Please amend as appropriate to your needs

Dear (Name/Local Council/Beach Owner/River Bank Owner/National Trust employee) – NB: please try to find the correct person to send this to.

I am writing to let you know that I am volunteering to lead a beach/river/park/mountain/street (please choose the appropriate option) clean at (insert name of area) between (insert start and end times) on (insert date).

This event will involve volunteers from the local community. Not only will we be mobilising local people, but we will also be helping Surfers Against Sewage to meet their target of ending single-use plastic pollution on UK beaches by 2030.

Conducting beach, river and street cleans creates many benefits not only for users of these areas but also for the wider community, local wildlife and yourself!

The facts!

* Numerous species of wildlife are harmed through ingestion, entanglement or even suffocation by lost or discarded items of plastic pollution. Removing plastic from your local area lowers the likelihood of this happening, increasing the health of species in the area.
* A study by Plymouth Marine Laboratory in 2016 found that participating in beach cleans increases well-being and encourages future pro-environmental behaviours. This is something that visitors to your area could benefit from and you could too if you wanted to join our clean.
* Plastic pollution has economic impacts to local areas. The aesthetic value of an area is decreased by the presence of plastic pollution, which in turn decreases income generated through tourism and increases costs associated with the upkeep of an area.

This event will follow Surfers Against Sewage’s guidance on conducting a clean, which includes relevant risk assessments, safety guidelines and safeguarding policy. I will give a briefing to my volunteers before we proceed with the clean, to ensure that everyone works as a unit in order to be as effective as possible and also to ensure that we do not cause any unnecessary disruption to other members of the public in the area. The event will be covered by public liability insurance, provided by Surfers Against Sewage.

Unless otherwise instructed, we will responsibly place the rubbish collected at the event in or next to any on-site refuse bins. However, we would be grateful if your refuse teams could visit the site as soon as possible after the event to collect them. We will do our best to recycle as much as we can, but we are aware that this is not always possible if items are particularly contaminated. (NB: Please feel free to introduce us to your waste team directly and advise us on your nearby recycling facilities).

Surfers Against Sewage cleans are hugely positive community events. In 2021 alone over 142,428 volunteers mobilised nationwide across 4,216 clean-events, removing 398,798.2kg of plastic pollution and covering 1,116,226.4 miles. All messaging and promotion surrounding these cleans focusses on the incredible example that our volunteers set by helping to protect their local areas for everyone to enjoy. Please visit [www.sas.org.uk](http://www.sas.org.uk) for further details.

If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me via (insert email address) or (insert telephone number).

Many thanks in advance for your support.

Best wishes,

(insert name)

Lead Volunteer