

Adopt-a-Beach Access Program Guidelines

These guidelines are adapted from the SCDOT Adopt-a-beach program and are implemented by Keep North Myrtle Beach Beautiful (Committee), a volunteer organization and affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. KNMBB thanks you for wanting to be a part of the beautification of North Myrtle Beach! These guidelines should help your experience in adopting a beach access be a rewarding one.

Getting Started

First, select the beach access you would like to adopt and contact the Committee at (843) 280-5571. In case your first selection has already been adopted, please submit one alternative location to the Committee. Adoption of an access commits you to cleaning the entire access, any associated parking area, and the dunes all the way to the sand beach. It also commits the adopting individual/organization to cleaning the dunes immediately south of their adopted access from that access to the next public beach access. Once the Committee has approved your selection, a sign with your name will be placed at the access you have adopted. In addition, the program requires that at least two cleanups per month will be held between May and September and one cleanup per month from October through April, for a total of 17 cleanups. Volunteer time and debris collected information should be logged using the My Coast app which can be found in the APP Store. That's My Coast.org. This allows the committee to create reports automatically and at the touch of a button. It also eliminates the waste associated with hard copy paperwork.

Safety First, Last and Always

Your most important responsibility is to ensure safety for all your cleanup activities.

- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on a cleanup. Intoxicated participants should be taken home and not participate.
- Every group should have a mobile phone.
- In warm weather, take frequent drinks of water and frequent breaks and take steps to prevent sunburn.
- Do not try to handle hazardous litter such as car batteries, discarded syringes and so on. Contact the Department of Public Safety at (843) 280-5511 or the City's Sanitation Department at (843) 280-5616 to handle these kinds of problems.
- Be very careful handling broken glass. Remind participants not to step or kneel in areas where there might be hidden broken glass.
- Be alert and ready to react to traffic.
- Watch out for bees, wasps, fire ants, snakes, poisonous plants, and other potential natural hazards (especially from individuals who might have allergies).
- If youth groups are involved in the cleanup, adult supervision is required at all times.
- Stay off of steep slopes.
- Do not bring small children to cleanups.
- Don't wear music headsets, which could interfere with hearing traffic.
- Don't wear hats that could obscure your vision and keep you from seeing an approaching hazard.
- Don't try to compress trash into the bags, as sharp objects could cause injury

- Do not bring knives, machetes or other such tools that could cause accidental injuries.
- Work will not be performed during inclement weather or after dark.

Supplies and Equipment

Keep North Myrtle Beach Beautiful will provide equipment as necessary on a loan basis. All equipment is the property of the Committee and must be properly maintained. You will be asked to sign an inventory sign-out sheet.

Preparing for the Cleanup

- Litter collection should never be done in dark or bad weather.
- Remind volunteers of appropriate clothing. Long pants and long sleeved shirts help avoid scratches and irritation from poisonous plants.
- Be sure that you have all the materials and supplies you'll need beforehand.
- Check with volunteers to be aware of any allergies that might be important (such as bee stings) and work out a plan for what you will do in case of an emergency.

The Cleanup

The day of the cleanup can be a rewarding and enjoyable activity if coordinated well.

- Review the safety rules.
- Check your supplies and bring plenty of water if the weather is warm.
- Remind volunteers that the cleanup area includes the entire access, any associated parking area, and the access all the way from Ocean Boulevard to the sand beach including the dunes and underneath the walkover structure. It also includes the dunes immediately south of your access all the way to the next public access.
- Tie up bags and leave them next to the nearest public trash can to be picked up by the Sanitation Department.
- Take pictures if you would like and submit to the Committee for use in their reports.
- Log into the My Coast app to report time and trash picked up