Upstream Battle
Litter Survey

Keep Scotland Beautiful

Upstream Battle Litter Survey Sheet

Please make sure the group organiser has read the Upstream Battle Surveying Guide and Litter Survey presentation before holding a survey and/or litter pick event.

Remember this can be part of your evidence towards the Litter Topic for your Eco-Schools Scotland Green Flag Award

1. Please make sure you collect the location information in the table below so we can add your data to our records.
2. Please submit your data to us here: https://members.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fhome or email to upstreambattle@keepscotlandbeautiful.org

**The sanitary / medical items can be included at the teacher's discretion (final page of this document)

Group Name:	**Organisers name:**
Name of river / watercourse:	**Type of watercourse: e.g. stream/burn, canal, river**
Nearest village / town / landmark:	**Latitude (e.g. 56.1267512):**
Local authority area:	**Longitude (e.g. -3.9633940):**
Survey date:	**Survey time:**
Weather conditions **Are there any other factors influencing the survey? Please provide details below:**	**Clean Up Activity:** **Clean Up carried out?** Yes ☐ No ☐ Number of volunteers ☐ How many bin bags removed? ☐

Part 1 – Floating litter Count

What to do:

1. Stand in your survey site
2. Count litter floating past in one minute (someone should time this)
3. Count litter only, not natural items like sticks or leaves
4. Record the total number in the box below

Result

Number of items -

Part 2 – Counting litter on the bank

What to do:

1. Stand on your survey site so you can see the riverbank.
2. Give the riverbank a grade (A-E) based on the amount of litter you see.
3. Tick to show your answer below

Result

Tick (✓) to show your answer	Grade	Description
	A	No litter can be seen
	B	A couple of small pieces
	C	More small pieces or a couple of large pieces
	D	Lots of small pieces and some large pieces
	E	Most of the bank is covered in litter

Part 3 – Litter count

What to do:

1. Work in pairs and walk around your survey site

2. Identify any litter you see

3. Record the litter on the survey sheets using tally marks e.g. ⫪⫪

4. Add up your tally marks to give a total for each item and record how many of each item you observed
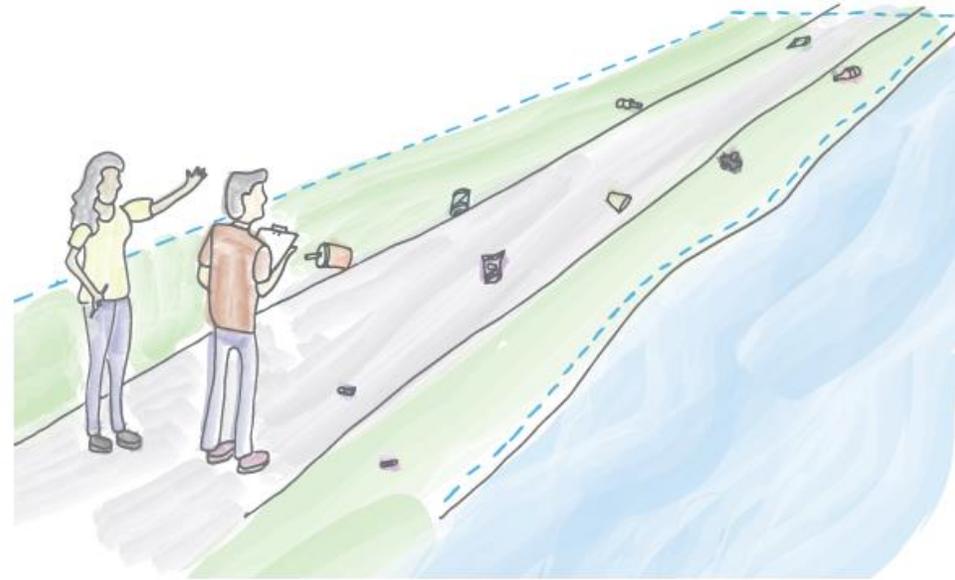
Clean Up activity

Clean Up carried out? Yes ☐   No ☐   Number of volunteers ☐   How many bin bags removed? ☐

Plastic / polystyrene sheet 1

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
1. Plastic / polystyrene	4 or 6 pack drinks can connecting rings		
	Shopping Bags		
	Other Bags e.g. bin bags		
	Bottles / containers		
	Caps / lids		
	Cigarette butts / filters		
	Cigarette lighters or packaging		

Plastic / polystyrene sheet 2

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
1. Plastic / polystyrene	Crisp or sweet wrappers		
	Cups		
	Cutlery / trays / straws / stirrers		
	Fishing line / fishing net / net pieces		
	Food / fast food containers		
	Jerry cans / oil containers / drums		
	Party poppers / fireworks		
	Pens / pen lids		

Plastic / polystyrene sheet 3

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
1. Plastic / polystyrene	Plastic / polystyrene pieces		
	Plastic sheeting / industrial packaging		
	Shoes		
	Shotgun cartridges		
	String / cord / rope		
	Toys / dummies		
	Other items (please name / describe)		

Paper/Cardboard

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
2. Paper / Cardboard	Cardboard boxes		
	Cartons eg tetrapak juice carton		
	Cigarette packets		
	Food / fast food containers eg pizza box		
	Coffee cups		
	Newspapers / magazines		
	Paper bags		
	Other (please specify)		

Metal sheet

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
4. Metal	Aerosol / spray cans		
	BBQs		
	Drink cans		
	Food cans		
	Caps / lids		
	Fishing weights / hooks / lures		
	Foil wrappers		
	Paint tins		

Metal Sheet 2 and Miscellaneous

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
4. Metal	Wire / mesh / barbed wire		
	Other (please specify)		
10. Miscellaneous	Bagged rubbish (black bag)		
	Bagged rubbish (shopping bag)		
	Other (please specify)		

Rubber and Wood

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
5. Rubber	Balloons (inc string valves and ribbons)		
	Boots		
	Tyres / engine belts		
	Other (please specify)		
6. Wood	Crates / pallets		
	Wooden chip forks / lolly sticks		
	Other (please specify)		

Cloth and Dog Faeces

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
7. Cloth	Clothing / shoes / towels		
	Furnishings		
	Sacking		
	Other (please specify)		
9. Dog Faeces	Bagged		
	Unbagged		

Glass and Ceramic

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
8. Glass and Ceramic	Bottles / containers		
	Construction materials eg bricks, cement, tiles		
	Glass or ceramic fragments		
	Light bulbs / tubes		
	Other (please specify)		

Extra litter items

Use this table to record any additional items you find that do not fit within the categories on the tally sheet.

Item and Material Type	Tally	Total
e.g. corks / wood		

Were there plastic pellets 3-5mm in diameter (also known as nurdles)? ☐ Yes   ☐ No

Additional Notes

Use for any additional notes, observations about your site, users and litter.

Sanitary / medical**

Litter group	Type of litter	Tally	Total
3. Sanitary / medical** This section can be included at the teacher's discretion	Condoms		
	Containers / tubes (including pill packets)		
	Cotton bud sticks		
	Syringes / needles		
	Tampons / towels / panty liners		
	Wet wipes		
	Other (please specify)		