

GET INVOLVED NEW FOREST LITTER PICKING & GREEN GROUPS



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New Forest
DISTRICT COUNCIL

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Thank you for considering getting involved. Across the New Forest District, National Park and coastline, local people give their time to help keep shared spaces clean and cared for.

We've put this document together to share links to local litter picking groups and organisations you can join or learn more about. Whether you'd prefer to get involved with an established group or organise something yourself, there are safe and supported ways to do so.

Stay safe while helping

As much as we welcome enthusiasm to help, it's important that litter picking is done safely. Joining an organised group means safety measures, equipment and local knowledge are already in place.

If you'd like to organise your own litter pick, equipment and guidance are available through New Forest District Council:

[Website](#)



WHY GETTING INVOLVED MATTERS

Caring for shared places

Volunteering is a simple way people can help care for where they live. Across the New Forest, residents give their time to activities such as litter picking, green groups, climate action and community events.

These actions make a visible difference, helping to create places that feel cleaner, safer and more welcoming. They also build a sense of pride and help ensure these places can be enjoyed by everyone.

There are many other benefits to getting involved too.



GETTING INVOLVED

Bringing people together

Volunteering brings people together. Whether joining a group or taking part in a one-off activity, working alongside others helps people meet neighbours and feel more connected to their community.

Over time, these connections can reduce loneliness, build trust and strengthen local relationships. Feeling connected can also change how people experience their local area and how positive they feel about where they live.

Supporting health and wellbeing

Spending time outdoors can also support physical health, with studies linking access to green spaces to lower blood pressure, reduced stress levels and improved mood.

Many volunteers find that contributing their time helps them feel more active, positive and purposeful. Seeing the results of shared effort can also boost confidence and support mental wellbeing.



Wider benefits for everyone

Volunteering benefits the wider community too. Litter clean-up and repairs cost public services significant amounts each year. Helping to care for shared spaces and reduce litter can lower these costs and protect funding for other local services.

Protecting landscapes and wildlife

Local groups play an important role in supporting nature recovery and reducing pollution across the New Forest. These efforts help protect wildlife, strengthen habitats, and support landscapes to cope with changing conditions over time. Working together in this way helps build a more resilient environment for the future.

A shared responsibility

Volunteering does not have to be a big commitment. Some people help regularly, others occasionally, and many make small everyday choices such as taking litter home or encouraging others to care for shared spaces.

Looking after the New Forest is something we all share. When people work together, these actions build into lasting change, creating places that feel connected, welcoming and well cared for.



LOCAL LITTER PICKING GROUPS AND INITIATIVES

Litter Pickers of the New Forest

A friendly community of local volunteers who organise and take part in litter picks across the New Forest area. A great way to meet people, spend time outdoors, and make a visible difference together.

[Facebook group](#)

Clean New Forest

A community-led group focused on reducing litter and raising awareness across the New Forest. They share clean-up activity, local issues, and ways people can support keeping the area tidy.

[Facebook page](#)

Copythorne Parish Pickers

A local parish group bringing residents together to organise regular litter picks in and around Copythorne. A good option for neighbourhood-level involvement.

[Website](#)



NEW FOREST GREEN GROUPS WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Working with the New Forest National Park Authority

The New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) works closely with local partners and communities to protect nature, tackle climate challenges, and support sustainable ways of living and visiting the area.

A big part of their work is about collaboration. They bring people, organisations, and ideas together to support long-term care for the Forest.

Community and climate action

NFNPA works with communities to share knowledge, skills, and opportunities. This includes supporting and taking part in local events such as eco fairs, repair cafés, climate cafés, workshops, film screenings, and talks across the area.

They also partner on practical projects that support climate and nature recovery. These include initiatives that help communities respond to energy challenges, volunteer opportunities, and programmes that support young people to take action for climate and nature.



NEW FOREST GREEN GROUPS WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES

Funding plays a key role in this work. Through the Sustainable Communities Fund, NFNPA has supported hundreds of local projects that reduce carbon emissions, protect nature, and strengthen community resilience.

Sustainable transport

NFNPA supports more sustainable ways of getting around the New Forest. This includes long-term investment in walking and cycling routes, support for cycle hire businesses, inclusive cycling initiatives, and events that encourage people to explore the area without relying on cars.

They also support services and festivals that make walking, cycling, and public transport more accessible and appealing for everyone enjoying the Forest.

Find out more

If you'd like to explore specific projects, sustainable community funding, transport initiatives or discover local green groups, you can find more information on the New Forest National Park Authority [website](#).



WIDER ENVIRONMENTAL AND PLASTICS PROJECTS

Dominik's Wildlife Fund

A non-profit fund started by Dominik Reynolds in 2013 when he was 12 years old. The organisation shares content and posts about volunteering, habitat work, and wildlife support activities. They also run and thank volunteers for beach clean-up activities, including events where litter has been collected and weighed.

[Facebook page](#)

Solent Plastics Hub (Solent Forum)

The Solent Forum works across the wider region to tackle plastic pollution, protect waterways, and support long-term solutions. Their projects focus on reducing plastics at source as well as clean-up and education.

[Website](#)

Surfers Against Sewage

A national charity with strong local relevance along the New Forest coastline. Their work focuses on reducing pollution, protecting water quality, and connecting everyday actions on land to the health of rivers and the sea.

[Website](#)

NATIONAL LITTER PICKING RESOURCES

Keep Britain Tidy

A national charity running volunteer projects and campaigns to reduce litter, waste, and improve public spaces across the UK.

[Website](#)

CleanupUK

A national charity providing advice, resources, and support for litter picking volunteers and community clean-ups.

[Website](#)



A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Ideally, groups like these wouldn't be necessary. If everyone followed one simple message, bin it or take it home, around **£1.5 million** could be saved each year in clean-up costs, alongside reducing harm to wildlife, waterways, and landscapes.

Until then, the people and groups listed here are making a real difference. Whether you join a group, organise a one-off pick, or simply make small everyday choices, it all adds up.

Small actions + shared effort = places that stay cared for.

About Look Out for Our Forest (LOFOF)

LOFOF is a community-focused campaign that encourages simple, everyday actions to help keep the New Forest District, National Park, and coastline clean and cared for. We share practical ideas, local stories, and ways people can get involved, helping protect the places we live in and enjoy.

[Website](#)

[Facebook page](#)

