



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2021

'CLEAN WHERE YOU ARE!'

COWICHAN VALLEY - Starting on Earth Day April 22 to 24, 2021 local community groups and municipalities will be working together from a distance to **#CleanCowichan2021**.

"Clean Where You Are" campaign suggests you clean in your neighbourhood, when you are out for a walk, in a park, or on your favourite trail with your 'bubble'. Take a bag, one glove, long tongs, and go pick up!

Depending on your jurisdiction, you may pick up an additional free garbage tag (limited quantities available) from one of these locations:

- City of Duncan: City Hall, 200 Craig Street Duncan on April 22 & 23, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
- Municipality of North Cowichan: 7030 Trans-Canada Highway, on April 22 & 23, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
- Or Register with Relax Collective to get your extra bags picked up. https://relaxcollective.ca/?page_id=1417

The additional bag needs to be in another can/container to be picked up on your scheduled day.

Supporting this initiative? Fill up a bag, take a picture and share! Post it to **Clean Where You Are Cowichan - Earth Day Clean Up Series** group <https://www.facebook.com/cleancowichan2021> to show the difference one person can make and hashtag **#CleanCowichan2021** to share your story!

If you come across a large pile of debris during April 22-24, please contact All Seasons Services 250-246-0362 to arrange for a crew to come get it or you may report it to RAPP: 1-877-952-7277 or online at <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>

"We are asking people to clean where they are this Earth Day, for an hour or more. Support this initiative by following the hashtag #CleanCowichan, joining the Facebook group Cowichan Clean Up Effort and sharing our message and what people in Cowichan are doing to clean litter this spring. Connect virtually while staying safe, following health orders, and making an impact." said Ali Davie of Volunteer Cowichan.

Ben Riel of Relax Collective echoed similar sentiments, *"It has been difficult to handle the increasing waste problem during the pandemic, especially without the ability to organize events with gatherings. However, thanks to the hard work put in between local businesses, non-profits, and governing bodies to organize environmentally focused programs and events that are safe and within the ever-changing PHO's, it has created something truly inspiring that we are all proud to be a part of. This problem can't truly be tackled without a little bit of help from a lot of people, and we hope everyone does a little part of the clean up in Cowichan, safely and in their "bubble", to make a difference."*

Who: YOU!

What: Clean up litter in your community!

Where: In your local community, park, ditch, or trail!

When: April 22 – and onward!

Why: Many hands make light work, and because we care for our Cowichan!

Cowichan Tribes April Teaching
Hwial'asmut Tu Tumuhw - Take Care of the Earth

Community partners and organizations involved in planning and supporting this initiative include: Volunteer Cowichan, Youth 20/20 Can, Relax Collective, Rotary Clubs of Duncan, Shawnigan Rotary EcoClub, Cowichan Watershed Board, Cowichan Tribes, Cowichan Valley Clean Up Effort FB Group, Cowichan Valley Earth Guardians, Alexander School, Cowichan Action Team (CAT), Fisher Rd Recycling / DL Bins, Drillwell Enterprises, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Municipality of North Cowichan, and the City of Duncan.

To learn more, please visit the **Clean Where You Are Cowichan - Earth Day Clean Up Series** group
<https://www.facebook.com/cleancowichan2021>

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For Media Inquiries Only:

Ben Riel, Relax Collective
Phone: 250-889-5153
Email: rielb@relaxcollective.ca
Website: relaxcollective.ca

Ali Davie, Volunteer Cowichan
Phone: 236-594-1769
Email: alidee3240@gmail.com