
Stop litter guide



Fed up with litter bugs? Here is how you get involved:

Join a local litter picking group

There are many groups already set up in the borough. Check social media & use web searches to look for them. If you do not find a group close to you, how about setting up your own?

Set up your own litter group

Decide on a green space you want to look after. We have many sites in Elmbridge to choose from! Then, you need to plan the following:

Step 1: How often is your group going to meet?

Is your group going to meet for an ad-hoc/one off event or is it going to be a regular activity?

Step 2: Tools & materials:

Do you have black bags, gloves, litter grabbers? If you have all these, you are nearly ready to go.

Step 3: Tell us about your litter picking sessions

This is very important for us to know where and when your sessions take place so we can support you as much as we can. Send us an email at greenspaces@elmbridge.gov.uk

Step 4: The Greenspaces Team will contact you

We will be in touch with you to double check your date (or dates), times and most



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importantly, we will agree a collection point with you so our team can collect your bags of litter.

Step 5: After your litter picking session

Our team will be on their way to collect the bags on the day as close as possible to your finishing time (depending on their work schedule on the day). Go home, put your feet up & Enjoy a cuppa and biscuit (you deserve it!).

Additional advice

- Before litter picking is undertake it is best to consider the need of a risk assessment, public insurance, and safety advice. For more information [check Keep Britain Tidy Website](#)
- Litter picking is best carried out in the mornings, as it gives our grounds maintenance crew, time to collect your bags at the agreed location.
- If you want to litter pick in the afternoon or summer evenings, you will need to take your bags home with you. If you have space to put them with your household outdoor waste, let us know and we can inform the bin collection service to expect additional bins at you address. Alternatively, return your bags in the morning at an agreed location.
- If bags are left overnight in a green space, they will be ripped open by wildlife and spread around.
- Please do not leave bags by the greenspace bins, an agreed location is essential.
- Do not touch anything hazardous – e.g. needles, inform the Greenspaces Team and if possible, indicate on a map and provide a photo, so we can get our team to dispose of it in the correct manner.
- Large fly-tipping cannot be removed by our grounds maintenance team. If you come across large items, report these to the Greenspaces Team, who can then arrange for a professional waste company to clear this waste. Our Enforcement Officer may also want to attend before rubbish is removed. They will check if they can find any evidence as to where the litter came from and will follow this up.
- Please follow any UK Government advice related to any health issues. Consider wearing a mask as an extra barrier to the litter being cleared. Have hand sanitizer and tissues available!
- Have fun, enjoy the green space and know you are making a difference.
- If you are a regular group and you want people to join you, ask to have your detail added to our webpage.



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- Unfortunately, we cannot supply bags or litter grabbers. Sorry.