

Over 100,000 pounds of litter cleared in San Diego County on Coastal Cleanup Day

SAN DIEGO (KUSI/FOX 5) — Over 4,000 San Diegans joined forces Saturday at 92 sites across the county to help keep America's Finest City looking its finest by participating in the 42nd annual Coastal Cleanup Day.

According to officials with [I Love a Clean San Diego](#), 4,029 locals participated in the event, with **an estimated 103,688 pounds of litter and debris removed from San Diego communities.**

Volunteers tracked and recorded each piece of litter they collected, which mostly consisted of cigarette butts, plastic bottle caps and food items. Some of the more odd items found included a foot massager, sofa cushions and flip-flops.

Volunteers gathered Saturday morning across San Diego County's beaches, canyons, rivers and parks using grabbers and gloves to clear litter before it pollutes local waterways and storm drains.

"Based on the last litter study (from Keep America Beautiful), litter is down 34% across America. That tells me this is a solvable problem. We can reduce the amount of litter in our environment," said Steve Morris, ILACSD executive director.

This year's kickoff site was located at Pepper Park in National City and included booths from iHeartRadio, Toyota, Haul Away Any Day, SDG&E, Project Clean Water SD and more.

The nonprofit, [Ocean Connectors](#), offered volunteers the opportunity to use kayaks to pick up litter on the water, collecting 242 pounds.

At the Ramona site, 13,000 pounds of trash was removed from Walnut Creek with help from 17 volunteers after a resident expressed concern about El Niño and flooding. The volunteers cleared bulky items near a floodplain, which helps keep storm drains clear.

I Love a Clean San Diego has been the official organizer of Coastal Cleanup Day in San Diego since 1985, with over 270,000 volunteers removing more than 5 million pounds of litter over the past 42 years.

The local event coincides with the global International Coastal Cleanup, consisting of millions of volunteers across 150 countries.