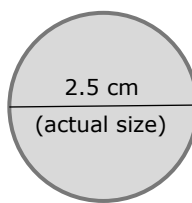# Litter Audit Data Collection

Citizen scientist: pick up all trash and record all items you find below. No matter how small the items, the data you collect are important for assessing the impact of litter in your city.

*DO NOT pick up items in RED**, only tally**

School: _____

Teacher: _____

Name(s): _____

_____

_____

Nearest Cross Street: _____

_____Date:_____

Item	Tally	Total
PACKAGING ITEMS		
Food Wrappers (candy, chips, etc.)		
Take Out/Away Containers (plastic)		
Take Out/Away Containers (foam)		
Bottle Caps (plastic)		
Bottle Caps (metal)		
Lids (plastic)		
Straws/Stirrers		
Forks, Knives, Spoons (plastic)		
Beverage Bottles (plastic)		
Beverage Bottles (glass)		
Beverage Cans		
Cups & Plates (paper)		
Cups & Plates (plastic)		
Cups & Plates (foam)		
6-Pack Holders		
Other Plastic/Foam Packaging		
Other Plastic Bottles (oil, bleach, etc.)		
Strapping Bands		
TOBACCO RELATED ITEMS		
Tobacco Packaging/Wrap		
Cigarette Butts		
Cigar Tips		
Cigarette Lighters		

Item	Tally	Total
FISHING GEAR		
Fishing Buoys, Pots & Traps		
Fishing Net & Pieces		
Rope (1 yard/meter = 1 piece)		
Fishing Line (1 yard/meter = 1 piece)		
OTHER TRASH		
Balloons		
Construction Materials		
Fireworks*		
Tires		
PERSONAL HYGIENE		
Personal Hygiene Items*		
TINY TRASH LESS THAN 2.5 CM		
Foam Pieces		
Glass Pieces*		
Plastic Pieces		

2.5 cm (actual size)

DEAD/INJURED ANIMAL

Status (*Circle one*): **Dead** or **Injured**
Entangled (*Circle one*): **Yes** or **No**
Type of Entanglement Item:

_____

CLEAN UP SUMMARY

Number of Trash Bags Filled: _____

Weight of Trash Collected: _____

Want to share your data with others? Visit http://bit.ly/swlitterfreedatacollection to submit your data and see what data has been collected by others!

Continued on next page

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Litter Audit Reflection

Ocean and waterway trash ranks as one of the most serious pollution problems choking our plant. Far more than an eyesore, a rising tide of marine debris threatens human health, wildlife, communities and economies around the world. The ocean faces many challenges, but trash should not be one of them. Ocean trash is entirely preventable, and data you collect are part of the solution.

Remember, today's litter audit was about more than a beach cleanup. The data you collect and report on will inform decisions on upstream solutions that will help prevent litter in the first place!

With your group, take a moment to reflect on the questions below.

What are some common litter items you found during the litter audit? Why do you think these items were the most common?

What patterns did you find with the litter you collected? What theories do you have about how these patterns formed?

What impact does this litter have on the local ecosystem? What impact does this litter have on the community?

What existing policies or laws could help support a litter-free city? Alternatively, what policies or laws would you enact to reduce litter in your city?

Are there any allies or other groups or organizations you can collaborate with to address litter in your city?