

Litter Cleanup

GENERAL INFORMATION

Target Audience	Ages 10 and up
Activity Duration	2 to 3 hours
Recommended Season	Any






OBJECTIVES

- Promote environmental responsibility through the cleanup of a green area.
- Understand the negative impact that waste has on living beings and ecosystems.
- Encourage the practical application of the three Rs: reduce, reuse, and recycle

SUMMARY

Participants will attend a brief talk about the harmful effects of waste on ecosystems and the importance of applying the three Rs. Afterwards, they will walk through a green space or nearby forest, collecting any litter they find and sorting it by type of waste.

MATERIALS

-  Trash bags (distinguished by waste type)
-  Containers (one for each type of waste)
-  Gloves
-  Trash pickers or grabbers
-  Reflective vests

ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

Excessive consumption combined with environmental irresponsibility often leads to natural spaces being filled with litter. This waste harms environmental health—affecting animals, plants, ecosystems, and even humans. Soil and water contamination are closely linked, causing large-scale environmental disasters. It is important to witness this pollution firsthand to truly understand how it affects every link in nature's chain. Equally important is recognizing the positive impact we can have by reversing it through education, awareness, and active involvement. Through this litter cleanup—or *basuraleza* collection—we will contribute to the improvement of our environment.



STEPS TO FOLLOW

- 1) Ensure the area is public and/or that you have the necessary permissions to access and work there.
- 2) Give a short 10–15 minute talk on the impact of waste and pollution on ecosystems.
- 3) Provide safety guidelines and explain how the activity will be carried out.
- 4) Explain that waste must be at least separated into glass and packaging.
- 5) Distribute the necessary materials.
- 6) Clearly define the cleanup area.
- 7) In teams of 2 or 3, collect and sort the waste as previously explained.
- 8) At the end of the session, weigh or measure the amount of trash collected and dispose of it in the appropriate containers or recycling points.