



Guide to Organising a Street Clean with your Mosque!



Congratulations in choosing to hold a Street Clean event with your local mosque! This is your chance to bring your local community together to make a difference in your neighbourhood. From young to old, male or female, Muslims or not, this is an initiative everyone can get involved in *insha'Allah* (God Willing)!

As part of the 5th Year Anniversary of #VisitMyMosque, we've partnered with the national environment charity #KeepBritainTidy to produce this guide on how to get your mosque involved in a street clean event!

1. Where?

- Choose a location in your local community that requires some TLC (Tender, Love and Care)! e.g. streets in a particular neighbourhood, a local park or a stretch of river bank or beach that suffers from littering. Then choose a date, time and meeting point!
- Sketch out a map noting the litter and skip collection points around your chosen area. It may also be useful to note suitable shelter areas should it rain!

2. Who can get involved?

- Anyone and everyone in the mosque and surrounding local community - individuals, families, volunteer groups, local council members, businesses and even school/Madrassah children!
- Produce a flyer (template available on portal) to advertise your mosque's street clean event widely e.g. on email newsletters, social media, Whatsapp, Facebook, Instagram, as well as in local shops, supermarkets, libraries and other community centres.

3. Equipment

To organise your mosque's street clean, you will need the following items - these items can be sourced at supermarkets or suppliers, or loaned to you by your Local Authority in some cases. Be sure to contact your Local Authority recycling officer to find out about this and other advice on protective wear and equipment they could provide!

Essential items:	Highly recommended:
Bin bags / Recycling bags	Hoops for bin bags
Protective gloves	Safe container for sharp objects found
Hi-Vis jackets	Anti-bacterial wipes/hand sanitizer
Litter pickers (e.g. Gaptor style)	A camera for photos!
First Aid kit (with lead volunteer)	

Aside from high street supermarkets, some recommended online suppliers for equipment include:

- Bell Brush www.bellbrush.com/tong-curved-style-salmon-hill-brush-litter-picker-lp6-lp33-use-as-ranger-alternative-35inch-89cm.
- Helping Hands Environmental: www.hhenvironmental.co.uk/product/graptor and www.hhenvironmental.co.uk/old-product-range/handi-hoop-plus/

4. Funding

There are several local and national funds you could apply to, to get help with funding your equipment:

- Greggs Foundation www.greggsfoundation.org.uk



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- Tesco Bags of Help scheme www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme
- One Stop Carriers for Causes www.groundwork.org.uk/Pages/Category/Carriers-for-Causes-uk
- Morrisons Foundation www.morrisonsfoundation.com

5. Health & Safety

Make sure you take all necessary steps to prevent risks to you and your volunteers! Give a copy of the “Keep it Safe” volunteer briefing sheet to your volunteers at the start of the session. It includes tips such as:

- Wearing your protective gloves at all times
- If you come across any items you are not sure about, do not touch it – report it to the organisers
- Avoid picking up items that are large/bulky
- Avoid deep/fast flowing water, current or tides, steep, slippery or unstable banks, sharp rocks, mud holes, derelict buildings, busy roads & electric fences (these usually have yellow warning signs)
- If you get a cut, however minor, cover it immediately with surgical tape or waterproof plaster
- Avoid rubbing mouth/eyes whilst collecting litter
- Wash your hands & forearms before eating, drinking or going to the toilet or anything else that requires physical contact.
- Make sure you know how to get in touch with your organiser in case you need to report a dangerous item or for any other reason. Take a mobile phone with you

6. Liability Insurance

- Whilst it is not compulsory to have insurance in place before your Street Clean, it may be good to have insurance cover just in case - if you are a mosque or charitable organisation, then existing public liability insurance may cover your activity.

7. Involving Children

Whilst children should be encouraged to get involved in your street clean event, here are some important reminders to keep in mind:

- Ensure that children are accompanied by a responsible adult when taking part - we advise no more than four children to one adult
- Make sure children are aware of which items should and should not be picked up - warn them to not pick up items they are unsure about
- Provide them with gloves, suitable clothing and footwear
- Children should not be picking litter for more than an hour, however, if it is adults only, then adapt your street clean to suit everyone’s capabilities – 2-3 hours is more than enough!
- Treat your volunteers afterwards with some snacks/refreshments before they head back home!

8. Final Top Tip

As you work towards strengthening your local community, **make sure you take before and after pictures** so you can not only see the progress and result of your hard work, and **post these on social media** to encourage others to do their own street clean! Use hashtags **#KeepBritainTidy** and **#VisitMyMosque!**

With thanks to Keep Britain Tidy and OxClean guides which this guide is based on.