

**Before you start your clean up, here are a few things to consider.**

We've put together this advice for those attending an organised clean-up, or anyone who is doing their own thing.

**Please note that Colchester Borough Council is not responsible for (and will accept no liability to you for) any losses or damages you incur or suffer in connection with your voluntary participation in the litter warriors campaign, save to the extent that such liability cannot be limited or excluded by law.**

Please, attempt only what is within your personal capabilities and be sure to take regular rest breaks. Two to three hours of litter-picking is usually enough.

**1. KEEPING SAFE DURING THE PANDEMIC**

If you have any coronavirus symptoms or have been in contact with anyone who has had symptoms please follow government guidelines, stay at home and don't undertake any volunteering activity.

**2. EQUIPMENT**

To get started cleaning-up, we recommend you use a litter picker and hoop as a minimum. You will also need a bag to put the litter in, and we recommend carrying hand sanitiser and washing your hands regularly.

Please ensure you have considered the weather and are wearing suitable clothing/ shoes, and have enough to drink. If it is warm, consider suncream/ hats.

**3. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

If you attend an official clean-up, your host should have undertaken a risk assessment, and should provide you with a safety briefing.

However, it is important that everyone thinks about safety and understands how to keep themselves safe.

Please ensure you continue to follow all Covid-19 government recommendations

We recommend that you avoid:

- Potentially hazardous objects such as unidentified cans or canisters, oil drums and chemical containers.
- Sharp objects such as broken glass and disposable BBQs – these should be collected in separate containers not litter bags.
- Clinical waste such as needles/syringes – do not attempt to move them yourself. Make a note of their location and inform your local council.
- Hazardous areas such as deep or fast-flowing water, steep, slippery or unstable banks, sharp rocks, derelict buildings, busy roads and electric fences (which are identified by yellow warning signs).
- Working alone – try to stay in sight and earshot of others but if not possible then let someone know where you've gone and when to expect you back.

To avoid illness from poor hygiene, all those taking part in the clean-up must:

- Observe social distancing with fellow volunteers and members of the public.
- Cover any cuts (however minor) with surgical tape or a waterproof plaster.
- Keep hands away from mouth and eyes while litter-picking. And weeding

- Wash hands and forearms before eating, drinking, smoking or going to the toilet.

#### **4. HEAVY LIFTING**

Lifting heavy items could be hazardous. Consider whether it's practical for volunteers to remove them, or whether they would be best removed by the local council.

#### **5. DANGEROUS ITEMS**

**If dangerous, poisonous or hazardous items are present, contact the Environment Agency on 0800 80 70 60.**

If syringes are spotted at any stage during your clean-up, do not attempt to move them yourself. Make a note of their location and inform Colchester Borough Council

If you see someone fly tipping or come across hazardous waste, report it to the Environment Agency on its 24-hour hotline or, alternatively, contact the police.

#### **6. USE OF LAND**

Before going onto any land, make sure that you have permission from the land owner. If you are attending an organised clean-up, your host should have done this in advance.

#### **7. WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

Children should be accompanied by a responsible adult when taking part in a clean-up.

Before your clean-up, make sure children understand which items are potentially dangerous and should not be picked up. Teach children that if they are in any doubt they should ask a grown up before picking the litter up.

It's important that children wear suitable clothing and footwear. Don't let children pick for more than one hour at a time.

#### **8. REPORTING YOUR RESULTS**

Once you've finished the pick then you can follow the guide that's been provided to register them for collection, we would like to know as much as possible about your pick eg amount of bags, area, how many people took part and for how long. In this way we can get an accurate picture of what happens in and around Colchester

Last reviewed 26-11-21  
Litter Warriors guide to logging picks



The process for booking a collection for your litter pick.  
Please can all bags be left by a litter bin or dog waste bin. Use only bags that have been provided. Anything else might be mistaken for fly-tipping.

Step 1. Go to [Home](#) · Colchester Borough Council

Step 2. Click on recycling and rubbish

## Welcome to Colchester Borough Council

**Services** [\(View our services A-Z\)](#)



[Recycling and rubbish](#)

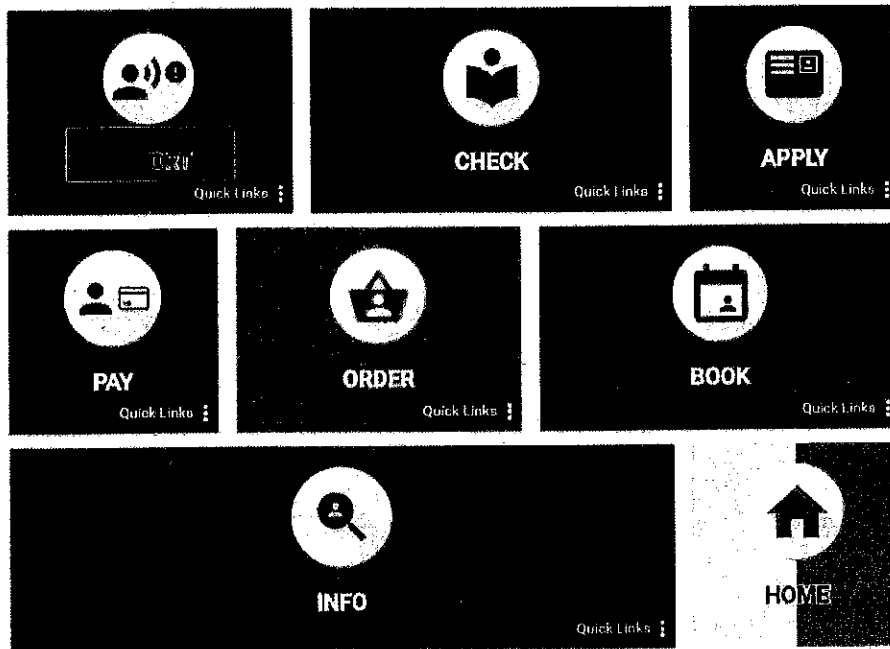
[Mixed collections, your recycling calendar, order recycling containers and plastic sacks](#)



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Colchester Borough Council  
Litter Warriors

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**Step 3. Select report**



**Step 4. Select report for Neighbourhood services**

- CHILD CARE COSTS**  
If your child is 15 or under (or 16 o...  
**CONTINUE**
- MY BANK DETAILS HAVE CHANGED**  
Register or change your bank account ...  
**CONTINUE**
- NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES REQUESTS**  
If you're out and about and see somet...  
**REPORT**
- REPORT A BLOCKED PRIVATE DRAIN**  
Report a blocked private sewer or arr...  
**REPORT**
- REPORT A CHANGE OF ADDRESS**  
Let us know when you move as your Cou...  
**CONTINUE**
- REPORT A CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES**  
You need to report any changes to us ...  
**REPORT**



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Step 5. Enter in where the location of the bag you left is

## NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES REQUESTS

To report a new request

Click on the location on the map or

Search for the address using the search facility or

If you are at the location and on a mobile device click on the "Find your current location" icon.

We will deal with your request as soon as we can.  
Thank you for helping to keep our streets clean!



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Step 6. Fill in you information and select the **litter warrior collection** option  
please fill in the detail box as best as possible information such as



Street: Shrub End Road

First name

Last name

Telephone

Email

Type of issue being reported \*

- Dead animal
- Dog bin overflowing
- Dog fouling
- Fly posting
- Fly tipping
- Graffiti - racist or obscene content
- Graffiti - other
- Hazardous items - (Needles etc)
- Human excrement
- Litter bin overflowing
- Litter pick
- Road sweep
- Street maintenance (e.g. bench repair)
- Litter Warriors Collection**

but the problem you are reporting



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- number of bags present
- roads/park picked
- if you did this as a group activity
- time spent

**Type of issue being reported \***

Litter Warriors Collection

**Please provide some information about the problem you are reporting**

4 litter bags  
4 people attended  
1 hr pick  
Shrub end road picked from round about down to Boadicea Way

**Location (eg opposite number 9)**

Bags left by the bin outside 221 Shrubend Road

Last step would be to press submit

Thank you for helping to keep our borough tidy!



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Colchester Borough Council  
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