

OFFICIAL RULES

Introduction

This webpage describes the official rules (“Official Rules”) of the Plogging Challenge organized by the Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) and Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (“MNCPPC”).

The objective of this Challenge is to provide Montgomery County residents a fun engaging way to raise awareness about stormwater pollution while providing the opportunity to take action and help with stormwater pollution prevention by cleaning up litter from streams, stormwater ponds, etc. The Plogging Challenge is a campaign meant to continue after the kick-off week in which it is promoted, the idea is to incentivize people to make picking up litter a habit to prevent stormwater pollution.

Definitions

- “Plogging” means to pick up trash while jogging or walking.
- “Plog-Along Pack” means trash and recycling bags, working gloves, sanitizer, and one trash picker-upper tool per household, while supplies last.
- “Plogging prize pack” means the themed prize given away to a winner each week (contents vary).
- “Participant” means the individual who participates in the Plogging Challenge under the terms of this Challenge.

Eligibility

- The Challenge is open to Montgomery County residents only. The Challenge is not open to companies, educational institutions, organizations, etc. or to groups associated with such institutions.
- Greenfest committee members and their families are not eligible for prizes.
- Participants must be of sufficient legal age and standing to enter into a contract with DEP and MNCPPC as required below.
- Must be 18 years or older to enter.
- One entry per family.

How to PLAY

- Participants can join the #PloggingChallenge by taking a picture of them Plogging in Montgomery County and either tag our Instagram account @mygreenmc or use our hashtag #MontgomeryPlogs on Instagram.
- We will have prizes and events throughout the campaign to encourage people to keep plogging and picking up as much trash as they can! Each household can only win ONE plogging prize pack.
- To be eligible to win a Plogging prize pack, participants must register (link on webpage), submit photos via email to DEP.contests@montgomerycountymd.gov, and complete a trash data form (link will be provided to each registrant). Submissions must include a photo of each completed activity.

- Photos with copyrights, text, or watermarks will not be accepted. Photos must be your original work.
- Please make sure your image file is in either JPEG/PNG/PDF format.
- Submitting photos means you are agreeing to all contest rules and regulations, and that the photos submitted are your original work.
- DEP and Montgomery Parks are not responsible for lost or misdirected entries or any connection issues when submitting photos.
- Photos must be clear and with the highest possible resolution.
- Four winners will be selected at random.
- The drawing winners will be congratulated and announced on DEP's Instagram account upon approval from each drawing winner.
- There is no fee to play the Challenge.
- No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited.
- Winners will be contacted by 5 pm EST on Friday via email and or phone number, and given instructions of how to claim the prize.
- If you do not respond within 3 days (72 hours) of being contacted via phone and/or email, you will forfeit your prize.
- Anyone who wants to join the #PloggingChallenge can get a FREE Plog-A-Long pack by signing up on our website. Plog-A-Long packs contain trash and recycling bags, gloves, one litter grabber, and sanitizer.
- Each participant and/or household can only receive one Plog-A-Long pack. More trash and recycling bags will be available throughout the season for pick up.
- When you sign up to receive a Plog-A-Long pack, you are committing to pick up trash, dispose of it properly (directions will be provided to participants), and report how many bags of trash you picked up (trash data form).
- If you want to be even more environmentally ambitious, separate clean recyclables, such as plastic beverage bottles, and drop them in your recycling bin. You will not only be improving your own health, but your local community's health and appearance too.
- Ploggers at Parks, please locate a Montgomery Parks/M-NCPPC trash bin before plogging for easy trash disposal. If there is no trash bin available, dispose of it at home or another public canister. Keep [park boundaries](#) in mind.
- Ploggers at Parks must adhere to safety guidelines. Stay at least an arms-length away from any creek, stream, or water body. Cleaning up at log jams is strictly prohibited.
- If any suspicious items are found in parks, call the Park Police at **301-949-3010**.
- If not in a park, Ploggers often dispose of trash in their own trash can at home, or a public bin along their route, because usually you will not fill an entire trash or recycling bag while plogging, so it will not take up too much space in a trash bin.
- However, if you come across a particularly large amount of trash, the County will pick it up for free within 48 hours if you call it into 311. Details for scheduling a pick up will be given to ploggers who sign up.
- Students CAN earn SSL hours! Students will be eligible to earn 1 SSL hour per day, per bag of trash picked up. More details will be given to those who sign up.
- The Plogging Challenge will last from April 1st and continue through June 30, 2021
- All Plog-Along Packs must be picked up in person at a designated location

Prizes

Subject to the legal requirements outlined above, weekly drawing winners will receive:

1. Plogging prize pack
2. A congratulations announcement on the DEP Instagram account

Acceptance

Participation constitutes the Participant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules. By participating in the Game, the Participant is representing and warranting that he/she/they has read and understood, and agrees to be bound by, these rules. **By submitting your photo via email, you agree to receive emails, promotions, and general messages from Montgomery County DEP.** Including the guides and rules referred to herein, these Official Rules constitute the entire agreement between the Participant and DEP in relation to the Challenge. They govern the Participant's participation and supersede any prior or other agreements between the Participant and DEP and relating to the Challenge. *By sending us your photos and videos, you are agreeing to our standard Terms of Service and the additional terms set forth below:*

Additional Terms of Use for Photo and Video Submissions

By submitting your photo(s) or video, you agree that such photo(s) and/or videos and the accompanying information will become the property of DEP and you grant DEP, MNCPPC and their affiliates permission to publicly display, copy, reproduce and use the photographs and video in any form or media, whether now known or hereafter devised, for any and all editorial and related promotional purposes without making payment or other remuneration to you or any third party. You represent and warrant that (i) the photo and/or video is your original work, or is properly licensed by you, and does not violate the copyright or any other personal or property right of any third party, and (ii) you have obtained any and all releases and permissions necessary for us to publicly display, copy, reproduce and use the photo and/or video as described above. Your submission also allows DEP to edit, crop or otherwise alter any submission as it chooses. Weekly winners will be announced each Thursday on Instagram and at the Greenfest event.