

Volunteer Guide



1. Register as a volunteer

i) If you would like to help with *Adopt-a-Beach* at your local beach, check whether the beach is already adopted by [CLICKING HERE](#) (ctrl + click to follow)

ii) If the beach is adopted, please contact the organiser to register your interest and find out the dates of the next survey. If no organiser details are listed, please complete the online [registration form](#) (ctrl + click to follow), ensuring you state that you would like to be a volunteer. MCS will then put you in touch with an organiser if one comes forward in the future.

2. Preparation for the survey

iii) Ensure that you have suitable clothing, eg: waterproof, sturdy shoes and gloves if possible

iv) Bring water/drink and some food

3. On the day of the survey

v) Listen carefully to the briefing given by the organiser explaining exactly how to do the survey and relevant health and safety issues.

vi) Carry out the survey as advised by the organiser on the marked 100 metre stretch of the beach, between the current high water mark (strandline) and the upper limit of the useable part of the beach (eg: up to the edge of the dunes, sea wall or promenade)

vii) Work within a small group (3/4) consisting of litter pickers, and recorders who record each item on data sheets as the litter pickers call them out

viii) Collect all litter items within the survey area, record each item accurately and ensure that it is left in a sensible place for collection. Please refer to the [litter ID guide](#) (ctrl + click to follow)

ix) Pass all survey sheets to the organiser at the end of the survey (the organiser will return the totals to MCS for analysis)

4. After the event

x) MCS will send Adopt-a-Beach organisers a feedback form for each survey they carry out. The form will provide the organiser with a breakdown of the material types, and litter sources on your beach. Data from your survey can be used to highlight the main sources of litter on the adopted beach and address the issues at a local level.