

SYRCL'S 25TH ANNUAL

# Yuba River Cleanup

September 10 - 17, 2022

Artwork by Denise Wey

Register to volunteer - [yubariver.org](http://yubariver.org)

### Self-Guided Cleanup

Register for a Self-Guided Cleanup between **September 10-16** with your friends and family at [yubariver.org](http://yubariver.org)



### Community-Wide Cleanup

Register to join us **Saturday, September 17th** from **9am-1pm**. Volunteer Appreciation Party 1-3pm with food and festivities.



A-One Bookkeeping & Tax Service





THE SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZEN LEAGUE'S

25TH ANNUAL *Yuba*  
*River Cleanup*

A QUARTER-CENTURY OF CLEANING THE WATERSHED

The South Yuba River has seen an unprecedented number of visitors this summer, leaving behind unsightly litter and garbage on beaches and trails. We are calling on our community to help by signing up for the South Yuba River Citizens League's 25th Annual Yuba River Cleanup September 10-17, 2022. Volunteer Registration begins August 11, 2022.

This Cleanup is part of the Coastal Cleanup Day which started in 1985 and is the largest volunteer event in the state. You, our volunteers, are the most important part of this effort. River Cleanup volunteers make a huge difference in the health of our watershed. Over the past 20 years, we've removed more than 120 tons of garbage and recycling. Just last year, we removed more than 6 tons (12,000 pounds) of trash and recycling from the Yuba and Bear watersheds with the help of 800 dedicated volunteers. Thanks to our entire community of river volunteers who helped make the 2021 Yuba River Cleanup a success...but our work is far from over.

For the past three summers, crowds have flocked to the Yuba River watershed in search of relief from the stress and heat of the past few years. Beaches and trails are littered with shopping bags, straws, cigarette butts, bottles, glass, picnic trash, and more. We are passionate about protecting the beautiful Yuba River and our river community. That's why this year we will once again be hosting a 7-day long river cleanup.

# A FLEXIBLE CLEANUP

Keeping volunteers and the community safe from the spread of COVID-19 is our number one concern. Therefore, rather than one day of fun, this year's cleanup will be spread across 12-days from September 10-17, 2022.

Beginning August 11, volunteers can register online for the cleanup, choose a cleanup site and choose a time to pick up trash between September 10-17. Volunteers will be spread across 16+ sites over 12-days to minimize contact with visitors and fellow volunteers. We need your help this year to bring garbage bags, masks and gloves to your cleanup spot. Pick up what trash and recycling you can, then report back to SYRCL what is left for the next volunteer shift.

During the Cleanup keep on the lookout for unique trash that might give you a win! This year's trash or treasure categories will be: **Most Useful Find, Most Historical Find, Most Unusual Find and Most Fashionable Find.**

Concerned with social distancing at the river? Stay close-to-home by registering to cleanup your local neighborhood or natural area near you.



*By participating you understand and agree that neither the South Yuba River Citizens League, California State Parks, State of California or California Coastal Commission may be held liable or responsible in any way for any injury, death, or other damages to you or your family, heirs, or assigns that may occur as a result of your participation, or as a result of product liability or the negligence, whether passive or active, of any party in connection with the cleanups.*

# REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER



- Choose to volunteer at a **River Cleanup Site** or do a **Neighborhood Cleanup**.
- Register at [yubarivercleanup.org](http://yubarivercleanup.org)
- Choose your location.
- Choose your time.

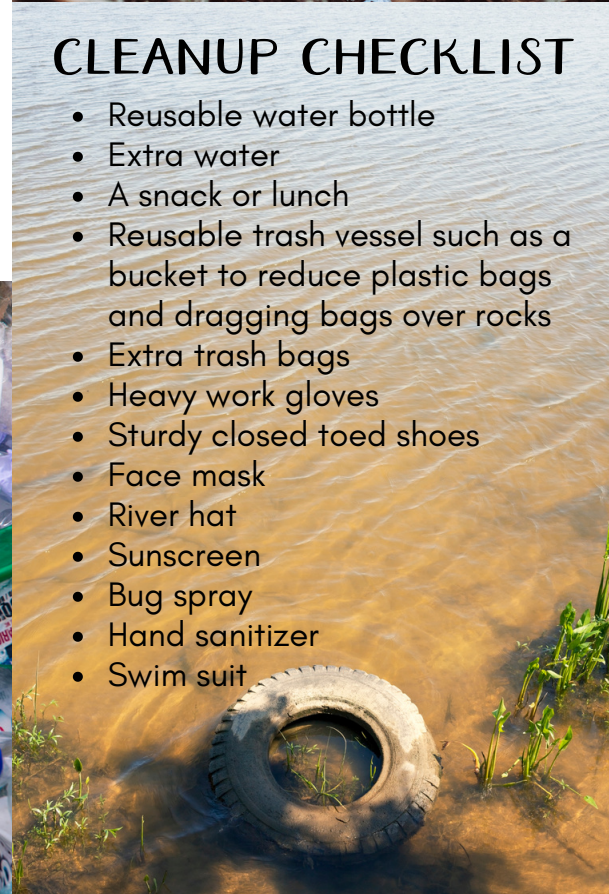
## PREPARE FOR YOUR CLEANUP

- If you are sick in any way, DO NOT attend a Cleanup.
- **Assemble your own Cleanup gear**, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This should include **trash bags, buckets, gloves, face mask**, a trash grabber or tongs (if available), sun protection, and close-toed shoes to protect against sharp objects.
- To protect your health and slow the spread of coronavirus, please follow the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control.



## CLEANUP CHECKLIST

- Reusable water bottle
- Extra water
- A snack or lunch
- Reusable trash vessel such as a bucket to reduce plastic bags and dragging bags over rocks
- Extra trash bags
- Heavy work gloves
- Sturdy closed toed shoes
- Face mask
- River hat
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Hand sanitizer
- Swim suit



# DAY OF CLEANUP DIRECTIONS

The day before the Community-Wide Cleanup begins on September 17th you will receive a confirmation email with your shift time, location and directions to site. **PLEASE NOTE: This year there will be SITE LEADERS at Cleanup sites who will assist you with getting started by distributing materials and sharing safety tips.** River Safety is your responsibility, please stay on marked beaches and trails while picking up trash. Here are a few guidelines to keep you and your family safe during your cleanup.

## SAFETY FIRST

- Never hike alone, go with members of your household.
- There is no cell service in the river canyon, however an emergency call box is located at Purdon Crossing. Dial 911 for emergencies or go to the nearest hospital: Sierra Nevada Memorial, 155 Glasson Way, Grass Valley.
- Stay hydrated throughout your Cleanup. Avoid overexertion, sunburn, heat exhaustion, and dehydration. When in doubt, come in early!
- Stay on the established trails. In parks and natural areas, follow all posted signage, stay on trails, and limit activities to areas open to the public.
- Hike with caution especially on loose and wet rocks.
- Be aware of ticks. Check for ticks after your Cleanup shift.
- Should you find an active encampment (i.e. camping or homeless camps), please stay away. Do not remove items that appear to be in use. Report camping to SYRCL.
- Be aware of surroundings when near roads or water.
- Beware of poison oak and stay away! Helpful hints: "Leaves of three, let them be."
- Children need to be supervised by an adult at all times.
- Keep a safe distance from all wildlife!



# WHEN YOU ARRIVE:

- This year there will be **a site leader** at COMMUNITY-WIDE Cleanup sites on September 17th. There will be **NO SITE LEADER** at self-guided sites between September 10-16. RIVER SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.
- **ALWAYS wear gloves** – disposable if available – and dispose or wash them immediately after your Cleanup shift.
- **Avoid touching your face.**
- If your Cleanup is a local beach or waterway, be mindful of **slippery rocks** and use caution near the water's edge.
- Wear a glove on the hand you're picking up trash with and closed toe shoes at all times. Wear protective clothing and sunblock to protect you from the sun.



# WHAT TO PICK UP

We pick up only human-created matter (plastics, metal, glass, Styrofoam, etc.). Natural debris (algae, driftwood, etc.) is part of the natural system we are working to restore and should be left alone. Avoid disturbing plants and animals. Much of the trash out on the river is small, so keep an eye out for smaller pieces of trash called "microtrash". Look in rock crevices and sift through sand to find more!



## WHAT IS MICROTRASH?

**Microtrash** refers to small bits of trash such as broken glass, bottle caps, can tabs, and other smaller, broken-down pieces of trash that can be ingested by curious birds and natural scavengers attracted to small bits of trash that stand out from its surroundings.

- **Leave behind biohazards** or dangerous items such as: needles, tampons, condoms, and human waste.
- **Don't pick up syringes**, needles, or any sharp objects. In the event you find a needle or syringe, please document the location of it and notify SYRCL or local officials of their location. We will coordinate with agency officials to have it removed in a safe manner.
- **Don't lift anything too heavy**; when in doubt, don't try! Don't remove anything that you will not be able to fit into your home debris bin. If it is too heavy to move, note the object and location and report to SYRCL. We can remove oversized items with a small team at a later date.
- **Don't touch or pick up dead animals**, or attempt to move injured animals. Make a note of the issue and location and report it back to SYRCL.
- **Do not pick up or disturb natural objects**, such as leaves, nests, or eggs.
- **Do not go near any large drums**. They are potentially filled with chemicals. Make a note of the location and report back to SYRCL.



A word about recycling – please create a bag for recycling cans and bottles only. Bottles and cans filled with mud or debris can not be recycled. Nothing else you find at the river can be recycled, so please only deposit cans and bottles in the recycling bag.

# AFTER THE CLEANUP

- ✓ **Dispose of or wash gloves immediately** after your Cleanup shift. To properly remove disposable gloves, grab the glove opening near your wrist and pull towards your fingers, then turn the glove inside out before disposing.
- ✓ **Wash your hands thoroughly** as soon as possible, and use hand sanitizer in the meantime if soap and water are unavailable.
- ✓ **Complete your data card** with amount of trash collected. If possible, weigh or estimate the pounds of trash and recyclables you collected during your Cleanup shift.
- ✓ **Dispose of trash** in your home debris bin OR bring to the SYRCL office at 313 Railroad Ave, Nevada City.



# REPORTING YOUR TRASH

- ✓ **Help us tally all the trash** and recycling we removed from the watershed. The information we collect gives us an advantage when for planning future Cleanups and protecting the health of our river.
- ✓ **Report your trash collected** on your phone or computer by visiting:  
[yubarivercleanup.org](http://yubarivercleanup.org)
- ✓ **Submit your trash tally**, upload your Cleanup photos, report trash left behind, submit comments for next year AND...
- ✓ **Don't forget to enter in the TRASH OR TREASURE CONTEST** by entering your description, photo and category in your report form.

**Show us your Cleanup Success!**

Tag us on social media.

#syrcl #yubalove #yubariver

#yubariverpeople #yubarivercleanup

#coastalcleanupday

#protectyourhappyplace



@yubariver



@yubariverpeople



@yubariverpeople





## TRASH OR TREASURE CONTEST

During the Cleanup keep on the lookout for unique trash that might give you a win! Take a photo of your trash treasure and submit it to SYRCL along with your report of how much trash you picked up. If it's able to be carried, bring your item over to the Volunteer Appreciation Party at Bridgeport Crossing!

### Categories include:

- **Most Useful Find** - Did you find something that can still be used for something? Upcycled? If you think it might be the most useful trash find of the Cleanup, enter to win.
- **Most Historical Find** - Is it old? Rusty? A cool old bottle, a rusty old shovel, or gold nugget? Show off your antique trash and enter this category.
- **Most Unusual Find** - What is that? A car door, a toilet, a suitcase full of Barbie dolls, a bag of llama wool? Enter your most unusual trash finds.
- **Most Fashionable Find** - Purple polka-dot bikini? Jedi flip-flops? See if your river fashion is forward enough for our judges and enter a photo.

**RULES:** One item may be entered in the trash contest per person. Items already found in nature, (animals, flora, fauna) need not apply and let it stay where it lays. All entries will be voted on and winners will be chosen in October. Prizes awarded to winners!



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY!

We're excited to announce the return of our volunteer appreciation party. This year, we invite all 2022 River Ambassador and Cleanup Volunteers to join us for food and festivities at **Bridgeport Crossing, near the visitor center**. In addition to the free lunch, there will also be a beer garden, music, and a celebration of all our incredible volunteers. Please register for the lunch when you sign-up to volunteer or let Maddie Davis know that you'll be attending by September 9th, 2022.

Party from 12:30pm to 3:00pm, Saturday, September 17th





**Questions? SYRCL is here to help.**

If you are having trouble viewing information, registering, have questions about sites or want to tell us about a watershed location needing cleaning, please contact Maddie Davis, Community Engagement Manager, at [maddie@yubariver.org](mailto:maddie@yubariver.org) or 530-265-5961 ext. 201.

