



www.pitch-in.ca

PITCH-IN CANADA TRASH-A-THONS

PITCH-IN CANADA believes everyone has a responsibility for helping to clean up the environment and for making sure that it doesn't get polluted in the first place! That's why we encourage voluntary PITCH-IN CANADA clean-up and prevention campaigns. However, we realize that a few schools and groups may wish to use their annual PITCH-IN Campaign to raise funds. To assist those that do, we have designed the PITCH-IN CANADA TRASH-A-THON Program.

PITCH-IN CANADA TRASH-A-THONS are fun and one easy way to raise funds for your school or group. Another is collecting cellphones! For details about **The National Cell Phone Collection Program**, visit PITCH-IN CANADA's website.

Most municipalities in Canada encourage local clean-up activities. After all, it saves them money! Contact your local municipality for assistance in organizing a PITCH-IN CANADA TRASH-A-THON. Ask them to provide bags for your event and provide assistance in disposing of the debris collected. Local companies and businesses may also be interested in providing support.

How to Conduct a PITCH-IN CANADA TRASH-A-THON

PLANNING

- **Set the date(s), time(s) of your TRASH-A-THON** and enter this information and the name of your school/organization as well as the maximum number of bags of litter your group plans to collect onto your Master Pledge Form
- **Choose the site(s) of your TRASH-A-THON.** Target littered areas
- **Determine how you will deal with bulky litter** or debris which may be found and which will not fit into a garbage bag (too heavy or too bulky)
- **Arrange for pick-up** of the garbage bags and oversize debris to be collected
- **Separate recyclables** where possible

Check the **SAFETY RULES** and apply them to your TRASH-A-THON. **Safety Rules** can be found at the end of this document

PROMOTION

- **Inform** your school/class/club/organization of the TRASH-A-THON. Explain that your minimum goal is to raise \$2.00 for **each** bag of litter collected by your group
- **Indicate how many bags of litter your group plans to collect** (on the Master Pledge Form and in all other promotion). This is the **maximum** which will be used to determine the amount which each sponsor will pay. **Example:** 50 BAGS x 0.10/bag = \$5.00
- Ask your students/members to encourage sponsors to read the explanation of the event on the Pledge Form to avoid confusion/misunderstanding later
- **Set a deadline for the return of Pledge Forms** to you prior to the TRASH-A-THON.
- **Inform your local media** about your TRASH-A-THON. Invite contributions from community organizations, businesses, etc.

PITCHING-IN

- **Get your municipality to provide garbage bags**
- Ensure there is proper **supervision** by adults of the event
- Make sure all full **bags of litter (or recyclables) are collected and properly disposed**
- **Tie all bags closed** to ensure collected litter cannot scatter.

COLLECTING FUNDS

- **Enter the total number of bags of litter** which your group/school has collected onto each Pledge Form (this number should not exceed maximum set)
- **Calculate and enter total contribution** to be obtained from each sponsor onto the Pledge Form
- **Return the Pledge Form and an envelope to contain funds to each participant** and ask them to obtain the pledged funds from the sponsors and to indicate amount collected from **each** sponsor on the Pledge Form
- **Set a deadline** for the return of envelopes, Pledge Forms and funds to you
- **Let everyone know how much money was collected**

A sample of the Master Pledge Form is available from PITCH-IN CANADA's Web Site

RECOGNITION

- **PITCH-IN CANADA provides a Certificate of Participation** for individuals/groups participating in PITCH-IN CANADA WEEK. This Certificate can be downloaded from this Web Site after you have registered your project.
- **Ask your principal/Mayor/MLA/MP/media personality to present Certificates** to all participants at a special event/ceremony during PITCH-IN CANADA WEEK or shortly thereafter
- **Notify your local media of the outcome** of your **TRASH-A-THON**

Send PITCH-IN copies of any newspaper articles or any other items of interest.

For hints on how to work with the media visit **PITCH-IN CANADA's Resource Centre** on our website: www.pitch-in.ca

Master Pledge Form

obtain a copy of this form from our website.

TIPS for conducting a **SAFE** Clean Up

BEFORE.....

- Visit your site, assess it for possible hazards. What can you do to minimize any dangers ? (Youth are not encouraged to clean along roads or highways or around parked cars.)
- What equipment will you need? Safety vests? Gloves? Rakes? Shovels? Hint: Contact local medical professionals and/or pharmacies/supermarkets for free gloves
- How many supervisors will you need, if working with a youth group ?
- What will you do with the garbage you've collected? Will your local authority be able to help you dispose of large items or amounts? Hint: contact local government or private waste disposal companies for help

DURING ...

- Closely supervise the project, and the participants. Do not allow youth to go near or into bush or wilderness areas alone !
- Do not allow participants to pick up any dangerous items, including broken glass, discarded needles, etc.
- Remind all participants to be very careful around parked cars, in driveways, and along roads.
- Do not allow participants to carry heavy or bulky items of litter.
- Arrange to properly dispose of all non-recyclable litter.
- Wash hands thoroughly before eating and at the conclusion of the project.