



Trash Cleanup Safety Briefing

The following guidelines are for performing trash cleanup on Department Lands:

Trash may be associated with illegal dumping, homeless activity, storm flows or general littering. All types of trash may contain materials that could require extra safety procedures.

The following is a list of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Safety glasses
- Safety Helmets if staff will be lifting items above their heads
- Leather gloves/Nitrile Gloves
- Trash pickers
- Sharps containers
- Trash bucket, such as a 5-gallon bucket or trash can. Transportation of debris will be easier and less likely to spill from a bucket or trash container
- Long sleeve shirt/jeans, Coveralls, or Tyvek Suit
- Safety Footwear
- N-95/P100 Filtering Face Piece
 - These filters are available if you would like to wear them during cleanups. You are not required to wear them.

The level of PPE is relative to the situation, but a basic control you will use for all types of trash is to avoid contact with the material to the greatest extent possible. Staff should always wear safety boots and wear leather or nitrile gloves. Appropriate clothing will be worn. Coveralls or Tyvek suits may also be required to prevent direct skin contact with the trash. Safety glasses are required, and dust/N-95/P-100 masks may also be worn. Please see the note above regarding N-95/P-100 Filtering Face Piece use prior to selecting these masks.

Sharps containers are for items that are sharp, such as needles. You are not required to pick up needles. If a needle or other hazard is identified, notify those working nearby and wait for a lead person or supervisor to direct you on the correct action. If you are willing to pick up needles/sharps, they should never be handled directly, but should be picked up with trash pickers or other device that allows remote handling of them, and immediately placed in a sharps container. Sharps containers should never be filled more than 2/3 full.