

Clean Camden community clean ups

Camden's Environment Service is here to support residents and businesses who want to make a difference in their local area, and we have put together this guidance as a starting point for those thinking about organising a clean up. You may also wish to refer to [Capital Clean-up's "Community Toolkit"](#), which contains more detailed information on organising a clean up.

What are the local issues?

Have a look around the area and note down the issues you see. We're encouraging residents to clean up litter and remove weeds, but we understand there are some things you can't deal with alone. Your local Senior Area Monitoring Officer (SAMO) will be able to arrange removal of graffiti, dog fouling and any dangerous items of litter, such as sharps or syringes. They will also be able to devise a local strategy for tackling the causes of environmental crime. To get in touch with your local SAMO, please contact cleancamden@camden.gov.uk or call **020 7974 4444**.

Planning the clean up

In planning the clean up you should consider the following:

When and where should volunteers meet? We have a poster template that can be used to publicise the event in the local area, and if you want to reach a wider audience we can put out a call for volunteers via Camden Council's twitter account. If you do put any posters up, please make sure you remember to take them down after the event. You might also want to publicise the event via local residents' associations and community groups, and consider providing refreshments for volunteers.

Equipment for volunteers. We can provide litter pickers, gloves and hi-vis vests, as well as a pink chalk-based spray for highlighting dog fouling in problem areas. Your local SAMO will be able to advise you on where to leave the bagged litter for collection by our street cleansing contractor.

Health and safety. Capital Clean Up, who organise clean up events across London, have put together an easy to use risk assessment form (provided with this guidance) and we recommend that you complete this before any clean up events. If anyone participating in the clean-up comes across any items that are potentially hazardous, such as sharps or syringes, we strongly advise that they **do not** attempt to dispose of the items and instead notify Camden's Grimebusters on 020 7974 4444.

After the clean up

The battle against litter and other environmental crimes is ongoing. We'll continue to take enforcement action against those responsible, and to clean the streets as often as our budget allows. Following on from the initial clean up event, we encourage participants to arrange regular clean-ups to keep the area clean and tidy. This doesn't have to be a big event – it could be as simple as neighbours meeting every couple of weeks to pick up litter outside their homes. We'll continue to provide support and will donate litter picking equipment to groups interested in carrying out clean-ups on a regular basis.

camden.gov.uk/cleancamden