

Clean Up Australia Day
4 March 2018
Business Clean Up Day
27 February 2018
Schools Clean Up Day
2 March 2018



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AFTER 28 YEARS- OVER HALF A MILLION VOLUNTEERS STILL AGREE THAT CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA IS AS RELEVANT TODAY AS IT EVER WAS

Brisbane, Sunday 4 March 2018: Australians from all corners of the country have once again joined together to donate their time and energy to remove rubbish and litter that has been carelessly discarded.

During a week of action over 587,962 volunteers have joined together to protect their local environment and clean up the parks, waterways, beaches, bushland and roadways that are important to them at more than 7,253 locations across Australia. This is a 14% increase in site and 4% increase in volunteer numbers over 2017.

Ian Kiernan AO, Chairman and Founder of Clean Up Australia, speaking from the 2018 Clean Up Day official site in Brisbane, says how proud he is to see so many Australians continuing to rally to the cause.

“It’s really great to see so many people passionate about removing rubbish from the places that are important to them,” said Ian Kiernan.

“Because that’s the beauty of a Clean Up – people tell us where the rubbish is accumulating and we give them the support to make a difference. Young or old – anyone can be involved.

“But we need to do much more than just pick up rubbish one day a year. Every day is Clean Up Australia Day - so let today simply be the start of your Clean Up journey.

“Making a real difference starts with looking more closely at our personal purchasing behaviour, becoming conscious of the single use products, packaging and plastics that we buy and then discard.

“We need to continue to challenge our governments to implement effective waste management and recycling programs to reduce the amount of wasted resource that ends up in our precious environment. Our Clean Up activities provide vital community led data and feedback that influences decision makers.”

“I am delighted to be standing alongside the Queensland Minister for the Environment, Leeanne Enoch, applauding this government on your leadership when it comes to waste management reform. 2018 is a big year for Queenslanders - the end of the single use plastic bag is only four months away and your container refund scheme will be implemented in November.”

Since the event started 28 years ago Australians have donated more than 33 million volunteer hours, removing the equivalent of 350 thousand ute loads of rubbish from over 178 thousand sites across the country.

“The dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers have made Clean Up Australia Day possible for all these years, and every one of you can be proud of what you have achieved,” said Mr Kiernan.

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Results in progress predict volunteers will have removed the equivalent of nearly 16,000 thousand ute loads of rubbish over the last week - just the beginning of what is shaping up to be an outstanding effort in 2018.

Working with limited resources, Clean Up Australia is a not-for-profit NGO which relies on corporate sponsors and donors to supply funding and resources and will continue to provide free bags, gloves and other equipment for as long as it has the funds to do so.

Donations can be made online www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au by following the prompt

2018 Results in Progress @ 12.30am AEST Sunday 4 March 2018

	Registered sites	Estimated volunteer numbers	Predicted rubbish tonnage
Australian Capital Territory	138	8,615	303.6
New South Wales	3,002	246,108	6,604.4
Northern Territory	54	6,914	118.8
Queensland	1,327	61,258	2,919.4
South Australia	465	41,174	1023
Tasmania	284	16,860	624.8
Victoria	1,389	81,769	3055.8
Western Australia	594	66,951	1306.8
Estimated totals:	7,253	587,962	15,946.6

Volunteer numbers and predicted rubbish tonnage are calculated based on End of Clean Up Reports received from 2017

-ENDS-

For any further media information or an interview, please contact Tracey Wigg, Gaia Communications on 0419 141 266 Email: tawigg@bigpond.com

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