What is Clean Swell?

Clean Swell is a *free* mobile application (app) designed for smart devices (phones/tablets) to capture volunteer cleanup effort (trash data) at cleanup events *anytime* and *anywhere*. It is designed for volunteers to use during the International Coastal Cleanup but can also be used any other time of the year, for any cleanup no matter the size and whether it is on a body of water or not. With Clean Swell, simply "Start Collecting" trash wherever you are around the world and the data you collect will instantaneously upload to Ocean Conservancy's global ocean trash database. These data deliver a global snapshot of ocean trash, providing researchers, policy-makers and you the insight needed to inform solutions.

Where do I download the app?

Clean Swell is free to download for most Apple and Android devices and can be found in the App Store or on Google Play. Simply search for "Clean Swell" and it should be one of the top search results. Like an app, the device needs to have internet access in order to download the app. Because of this, we recommend volunteer download the app at home, *before* hitting the beach, river or neighborhood to clean!

Will the app work without cellular service?

YES! Once downloaded, Clean Swell functions without cellular service or Wi-Fi. If a user conducts a cleanup on the app in an area without cellular service, a notice will appear after they submit their cleanup, stating that their data will be stored until they are back in cell range, where the data will automatically submit to the online database.

Will the app work without internet/Wi-Fi?

Yes! See last question.

Why does the app ask to use my location?

It is important that users allow location services to be turned on for this app! Clean Swell utilizes the user's device to determine where in the world their cleanup is taking place. By allowing location to be turned on while using the app, this allows the app to function properly by attaching your cleanup data to the exact location you cleaned, when it goes to the online database. The app also utilizes location to track the distance covered during the user's cleanup, similar to how a fitness app tracks distance or steps.

How can I tell if I have location services "turned on" for the app?

- <u>On an iPhone:</u> To make sure Location Services are turned "On" while using the app go your Settings -> Clean Swell -> Location. Under this section, there are options for "Never", "While Using the App", "Always". Make sure the toggle is switched over for "While Using the App" or "Always".
- <u>On an Android:</u> To make sure Location Services are turned "On" while using the app go your Settings -> App & Notifications-> Clean Swell-> Permissions-> Location. Under this you'll see a toggle for "Enable or Disable".

Why does a user have to create an account?

We ask users to create an account when they log into the app for the first time. After that, as long as the user doesn't sign out, they will remain logged and won't have to bother with logging in each time to record a cleanup. The main reason a user needs an account is for the app to track their cleanup history over time, so they can be awarded badges the more they clean!

We ask for the user's email address when creating an account so our database managers have a way to reach out to a user if they have questions about a cleanup entry submitted through that account. It is one way for us to verify the data.

Is the app available in other languages besides English?

Yes! The app is currently available in several other languages and this setting can be changed by clicking on "Profile" on the navigation bar within the app. Scroll down the profile page and tap on "Language" to see other available languages. Then scroll to the bottom and save changes. We continue to update the app with additional languages! Thanks for your patience as we work to do this.

Does every volunteer at a cleanup need to use the app?

Nope! It's actually best to clean in small groups and designate one volunteer as the data recorder who will use Clean Swell to record what the entire group collects. On a number of screens throughout the app, there is a place to note how many people are in your group. The data recorder using the app will not wear gloves or touch trash but all other volunteers who are touching and collecting trash should be wearing gloves. We recommend the "call-as-you-clean" method where those who are collecting trash simply note what they are collecting out loud for the data recorder to follow along and tap items on the collection screen of the app.

How does the "Group" field work on the app?

The group field is a great tool for cleanup organizers to have a way to track multiple Clean Swell entries from the same cleanup location, event or organization. Volunteers or organizers can type whatever text they'd like into this field that will help them identify their cleanup group after the event. Later, in the database where all Clean Swell data go, a user can search for their

group name and their entry - or any number of entries with that same group name- can be filtered for and summarized in one data report.

This is also a great feature to link groups that may be spread out and conducting cleanups over a wide geographic range. For instance, Bank of America employees from anywhere in the world, simply put "BOA" in their group name on the app and all of their cleanup data can be searched for and summarized. Other group name examples include Girl Scout Troop/Boy Scout Pack numbers, Non-profit partner's name or acronyms and event names such as "Sea Turtle 5K" or "Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup".

Is a "Group" name required on the app?
Nope. It can be left blank.

What if my cleanup has some volunteers using the app and others using the paper data card?
That is no problem! Your Clean Swell users will simply submit their data and those will go directly to the online database. As an organizer, we recommend you summarize all paper data cards that you receive and if possible, determine the total weight of trash removed at your event by all volunteers (Clean Swell and paper data card users). Report that total weight and any item data from the paper cards to Ocean Conservancy as you normally would or enter these data directly into the online database (*See last question for details on this*). While the Clean Swell user's entries will have a weight estimated and added to the database already, we can easily work with you to adjust your total weight to subtract what's already in the database from the app entries. In short, if you need help adjusting any of your event's data, you can always reach out to iccadmin@oceanconservancy.org and our team will help.

How do you add multiples of one trash type on the collection screen, without tapping that item over and over?
To add multiples of one type of trash to a collection on Clean Swell, tap and hold on the item icon you are adding to. After a second or two, a window will appear along with your phone keyboard numbers and you will be able to type in the amount of that item you'd like to add. For example, you can hold down on the icon for "Plastic/Foam Pieces" and in the window, type "200", and then click "OK" and 200 will be added to that running count of plastic/foam pieces.

Where do photos that are taken through the app go?
The photo capture feature on Clean Swell can be found in the top right corner of the collection screen. The user will need to allow the app to access the phone's camera. Once a photo is taken, the photo is automatically saved to the user's camera roll on their device and they are also prompted to share their photo with Ocean Conservancy only, or on social media. If they

click "Share with Ocean Conservancy Only", their image goes to a private Flickr account that ICC managers have access to.

How can a user record an item of trash on the app that isn't a category on the collection screen? Where can weird or strange finds be recorded?

Currently, the collection screen on Clean Swell has volunteers track 28 unique trash categories, although we know that there are always items found that won't fit into one of these categories. Thus, one category is named "other trash" and items not explicitly listed on the screen can be counted under this category.

If volunteers want to make special note of something found, perhaps a strange find or an item of local concern, they can do so in the "comments" field on the Review screen after they click "Done Collecting". This is an open text field where volunteers can note anything they'd like about their cleanup experience.

Where do Clean Swell data go?

All Clean Swell data (as well as data returned to Ocean Conservancy in any other format) live in an open, access online database that anyone can go to, to find and download reports. This database is called TIDES- *see separate FAQ page solely about this database.*

In short, here is how you can find data from Clean Swell entries and other cleanups:

1. The database is at www.coastalcleanupdata.org.
2. Click "View Reports" in the upper right hand corner.
3. If you would like to get a sense of what the reports look like, feel free to click on a country of interest under "Country Reports" on the lower right hand side of your screen; the following options will drop down:
    - Summary
    - Top Ten Items
    - Unusual Items
    - Volunteers, Weight, Distance
    - Detailed Summary
    - Items of Local Concern
    - Entangled Animals
4. You can download any of these reports as Excel files by clicking the cloud-shaped button next to the orange report.
5. To preview the reports, you can click on the word in orange. For the **most detailed cleanup information** pull the "Detailed Summary," – this report displays each individual data point entry.

To filter for your specific event, organization or group to track their impact, there are a few options:

- **Group Names:** If a Group Name was entered into your Clean Swell app entry/entries, you can easily search in the "Group names" bar above the map, and select which group names (you may select multiple) you would like to filter for. Group names are for Site Captains or groups that are looking to be grouped together when searching for their data later, and can be done as the Site Captain so desires. Group names can be formatted for multiple groups within a larger group, for example, you can have volunteers do "Long Beach_Group 1" and "Long Beach_Group 2"—this will allow you to filter or group all "Long Beach" cleanups or all "Group 1" cleanups.
  Video: How to Use the Group Name search:
  (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfQQICbxjbA&feature=youtu.be)

- **Date Range: For the sake of faster page loading, the map is automatically filtered to show data from the last 12 months only.** You can adjust this using the drop-down menu under "Cleanup Dates". Click on any of the pre-formatted date ranges or use the "Custom Range" feature to search for cleanups that took place during a specific day, month, year, etc. to select the data range for which you desire to filter. This filter can always be used in addition to another filter, such as group name, region or custom shape.
  Video: How to Use the Date filter: (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0sbIoqS0k5c)

- **Zone, State or Country:** You may filter data by zone, state or country by navigating the map to the area you wish to see data for; by searching in the white bar at the top of the display; or zooming and dragging. While you navigate, zone, state and country report options will appear on the right of your screen—please click on the area of interest, and the report format options will drop down on the right. Download the report by clicking the cloud button next to the desired format.

- **Custom:** If group names or certain prescribed regions don't quite work for your situation, you may use the custom polygon tool on the upper right bar of the map (between the little hand and the "clear polygon" icons). This tool allows you to draw a custom shape around the points you would like to include in your report. You may use this and the date range, for example, to pull for a specific event in a specific location.
  Video: How to Use the polygon tool on TIDES:
  (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrOWwXHJGJM&feature=youtu.be)