

SPRING CLEAN FACTSHEET

Why?

OxClean is an Oxford Civic Society initiative dedicated to keeping Oxford clean and tidy all year round – ensuring that Oxford is a welcoming and pleasant place for people to live in, work in and visit.

OxClean works in partnership with Oxford City Council, Oxford Direct Services and local community groups.

Spring Cleans are an important part of our campaign because they:

- rid the city of a great deal of rubbish that accumulates over the year
- raise the profile of the litter problem and encourage behaviour change
- encourage civic pride and responsibility at a grass roots level
- provide us with a strong voice to lobby for a cleaner Oxford throughout the year.

OxClean works in association with Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean.

What?

OxClean co-ordinates annual Spring Cleans carried out by local community groups and schools to tackle litter across the city's streets, public spaces and litter hotspots. Litter-picks, lasting about two hours, are carried out at a time and location of choice. Some groups clean up their own 'patch' – others tackle public places and hotspots that we or they have identified.

A wide variety of groups take part – residents' associations, cyclists, schools, rowers/canoists, neighbourhood watch, restaurants, colleges, political groups, theatres, environment groups, sports clubs, businesses, student groups, rotary clubs, allotment associations, groups of friends, scouts and guides, places of worship and more.

In recent years we have registered 'anytime pickers', who chose to go out on a more regular basis during the year in their own neighbourhood.

When?

In 2026 Spring Clean will take place on two consecutive weekends

6, 7, 8 March and 13, 14, 15 March.

How does it work?

OxClean coordinates Spring Clean and liaises with participating groups and the City Council. Groups are asked to register with OxClean who then organise the supply of equipment (loaned litter pickers, hi-vis vests and sacks) and rubbish collection.

OxClean ensures that groups have access to detailed information about equipment, health and safety guidelines, tips on how to run a litter pick and publicity material.

Each group is responsible for site selection, the recruitment of volunteers and litter picking. The City Council supplies sacks (distributed through an OxClean Depot) – and collects the filled litter sacks from the roadside throughout the city.

We also recruit individuals who would like to take part and put them in touch with a local group or a group tackling a litter hotspot – or put them in touch with other people to form a new group.

How to register

Please register now on oxclean.org.uk – register as a group (already established, or newly formed) or register as an individual interested in taking part by joining an established group, or register as an 'anytime picker'. We also encourage you to report litter hotspots within the city. Please do this online.

What next?

Once you have registered, we will contact you about ordering and collecting equipment.

You should provide this information at least 10 days before your chosen date:

by **27 February** for the first weekend and for the second weekend by **1 March**.

This will ensure that we are able to provide what you have requested.