

North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge

Frequently Asked Questions

ACCOUNTS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Q: I am getting an error when I try to register my city. Help!

A: Please contact Crysta Guzman, cguzman@nctcog.org, for technical assistance with the website and getting signed up.

Q: My neighborhood association is interested in participating. Should we sign up as an organization? We are not representing a city per se.

A: Yes, if your HOA is the **organizer** of a litter cleanup event, please sign-up as an organization and report the data for your event(s).

Q: I am with a KTB affiliate. Do I sign up my city and then we are the coordinators?

A: This can get a little tricky depending on how your KTB affiliate is set-up with your city. If your affiliate is a separate non-profit from the city, you will need to sign up as your KTB affiliate and organize your own events. If your affiliate is set-up through a partnership with a department at your city, double check with city staff that another department at the city won't be claiming the city organization before you attempt to do so.

DEADLINES:

Q: Is there a deadline to sign-on?

A: Yes, communities wanting to officially participate should sign-on by the date posted in announcements or on the website. This date is typically 45 days after the Cleanup Challenge has started, or April 15th. However, the earlier you sign-on the more time there is to advertise your participation, plan events, and gather participants who are interested.

Q: Is there a deadline to report my data?

A: Yes, all cleanup data must be reported/entered within 30 days of the end of the Cleanup Challenge, or by June 30th.

MAYORS' CHALLENGE:

Q: How do I participate in the Mayors' Challenge?

A: To participate in the Mayor's Challenge a community needs to have their Mayor, Council, or Commissioner issue a proclamation in support of the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge. A template can be found in the Toolbox tab of the website under [Partner Downloads](#). A copy of the resolution needs to be shared by email with the NCTCOG at EandD@nctcog.org by the sign on deadline of April 15th.

Q: I participated in the Mayors' Challenge in the past. Do I need to submit another proclamation?

A: Yes, each year a community wished to participate in the Mayors' Challenge they will need to issue a new proclamation for that year and submit it to NCTCOG by the sign on deadline of April 15th.

QUALIFYING EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

Q: Are there any requirements or restrictions around the kinds of events that qualify for the challenge?

A: Yes, there are some. The events should be any litter cleanup event that takes place outside at parks, in neighborhoods, along roadways/waterways, etc. Don't forget that clean ups of Adopt-A-Spots can count too! Basically, if people or volunteers are outside cleaning up trash and litter...that counts!

Q: What about larger events that include litter cleanup as just part of the overall activities such as a city-wide Big Event?

A: For larger events that include activities besides just litter cleanup, only the volunteers, hours, and trash collected as part of the litter collection portion of the event should be reported for the community cleanup challenge.

Q: Can litter cleaned up by city staff in the course of their normal job duties (example: maintenance crews, Parks and Rec crews, etc.) be reported?

A: No, only activities that fall outside of normal job duties may count or those connected to volunteer events/activities.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Q: Who can I reach out to if I have questions about the cleanup challenge?

A: Please contact Crysta Guzman, cguzman@nctcog.org, for questions about the cleanup challenge and the Mayors' Challenge.

REPORTING DATA:

Q: How do I measure the litter data that I am reporting?

A: The report form uses common metrics used by Keep Texas Beautiful such as estimated weights for bags. If you want to ensure your data is more accurate, you may consider using a luggage scale or fish scale that can readily be purchased online or at a sporting goods store.

Q: I noticed that the NTCCC now links to the Texas Litter Database to collect cleanup data. Why did you change and how will you track my data for the Cleanup Challenge so my community receives credit?

A: We are so glad that you noticed and asked! We are excited to link to the Texas Litter Database as this allows for a centralized collection of trash and litter data across the state. The Texas Litter Database also has the capacity to collect very detailed and granular information should the user wish to input that level of detail.

Please check out this [quick guide](#) to help walk you through the process of entering your data and how to link it to the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge. For the [2023 Cleanup Challenge](#), please enter "CCC23" in the External ID field when entering your data so that we can export your data reports for the Cleanup Challenge separate from all other data being entered into the database.