

North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge

Frequently Asked Questions

ACCOUNTS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Q: I am getting an error when I try to register for an account on the Texas Litter Database. Help!

A: Please contact texaslitter@ktb.org for technical assistance with the website and getting signed up.

Q: My neighborhood association is interested in participating. Should we sign up as an organization? We are not representing a city per se.

A: Yes, if your HOA is the **organizer of** a litter cleanup event, please sign-up as an organization and report the data for your event(s). It will then count towards the overall goals for your community.

Q: I am with a KTB affiliate. Do I sign-up my city and then we are the NTCCC coordinators for our community?

A: All cleanup activities that occur and are reported in the [Texas Litter Database](#) using the External ID of “**CCC25**”, will count for your community regardless of who reports them. However, we do encourage coordination between KTB affiliates and local government staff to help promote participation amongst their wider community in as many cleanup efforts as possible.

DEADLINES:

Q: Is there a deadline to sign-on?

A: Yes, communities wanting to officially participate should sign-on by the date posted in announcements or on the website. This date is typically 45 days after the Community Cleanup Challenge has started, or April 15th. However, the earlier you sign-on the more time there is to advertise your participation, plan events, and gather participants who are interested.

Q: Is there a deadline to report my data?

A: Yes, all cleanup data must be reported/entered within 30 days of the end of the Community Cleanup Challenge, or by June 30th.

MAYORS' CHALLENGE:

Q: How do I participate in the Mayors' Challenge?

A: To participate in the Mayors' Challenge a community needs to have their Mayor, Council, or Commissioner issue a proclamation in support of the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge. A template can be found in the Resources dropdown on the [program page](#) for the NTCCC. A copy of the resolution needs to be shared by email with the NCTCOG at stormwater@nctcog.org by the sign on deadline of April 15th.

Q: I participated in the Mayors' Challenge in the past. Do I need to submit another proclamation?

A: Each year, a community who wishes to participate in the Mayors' Challenge will need to issue a new proclamation for the current year and submit it to NCTCOG by the sign on deadline of April 15th.



QUALIFYING EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

Q: Are there any requirements or restrictions around the kinds of events that qualify for the challenge?

A: Yes, there are some. The events should be any litter cleanup event that takes place outside at parks, in neighborhoods, along roadways/waterways, etc. Don't forget that clean ups of Adopt-A-Spots can count too! Basically, if people or volunteers are outside cleaning up trash and litter...that counts!

Q: What about larger events that include litter cleanup as just part of the overall activities such as a campus or city-wide Big Event?

A: For larger events that include activities besides just litter cleanup, only the volunteers, hours, and trash collected as part of the litter collection portion of the larger event should be reported for the Community Cleanup Challenge.

Q: Can litter cleaned up by city staff in the course of their normal job duties (example: maintenance crews, Parks and Rec crews, etc.) be reported?

A: No, the intent of this program is for only activities that fall outside of normal job duties may count or those that are connected to volunteer events/activities.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Q: Who can I reach out to if I have questions about the Community Cleanup Challenge?

A: Please contact Crysta Guzman, cguzman@nctcog.org, or the NCTCOG stormwater team, stormwater@nctcog.org, for questions about the Community Cleanup Challenge and the Mayors' Challenge.

REPORTING DATA:

Q: How do I measure the litter data that I am reporting?

A: We utilize the common metrics that are used by Keep Texas Beautiful such as estimated weights for small, medium, and large bags. To ensure accuracy of heavy items or bags, you may want to consider using a luggage scale or fish scale that can readily be purchased online or at a sporting goods store and report your data by weight. For larger events with roll-offs, your waste hauler should be able to provide a report on total pounds or tonnage. To help avoid double counting of metrics for the same event, please only report bag count or weight on your trash reports. However, if you are reporting both bag counts and weight for larger items such as tires and white goods, please include a note on your trash report indicating such.

Q: I noticed that the NTCCC now links to the Texas Litter Database to collect cleanup data. Why is this and how will you track my data for the Community Cleanup Challenge so my community receives credit?

A: We are so glad that you noticed and asked! We are excited to link to the Texas Litter Database as this allows for a centralized collection of trash and litter data across the state. The Texas Litter Database also has the capacity to collect very detailed and granular information should the user wish to input that level of detail.

Please check out this [user guide](#) to help walk you through the process of entering your data on the Texas Litter Database. To link your trash report data to the [2025 North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge](#), please enter "**CCC25**" in the External ID field when entering your data so that we can export your data



reports for the Community Cleanup Challenge separate from all other data being entered into the database. We do our best to catch errors when importing the reporting data, but we will only count data that is marked with “CCC25” in the External ID field. We also encourage, but don’t require, that you provide detailed names for events or locations, particularly if there are multiple activities happening in your community on the same day. This helps us catch mistakes or determine if an event was double reported.

