About us

Keep Scotland Beautiful is the charity that campaigns, acts and educates on a range of local, national and global issues to change behaviour and improve the quality of people’s lives and the places they care for.

We are leading the way on improving Scotland’s environment, tackling a wide range of environmental issues, from reducing the amount of litter on our streets to cutting the carbon emissions that threaten our planet.

Having been part of the environmental landscape for over 50 years, we draw together government, local authorities, businesses, community groups and individuals in this common cause. We are present in every village, town, and city in Scotland, and our activities are estimated to make a difference to 1 in 5 people living in Scotland.

Through our work we aim to help people to change the way they think about the environment and encourage them to take action to improve and protect it. Our goal is to make Scotland a cleaner, greener and more sustainable place to live, work and visit.

Cleaner

Over 2,800 tonnes of litter was collected during our 2014/2015 Clean Up Scotland campaign by a wide range of community groups from beaches, parks, city centres and residential areas all across the country.

Greener

We engaged with and influenced over 1,500 groups and organisations during 2014/2015 to help them make improvements to their local places.

More sustainable

On behalf of the Scottish Government, we have awarded Climate Challenge Fund grants to over 527 local communities across Scotland for projects which help to reduce carbon emissions.
What we do

We provide environmental campaigns, services and practical initiatives that help Scotland with its environmental ambitions and problems. Our unique spectrum of activities focuses on four main areas: sustainable development education, local environmental quality, sustainability and climate change and environmental services.

We campaign, act and educate towards environmental improvements in all of Scotland’s 32 local authority areas. From awards and accreditations to local environmental quality monitoring; from campaigning to training and audits; from clean-ups to celebrating environmental achievement; and from environmental education in schools to supporting public sector and community action on climate change.

Through these activities we work to support and encourage individuals, communities, organisations and businesses across Scotland, enabling and inspiring them to improve their environment and the quality of all our lives.

In order to achieve the change we need, the whole country needs to work together. As a key partner for individuals and communities, local and central government, third sector organisations and private sector businesses, Keep Scotland Beautiful is at the heart of that effort.

We provide education initiatives for children, young people and educators which focus on environmental issues so that we can improve understanding and encourage positive action.

Did you know?

We provide Eco-Schools in over 98% of Scotland’s schools. Eco-Schools is the world’s biggest sustainable schools programme with over 15 million children, young people and educators involved.

In March 2016 the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) recognised both the Scottish Government and Keep Scotland Beautiful for their outstanding contribution to sustainable development education through the Eco-Schools programme.

Since its launch over 39,000 people have enjoyed a One Planet Picnic, our initiative which encourages people to think about food and sustainability and taste and share some fabulous locally grown food.

Local environmental quality

We harness the energy and enthusiasm of the many Scottish groups and individuals who want to make a real difference to their local areas. We provide advice and support to help change attitudes and behaviour, working to help create cleaner and safer local environments where people and communities can thrive.

Did you know?

This year Beautiful Scotland, the environmental improvement campaign run in partnership with the RHS, celebrates 50 years of supporting communities to improve the places where they live, work and play.

More than 500,000 volunteers have taken part in Clean Up Scotland our anti-litter campaign since its launch in 2012.

In 2015 over 13,000 people answered our call to improve Scotland’s coastline during 166 local beach clean-up sessions.

Sustainable development education

We provide education initiatives for children, young people and educators which focus on environmental issues so that we can improve understanding and encourage positive action.

Did you know?

We provide Eco-Schools in over 98% of Scotland’s schools. Eco-Schools is the world’s biggest sustainable schools programme with over 15 million children, young people and educators involved.

In March 2016 the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) recognised both the Scottish Government and Keep Scotland Beautiful for their outstanding contribution to sustainable development education through the Eco-Schools programme.

Since its launch over 39,000 people have enjoyed a One Planet Picnic, our initiative which encourages people to think about food and sustainability and taste and share some fabulous locally grown food.

Sustainability and climate change

We’re helping make Scotland more sustainable by working with organisations and communities to change behaviour to reduce their carbon emissions and environmental impact. We bring together major public sector bodies in joint action to improve sustainability and support individual community groups to improve their local areas and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Did you know?

The Sustainable Scotland Network leads the way on tackling sustainability issues, with over 1,200 supporters and individual members. Amongst them, are 97 of the top one hundred public bodies considered by the Scottish Government to have the largest impact on climate change in the country.

Over 170 community groups have committed to tackle climate change issues locally by signing Scotland’s climate change pledge.

We enabled over 800 groups and individuals to have a voice in the 2015 Paris Climate Change negotiations through our public consultation.
We provide bespoke environmental services such as audits, surveys and training to businesses, public bodies and community groups to help them meet their environmental commitments and responsibilities. We are an established partner of major local authorities, major organisations, small businesses and community groups. Our services include:

**Auditing**
Using the Local Environmental Audit and Management system (LEAMS) our team can carry out street cleansing and local environmental quality audits at any level from monitoring large scale local authority infrastructure to counting audits and assessments of housing estates. We also carry out audits of open spaces such as national parks and sports venues.

**Training and development**
We focus on providing support to individuals, groups, charities and organisations to develop skills and expertise to help them become more effective in reaching their environmental targets and objectives.

**Accreditation and awards**
We deliver awards and recognise environmental achievement in Scotland. We can provide advice on entries, or wider support to broaden knowledge of expected standards and monitoring processes.

**Local Environmental Quality Network**
We operate Scotland’s Local Environmental Quality Network, a group of organisations with a goal of improving the cleanliness and quality of places through effective and efficient management and action. This is a unique networking opportunity which allows members of the network to discuss relevant issues and share experiences.

**Grant management and administration**
We are experts in managing and assessing applications for grant support and can provide advice on targeting limited funding to maximise environmental benefits and generate positive results for the organisations we support.
How we make a difference

People
We work to win the hearts and minds of people living in Scotland helping them to change the way they act and think to improve the environment and their quality of life.

For example
Over 800,000 pupils and 60,000 educators are involved in the Eco-Schools programme across Scotland, empowering children and young people to take action towards an economically, socially and environmentally just world.

Place
We help enhance Scotland’s environment by encouraging local communities to make the place they live cleaner, safer, healthier and more sustainable. And, we’re working in every part of Scotland to celebrate the very best in environmental improvement.

For example
Through the Climate Challenge Fund we have supported local community action on a wide range of issues to help tackle climate change including supporting 363 food projects, helping to create 137 community gardens, and providing advice and guidance on 460 energy efficiency and 267 low carbon transport projects.

Policy
We want to transform the way our nation values its environment. To make that happen, we seek to shape and influence legislation, policy and practice to promote action across the public, private and voluntary sectors on local, national and global sustainability issues.

For example
As a founder member of the European Litter Prevention Agency, we are leading the way on tackling litter for Scotland. We also represent Scotland on the Clean Europe Network bringing together Europe’s leading organisations fighting the scourge of litter, where we share knowledge and best practice.
Support us

If you share our passion for a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Scotland, then join with us. Whether you’re an individual or a national organisation, you can play a vital part in helping us achieve our charitable objectives and meet your environmental challenges and commitments.

Here are some of the ways you can help us to keep Scotland beautiful so that we continue in our pursuit to protect, enhance and conserve Scotland’s environment.

Commission us

We can help you to meet your environmental obligations and help to support your corporate responsibility values.

Sponsor us

Supporting our positive action across Scotland confirms your corporate responsibility values and makes a real difference to the nation’s environment and its people.

Donate

Large or small, your donation will help create a cleaner, greener and more sustainable future for Scotland. If you care about our environment, you can support real, practical activities which improve people’s lives by giving what you can.

Volunteer

Voluntary action is the lifeblood of Keep Scotland Beautiful. However much time you or your organisation can give, you’ll be joining hundreds of thousands of others across the country who are determined to play their part in transforming their local and national environment.

Find out more at www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org
Keep Scotland Beautiful is the charity that campaigns, acts and educates on a range of local, national and global environmental issues to change behaviour and improve the quality of people’s lives and the places they care for. We are committed to making Scotland clean, green and more sustainable.