findings).
- Regular community consultation plus litter awareness education programs.
- Need for continual repetitive strong community anti-litter message – banners, flyers, radio, signage supply & installation, school children’s posters.
- Clean-up personal protection equipment such as shoes, gloves, safety glasses, litter tongs, rubbish bags, hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, hand wipes and soaps.
- Transport and handling costs associated with collected waste from clean-up event (tractor, truck or trailer use, etc).
- Waste pick-up, removal and disposal costs charges if applicable.
- Community clean-up event BBQ and refreshment costs.
- Recognition, milestone achievements, appreciation awards (internally and externally).



“Community Clean-up” Value Example

Item	In Kind \$s	Cost \$
50 People 4 Hrs @ \$20/Hr	\$4,000	
10 Expertise & Supervision people 8 Hrs @ \$30/hr	\$2,400	
Waste Disposal Charges @ \$37/ton	\$550	
Bins & Signage	\$1,000	\$1,000
Refreshments	\$350	
Truck, Driver / Trailer Hire	\$350	
personal protection equipment	\$500	
Cleaning tools, materials and aids	\$500	
Appreciation / Recognition awards	\$100	
Estimated Total	\$9,650.00	\$1,000

This ‘example’ is estimated to deliver approximately \$10,650 of clean-up value to the Community. For project sponsors and stakeholders this represents direct community support and commitment through their contributions into a program that is positive for the community itself and the environment. If a remote community conducted six planned Community Clean-ups annually this would equate to approximately \$60,000 in clean-up value plus the environmental benefit of remote community litter waste collected and removed.



Clean-up tools and materials

The list below gives an indication of the materials required for a Community Clean-up. This will assist in the planning and budgeting process for the event.

- Trailer, ute, truck or tractor for transport and handling of collected rubbish (consider if there is a need to store the collected rubbish somewhere before it is transported to landfill).
- Personal protective equipment such as thick gloves, shoes, overalls, aprons, safety glasses, sunscreen, hats, insect sprays should be considered and made available for event participants.
- First Aid Box or Medical Centre staff in attendance.
- Sanitary hand wipes or towelettes, soap water and paper towels, etc for participants.
- Rubbish collection bags with ties (so they can be tied off once filled) or wheelie bins.
- 'Clean-up area' mapped and handed out to Community Clean-up volunteers.
- Long handle rakes, brooms & pans, shovels and litter pick up tongs (some communities may prefer long sticks, OH&S).
- Scales to weigh rubbish collected.
- Bins or tubs to measure and record volume of rubbish collected.
- Radio, CDs or other entertainment. This can be during the event or later, at the post event BBQ .

There are mechanical litter 'clean-up' aids and attachments available (such as mechanical sweepers, brooms, rakes, vacuum cleaners) that can operate effectively to clean up communities. Use of mechanical aids depends upon type of litter material encountered, volume of litter to recover, size of clean-up areas and the availability of funds. If the units are too costly, consider getting a portable unit that can be shared amongst a number of regional / shire communities.

Community Information Session

Community residents need to be informed of the events planned, scope, timing, OH&S issues, etc. It is very important that the communication and consultation process occurs prior to every event, to give information and obtain feedback. Without the community support and participation the litter reduction plan will not be successful. Community residents need to possess the motivation and desire to participate in the community Clean-up events. Recognition by the Community Committee, CEO, CM or project champion of participation, efforts and achievements will go a long way to motivating the residents and volunteers.



Considerations

The need for interpreter services should be considered, particularly for organisations from outside the community.

Listed below are some of the main points that need to be discussed with Clean-up participants prior to the events.

- Communicate project purpose, objective, scope, methodology and obtain feedback from participants. Respond to all raised issues of concern. The Community Clean-up project purpose, objective, scope and methodology should be re-emphasised and discussed immediately prior to commencing the Clean-up at the community Clean-up event.
- What is the community's response to the clean-up proposals (support, commitment, concerns)? Get participants to commit to be part of the program.
- This is a social community event that can generate community pride. Initial participation numbers could be low, but by promoting the event you can build up community interest and increase participation. A Project Champion can also help increase participation by discussing the event with residents and confirming their attendance in the weeks prior to event. School children's posters are an effective way to motivate community participation prior to event.
- "What will motivate people to place rubbish into a bin"? Create an incentive and drive commitment at both individual and community levels.

These motivators should be used in the community awareness education program to drive the necessary changes in attitude and behaviour.

- Consider introducing and delivering the "Litter Awareness Presentation" education program included in this booklet. Keep in mind that English can be a second or even third language with some Community residents and that illustrations can be a very effective form of communication. This presentation can be the start of assisting community residents to better understand the importance of litter control. With their new understanding of litter and littering, there should be a positive change in attitude and behaviour. Record any valuable feedback you get during the presentation and - if necessary - make changes to the community clean-up plan. We recommend that you treat the Litter Awareness Presentation as a social event, delivered in a comfortable environment and in an enjoyable manner, catering to the needs of all community participants attending.
- Get an indication of how many people will volunteer for clean-up day. Participation should be strongly encouraged by Council, CM and Project Champion. If need be, and only as a last resort, give consideration to Correctional Services, Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) volunteers, Rotary Clubs, Lions etc . Remember that by using 'outside' volunteers you may be sending out the wrong message and lose the 'ownership responsibility of litter' by community residents.



Litter Awareness Presentation

In simple terms this suggested presentation can help explain the differences between rubbish and littering, the journey and consequences of litter and the desired disposal behaviour practices.

Introduction

Speaking points:

Compare old days with today, bush tucker with European tucker. In the old days people drank from creeks with cupped hands – today people drink from plastic or glass bottles, it tastes great and is easy, but there is an issue with the left over rubbish. In the old days bush tucker was carried around in bark and woven bags – today it's plastic bags, that's easy but there is an issue with left over rubbish if not placed in bin. In the old days people used soft bark as nappies – today it's plastic nappies, that's easy but there is an issue with left over rubbish if not placed in bin.

Rubbish

Speaking points:

Understand & Identify what rubbish/litter is.

Compare old days packaging materials with today's packaging materials, when materials have no further use it is considered 'rubbish'. Yesteryear's 'rubbish' of barks and woven leaves was 'good' for the country when left behind after leaving a camp. Today's 'rubbish' consists of 'bad' materials when left behind after leaving a camp or meeting area. Explore and explain the differences between barks, woven leaves, glass, aluminium, plastics. Also discuss how community stores, which are relatively new to communities, have brought with them improved quality of life as well as new and different materials like glass, plastics, aluminium, etc. Explain that unwanted materials are called 'rubbish' or 'litter' and when left on the ground without placing them into a bin is called 'littering'. 'Littering' is seen as an undesirable behaviour and is unacceptable for many reasons. Discuss those reasons and how it may affect their community.



Littering

Speaking points:

What happens if we leave rubbish on ground and not in bins?

Discuss the 'journeys' of today's different materials if left on the ground as litter. What would happen to a plastic bottle, a glass bottle, an aluminium can, a plastic bag or soiled nappy? Discuss the possible separate journeys for each waste material in a coastal, river and desert environment – rubbish travels a long way with wind, rain, river water and animals.

Don't forget these new age materials can last tens or even hundreds of years. Rubbish has been an accepted part of the landscape and country for a very long time, but not anymore. We need to start the necessary change in attitude and behaviour.

Discuss the possible threats, consequences and impacts of rubbish on the children, future generations, animals, country and themselves. Discuss choices available to them. Need to discuss and confirm ownership for rubbish. Whose is it? Is the glass bottle I drink out of mine, yours, theirs, ours? Identify ownership.

Occupational Health and Safety

Speaking points:

What happens when we place our rubbish into bins?

Today's 'rubbish' or 'litter' will not go away until it is actually picked up and placed into a bin. Once placed in bins rubbish can be easily removed and burned/buried to control it, and stop it from being wind blown and spread around the community. Burying or burning rubbish also controls flies, vermin and animal interference, but it could also affect your water aquifer. In some towns they even sort the rubbish or litter to recover and recycle certain rubbish.

Talk about the positive and the negatives issues identified in the previous question e.g. this action or behaviour would make it safer for the children to play in the grass etc.



Cleaning up

Speaking points:

Community pride and self esteem achieved through community participation is invaluable. The pride can drive change in litter disposal behaviour and practices plus attitudes into a sustainable positive direction.

Pride, self-esteem, quality of life, community social well being, there are worthy attributes that can benefit from regular community clean-ups. And the positive disposal practices of placing rubbish into bins.

(Remember that you are appealing to the participants better nature and good will)

Doing the right thing

Speaking points:

Who is responsible for putting rubbish in the bin?

Binning rubbish is an individual's choice. Deciding to leave the rubbish on ground or to place it into the bin is the responsibility of each person. Your choices will have consequences on your community. Everybody is responsible for their own rubbish, in their own yard, public areas, drinking area, etc. People should place the rubbish into plastic bags and then place the filled plastic bags into bins. Communities are not just for country men, they are open to all people. While visiting from another country respect your host's country and place rubbish in bins. If you place rubbish in a bin make sure that it goes inside the bin. If someone else leaves rubbish on ground ask them to place it in bin or you can pick it up and place it in a bin. OH&S issues need to be highlighted (refer to OH&S section; discuss any risks identified during litter survey).

Happy clean country

Speaking points:

Sustainable practices achieved, overall quality of community life enhanced, sustainable gains made and maintained, litter controlled and resources recovered.



APPENDIX D

Remote community waste management, recycling and beautification programs

The projects listed below are possible extensions to the community clean-up program and will complement it.

- Littering behaviour study – identify possible areas of high priority within your community. Identify possible sources of litter and assess disposal behaviours. Conduct an analysis of areas with rubbish on ground. Discuss possible actions to prevent this (cause analysis with corrective actions). Assess effectiveness of actions implemented.
- Recovery of recyclables – assess the feasibility of a recycling program. Community Committee need to agree on what recyclables materials are viable and what is to be recovered by analysing whether the environmental and economical benefits and costs of the program. Assess the possible long term benefits and employment opportunities of a viable recycling program for your community or region.
 - » The feasibility assessment can be done by the individual community or as a regional program. Consider mobile units such as plastic/cardboard and glass crushers or balers, etc that can be shared by neighbouring communities.
 - » Estimate quantities of the different material types within the Community waste stream. Identify possible markets for recycled materials and confirm market prices. Remember, however, that recycled material prices do fluctuate with changing market conditions.



- » A recycling program could take many forms, including a Voluntary Logistics Program or free back loading (getting transport operators to take back recyclables) to a major centre or collection depot.
- » Programs for the recovery of recyclables save natural resources and divert waste from landfill. Island Communities with limited landfill capacity should consider the recovery of recyclables, including waste oils, IT and telecommunications equipment, white goods, motor vehicles, car batteries, etc.
- » Always record the volume or weight of recovered materials.
- » Recycling materials can be collected and binned together (commingled) or as separate materials, depending on the market and services available. Bin sites in public areas require regular checking, maintenance, cleaning and clearance. Materials collected might need to be stored locally (intermediate storage) before transporting to a major centre for processing.
- » Review and assess partnership opportunities with community store or businesses as well as regional businesses that may be interested in the opportunity to support and 'give back' to their remote community and the residents.
- » Determine community residents' willingness and commitment to the recycling program.
- » Introduce adequate 'recyclables' stickers or signage to promote and create recyclable material awareness and education. Consider gluing samples of "recyclables" to bins if contamination continually occurs. This may help to communicate what materials are recyclable (OH&S).
- » Research alternative uses for low volume- low value materials, such as glass into glass cullet, as bore water filtering medium, landfill site cell liner, aggregate substitute in footpath bitumen or non-structural concrete, or even stockpiling material as a valuable finite resource for future use.
- Resource Recovery Voluntary Drop-off Program. The voluntary drop-off program is a simple, low- cost recovery system that encourages people to place recyclables into specific labelled bins, located throughout the Community eg. outside the store, at landfill site, etc. Pressing and compacting materials is necessary in order to obtain maximum freight efficiencies. Remember to record volume or weight recovered for future reference. Consider special collection services for challenging items such as acid filled lead batteries and car tyres.



- Aluminium can collection program – (at various locations through out the community such as outside store, at drinking area, at special events.) For most remote communities it is viable to set up a voluntary drop-off collection for aluminium cans. Steel stand frames with wool bales or wheelie bins with 'opening limiters' are effective types of infrastructures for collection. Ensure aluminium collection bins are clearly marked and highly visible. Crushers may be necessary to compress the cans for maximum freight efficiency. Some remote communities have developed low-cost can crushers eg, plastic drums filled with sand and rolled to flatten cans, but always conduct risk assessments to eliminate risks.
- Community School – Directly involve the school children with community clean-ups by preparing posters and signs for display prior to and during event; create a motivating community clean-up song or slogan in language that can be used by local radio station or in public community gatherings prior to clean-ups. Develop a fun game that the children can play and learn about correct waste disposal practices as well.
- Waste minimisation program – List the different waste material types within the community and estimate their quantities. Assess each material type and determine if an alternative is available eg aluminium cans as opposed to glass bottles, alternative take away food container options, consider restricting particular types of material into the community (especially island communities with very limited landfill site availability.)
- Community Waste Management 'Reuse' program – Such as beverage containers filled with water, turned upside down and inserted into aqua spikes as water drip system for bush tucker plants, cardboards as mulch, materials used in schools arts programs, etc are some examples.
- Community waste management web site – Update web site displaying achievements, exchanging knowledge and improvement ideas. The site can also be used to thank Community Clean-up sponsors, displaying their support, commitment and logo.



- Community waste management base line data collection – Base line data could include general waste (vol/ ton), recyclables quantities by material type, levels of contamination in recycling bins, amount of recyclables in general waste bins, community attitude and behaviour response through survey questionnaire, etc.
- Special event waste management program plan for Community. There is a misconception that it's easier to clean up after an event. However, collecting the rubbish during the event will reduce 'post event' clean-up time, saving Council labour and other clean-up costs or expenses as well. All it needs is some planning.
- Car bodies' removal program – Abandoned cars should be stored at a special site. Spare parts can be sold or scavenged. De-construction of car for valuable car components could be financially viable. Metal recyclers are willing to assist with removal of steels and metals from communities. Steels and other metals can be stored inside the vehicle as a holding container. Remove car tyres with good tread if they are usable. For safety reasons it is preferred that the vehicle fuel tanks are empty, if at all possible. Vehicles powered by gas with gas cylinders pose a very high danger risk. **Never cut a gas cylinder or gas line in any abandoned vehicle**, as there could be the high risk of an explosion or fire. Abandoned vehicles powered by gas need to be isolated and identified or tagged (suggest use of iridescent paint spray can). These steps must be taken to reduce the risk of fire or explosion to community and metal recyclers. Outstations and cattle station may also be prepared to work in partnership with communities using their plant and equipment to collect and centralise the storage of abandoned vehicles into one large pile awaiting "Remote Community Car Crushing or Car Muster" program collection.
- Community waste oil collection program – Most communities already have programs for recycling or reuse of waste oil and bulk collection facilities. Assess if these can be improved.
- Plastic bag review program for Community - Some remote coastal communities have already begun replacing plastic bags with paper bags, to minimise environmental impact and harm to wildlife.
- Community composting - Worm farming and nursery programs, can further complement other programs such as community plant and bush tucker nurseries. These programs can result in employment or create products to take to markets and bartering, particularly when highly valued plants are on offer it can also be educational fun for the children.



- Stray dog removal and de-sexing programs - This program can be coordinated and conducted on any of the pre-planned community Clean-up days. Contact your local regional shire or veterinarian for further details including cost.
- Consider a 'no take away glass' policy with local publican.
- Remote community Beautification projects - Beautification projects can be used to motivate the community for their efforts by enhancing the overall quality of community life.
 - » Replace noxious trees and shrubs with native trees and shrubs to entice native wildlife back into community.
 - » Introduce native plant gardens throughout the community.
 - » Introduce fruit and/or veggie gardens, composting and worm farm projects
 - » Regenerate bush land.
 - » Introduce indigenous paintings or artworks on infrastructure (old buildings, boulders, public place bins, toilet blocks, etc)
- » Plant shady trees along roads, walkways and in meeting areas.
- » Install automatic ground water irrigation systems to water trees.
- » Plant turf or grass seeding in residential yards.
- » Use grass, shrubs etc to reduce dust throughout the community
- » Create additional outdoor community areas.



Feedback Form

This is our first attempt at producing a booklet with information on how to reduce and control litter in remote communities. We would appreciate your honest feedback and comments to make future editions better. Would you please tell us:

- What contents were of value to your Community?
- What contents were of little or no value to you?
- How can we improve this booklet to make it more useful to you?
- What did you not like about booklet?
- Has the booklet assisted in changing attitudes and behaviours within your Community?
- Any other comments (good or bad)?

Send your feedback to Keep Australia Beautiful (NT)

Remote Communities Manager
GPO Box 368
Darwin, NT 0801
Email: ceo@kabcnt.org.au

or

Packaging Stewardship Forum

General Manager
Locked Bag 1
Kingston ACT 2604

the 'clean-up' book

Alyawarr (NT):

Apmer anewantherrenh mwerr-angker innga impen-then.

*Kel apmer arraty-angkwarr arntarnt-ayntey,
Apmwamwam akwetyel-ayntemel teram-warl iwemel*

Pitjantjatjara (SA):

Ngura nganampa wizu mulapa.

*Wanyula atunymaca kanyinma,
Munu raputji mantjira pitingka tjarpatjura!*

Taungurung (VIC):

Ngalangum biik magigal damboonamon ba yeadabilling.

Wonga-gat ngangnak goorrengerin ba maba doorong.

Yering noorong goorrngee gee maandani.

*(Translation thanks to Lee Healy, Taungurung Clans
Aboriginal Corporation)*

Ngaanyatjarra (WA):

Ngurra-lampa mungutjamunu.

Nyangka-la walykumunura kanyinma.

*Palunyalu-la rapitji piminnya binta
tjarpatjunama*

Kalaulagau Ya (QLD)

*Ngalmun lag mina kapunga ngalpa mus mina
thumayiwaipa. So ngalpa mus ngalpun rubbishal
binanu tharai.*

Ngalmun lagapa mina ngathap .

Gumbaynggirr (NSW)

*Ngiyambandi wajaarr, yaam nyirrnaa,
nyanggan.*

*Yilaana ngarraynggala ngarri: muuga
guuja din. Ganda!*



DO THE RIGHT THING

for a happier, healthier, cleaner future