

# Water clean-up

Keep your local waterways clean for spending time on the water, and for everyone

## Suitable for all

### Instructions

**1** Ask your young people what some of their favourite water-based activities are, and what things other people might use waterways for. From surfing at a beach to canoeing on a river or lake, this will bring home the importance of keeping our waterways clean for everyone to use and enjoy.

**2** Explain that they will be taking part in a community event to clear up a local river, harbour, canal, beach, lake or other waterway. If there are no events already planned to get involved in, why not plan your own?

**3** Make sure everyone stays safe around the water and when picking up litter. Gloves must be worn at all times.

**4** Remind everyone to respect the places they use and always take their litter home with them. Discuss with your young people the importance of protecting the natural environment, and some of the threats facing marine life, like plastic pollution.

**5** Encourage the young people to think about which waterborne activity they would like to do to earn their badge.

**Time needed**  
**60 minutes**

### Badge



Royal Navy partners the Time on the Water Staged Activity Badge

### Partner



### Outcomes

This activity doesn't directly support young people to achieve the badge, but they will develop a stronger appreciation for our waterways and the importance of protecting them. This will enable them to enjoy time on the water and maintain our public spaces for everyone.

### More information

Find out more at:  
[Scouts.org.uk/royalnavy](https://scouts.org.uk/royalnavy).

### Safety first

Find guidance about activities taking place near water here:  
[members.scouts.org.uk/por9.48](https://members.scouts.org.uk/por9.48).  
For activities on the water, use the A-Z of activities:  
[scouts.org.uk/a-z](https://scouts.org.uk/a-z)