



Your safety is the most important part of any litter cleanup. **You are responsible for your own safety.**

Check out these tips for how to protect yourself:

- **Do not** enter the water if you do not know how to swim. Always test the depth of the water before entering creeks. Remember that streambeds may have deep pools hidden from view.
- Protect your feet with comfortable, close-toed shoes that can get muddy or wet.
- **Do not** pick up medical debris, chemical containers or barrels. Do not touch any closed, swollen plastic bottles with dark liquid. They may be dangerous.
- Use heavy gloves to pick up sharp objects. Double bag plastic bags if collecting sharp objects or broken glass and do not overfill.
- **Do not** touch living or deceased animals. Animals can carry diseases, and injured or trapped animals may bite.
- ALWAYS use the buddy system. Phone 911 in the case of emergency.
- If working along roads or streets, wear a high-visibility vest and stay 3-5 feet away from the road. **Do not enter traffic or collect litter from bridges.**
- **Do not** enter private property without permission from the property owner.

You have the right to refuse to do tasks that you feel are unsafe or that make you uncomfortable. The Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough, the Orange County government, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), the Eno River Association, and UNC are not responsible for your safety during this cleanup challenge.

