



# Trash Cleanup Guide





# Thank You

A sincere “thank you” for pitching in to show your public lands some love! We wish we could be together in person, but since we can’t, please use this Cleanup Guide as a resource to aid in your trash pick-up efforts.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

*Click on a topic below to jump to that section of the guide.*

**BEFORE YOU GO ...**

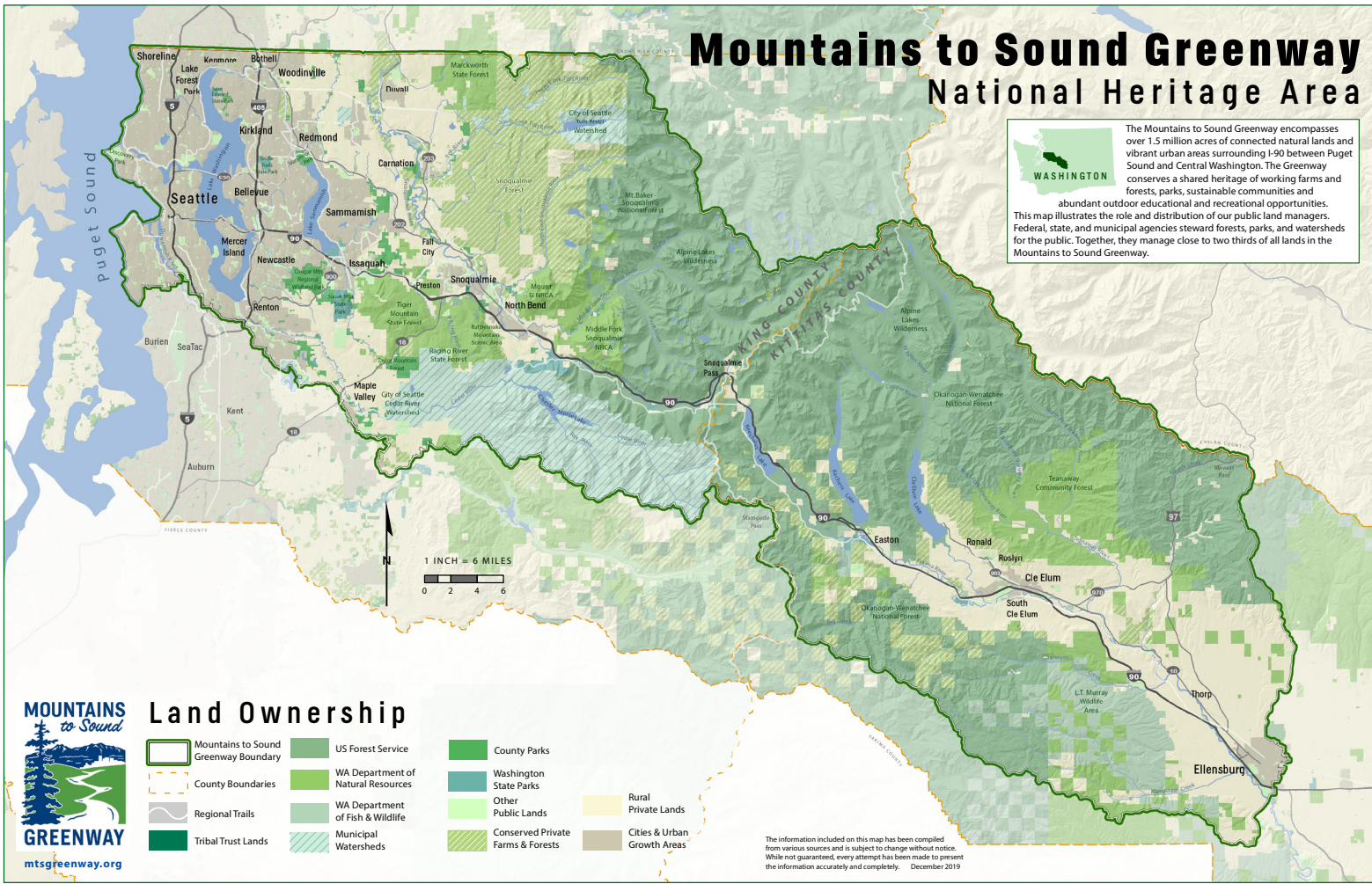
**WHILE YOU’RE OUT ...**

**WHEN YOU’RE DONE ...**



# Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area

The Mountains to Sound Greenway encompasses over 1.5 million acres of connected natural lands and vibrant urban areas surrounding I-90 between Puget Sound and Central Washington. The Greenway conserves a shared heritage of working farms and forests, parks, sustainable communities and abundant outdoor educational and recreational opportunities. This map illustrates the role and distribution of our public land managers. Federal, state, and municipal agencies steward forests, parks, and watersheds for the public. Together, they manage close to two thirds of all lands in the Mountains to Sound Greenway.



## Land Ownership

- Mountains to Sound Greenway Boundary
- County Boundaries
- Regional Trails
- Tribal Trust Lands
- US Forest Service
- WA Department of Natural Resources
- WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Municipal Watersheds
- County Parks
- Washington State Parks
- Other Public Lands
- Conserved Private Farms & Forests
- Rural Private Lands
- Cities & Urban Growth Areas

The information included on this map has been compiled from various sources and is subject to change without notice. While not guaranteed, every attempt has been made to present the information accurately and completely. December 2019

## What Are “Public Lands”?

The map above shows public lands represented in shades of green, broken out by land ownership. They span from local pocket parks, to massive national forests, and everything in between. For your cleanup efforts, we encourage you to think close to home and/or where you'd already be going. Do you recall seeing litter around your neighborhood, in your favorite park, or along a trail you frequent? Now's a great opportunity to head back there with the proper supplies to clean up and make a difference!

# COVID-19 Safety Precautions

---

We recommend you follow these health and safety guidelines when cleaning up trash on public lands:

- Volunteer and travel with members of your immediate household or social pod only.
- Pack a face covering and wear it whenever you are within 6 feet of another person not in your group.
- Wear gloves. We recommend nitrile or gardening gloves.
- Have a back-up plan. If you arrive at your destination and find it crowded, leave and go somewhere else.
- Wash your hands as frequently as possible. Hand sanitizer is recommended when hand washing is unavailable.
- Be sure to follow the tips in this guide on what to consider when picking up trash!





# What To Pack

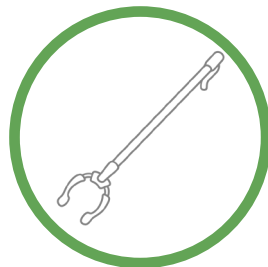
---

We suggest that you pack the following items when you head out to pick up trash.

- **COVID-19 safety materials: facial covering, hand sanitizer, and gloves**
- **First aid kit**
- **Large trash bags (contractor bags recommended for max durability)**

Optional, but recommended additional supplies:

- **Trash grabber**
- **Eye protection (sunglasses are okay)**
- **A smartphone or camera to take pictures**





# Things To Leave Behind

---

We know that not all litter is intentional, and we also know that there is illegal trash dumping done on public lands. We ask that you collect as much, or as little, trash as you are able to do so safely and comfortably. We also want you to know that we do not expect, or want, you to pick up everything you find. As you help out, we ask you to please be compassionate and understanding of different living situations.

## ITEMS YOU SHOULD NOT COLLECT:

### Biohazards and Personal Materials

- Hypodermic needles
- Human waste and waste products (toilet paper, sexual health products)
- Cars, refrigerators, large engines/machinery (yes, they are out there)
- Any personal items possibly belonging to someone living in the area (clothing, sleeping materials, shelters, etc.)

*Continued on next page...*





# Things To Leave Behind (Continued)



## ITEMS YOU SHOULD NOT COLLECT:

### Cultural Artifacts

Does it look super old? Leave it. The Greenway is rich with pockets of cultural history and archaeological sites. Archaeological resources are material remains of past human life that are 50+ years old, and may include:

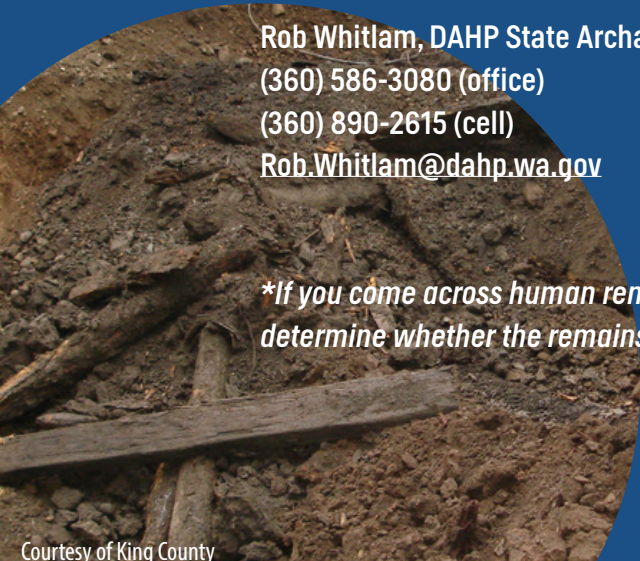
- Concentrations of shells or bones
- Arrowheads, stone tools, or concentrations of stone chips
- Large dumps of historical bottles, cans, or ceramics (old glass is usually thicker and a different color than modern beverage bottles, and old dumps typically do not contain plastic items!)
- Old privies (outhouses)
- Buried fire pits or ovens
- Buried foundations or intact wall segments
- Clusters of animal bones found with burned rocks, stone tools, or chips
- Fragments of basketry, cordage, nets, or traps made of wood or bark
- Human remains\*

The soil near archaeological resources is often a different color or texture: stained with charcoal, rocks reddened or blackened by fire, or even a layer of brick. If you think you may have found something culturally significant, please leave it be and contact your state or county archaeologist:

Rob Whitlam, DAHP State Archaeologist  
(360) 586-3080 (office)  
(360) 890-2615 (cell)  
[Rob.Whitlam@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:Rob.Whitlam@dahp.wa.gov)

Brandy Rinck, King County Parks Archaeologist  
(206) 263-6839 (office)  
(206) 681-7305 (cell)  
[brinck@kingcounty.gov](mailto:brinck@kingcounty.gov)

*\*If you come across human remains, contact local law enforcement immediately. They will determine whether the remains should be treated as a crime scene or archaeological site.*





# Report An Issue

---

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need to report anything you find:

- East of Snoqualmie Pass: Email Nicky Pasi, [nicky.pasi@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:nicky.pasi@mtsgreenway.org)
- West of Snoqualmie Pass: Email Caroline Villanova, [caroline.villanova@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:caroline.villanova@mtsgreenway.org)

Include a description of the item(s) you are reporting, a photo, and your most accurate description of the location of the item(s) (if possible, utilize GPS coordinates).



Courtesy of Washington  
Department of Natural  
Resources



# Properly Dispose Of Collected Trash

---

**Please do not leave your bags of trash in a pile at a trailhead or next to other trash receptacles at a trailhead. This will only contribute to the trash issue on public lands as it runs the risk of wildlife getting into the trash bags.**

**Please dispose of your collected trash in your own household waste stream. This is the most effective way to ensure proper disposal.**



Courtesy of Washington Department of Natural Resources





# Share Your Experience

---

We know you'll be working hard, but take a minute to rest and snap a few photos of your experience! We'd love to see what you're up to, so please share with us on social media or email to [katy.yeh@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:katy.yeh@mtsgreenway.org).

- Share your photos on social media using #GetOutAndGreenway
- Follow and tag Mountains To Sound Greenway

## #GetOutAndGreenway



[Facebook.com/MTSGreenway](https://www.facebook.com/MTSGreenway)



[@MountainsToSoundGreenway](https://www.instagram.com/MountainsToSoundGreenway)



[@MTSGreenway](https://twitter.com/MTSGreenway)



# Continue To Care For Your Public Lands

---

## **BE A GOOD STEWARD:**

One of the most important things that you can do to help keep our public lands healthy and beautiful is to practice good stewardship behavior. Being a steward of these spaces means caring for them and committing to Leave No Trace and Recreate Responsibly. Whether you are new to the outdoors or an experienced adventurer, it's good to review these resources and keep them top of mind on all of your outings.

## **DONATE:**

Higher level stewardship includes donating to nonprofits (like the Greenway Trust!) so we can continue to help fund and execute projects that make recreational spaces safe, accessible, and sustainable. There are many nonprofits out there doing great work ... find one you connect with and show them some love!

## **VOLUNTEER:**

Another way to support your public lands is by donating your time. Normally, we host in-person volunteer events all throughout the year, but those have been on hold unfortunately due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Be sure to subscribe to our newsletter so you can stay in the know about future opportunities when we're back up and running. And who knows what else we'll cook up during this time of virtual events and social distancing!

