

Hike It! Love It! Keep It Clean!

2022 Project Results

321

Cleanups

230

Participants

2,558

Hours

25,269

Pieces of Litter



From June to September 2022, volunteers and staff picked up litter along all nine sections of the Bruce Trail.

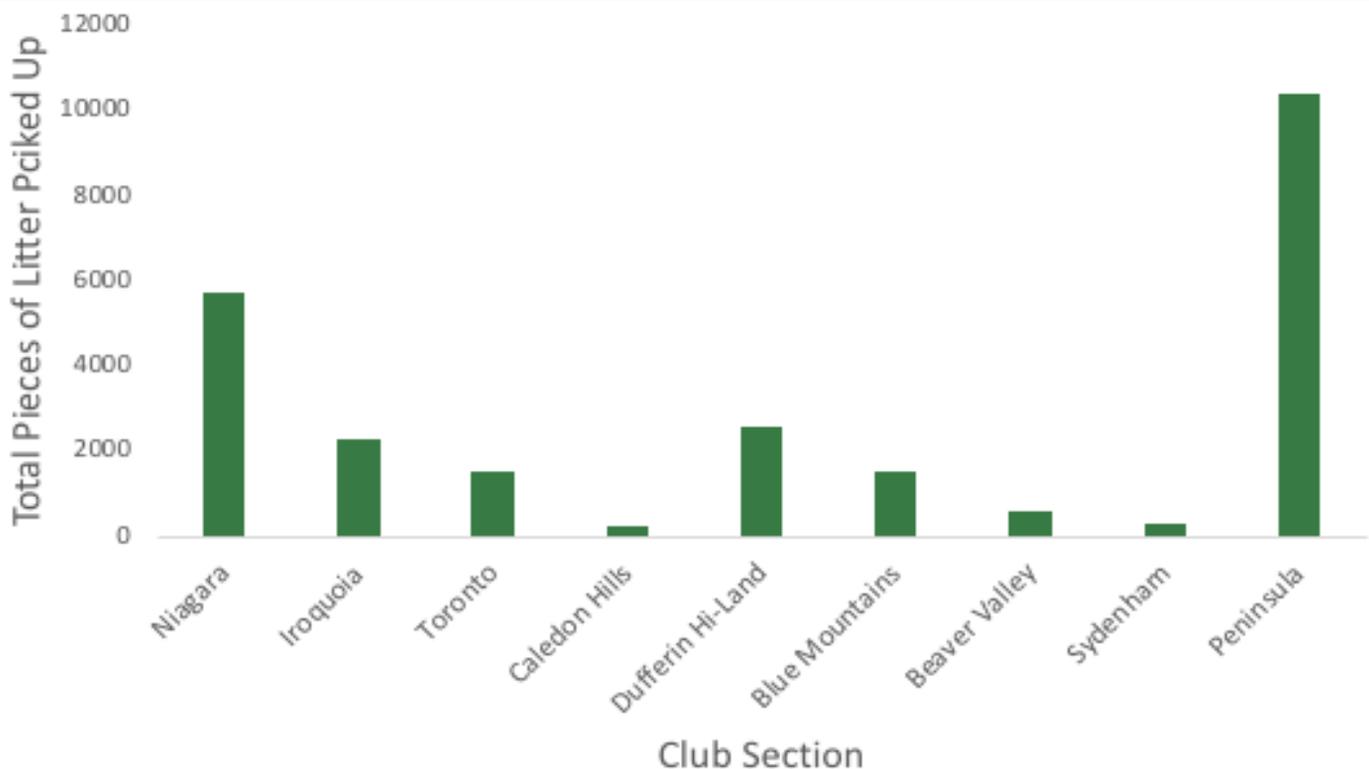
In total, they removed **25,269** pieces of litter from the Trail and access points!

Summary of Litter in Each Club Section

Participants in the Peninsula club section picked up the most litter by far, with a total of 10,418 pieces removed from the trail across 110 cleanups. Great job Peninsula team!

However, this does not necessarily mean that the Peninsula section has the most litter – it likely reflects the high number of cleanups organized there. Participants in the Niagara section picked up the most litter per cleanup, suggesting that this section may have the greatest density of litter on the trail.

Club Section	Total Litter Picked Up	Number of Cleanups	Average Litter Per Cleanup
Niagara	5728	42	136
Iroquoia	2291	41	56
Toronto	1545	37	42
Caledon Hills	272	6	45
Dufferin Hi-Land	2600	33	79
Blue Mountains	1541	23	67
Beaver Valley	571	9	63
Sydenham	303	20	15
Peninsula	10418	110	95

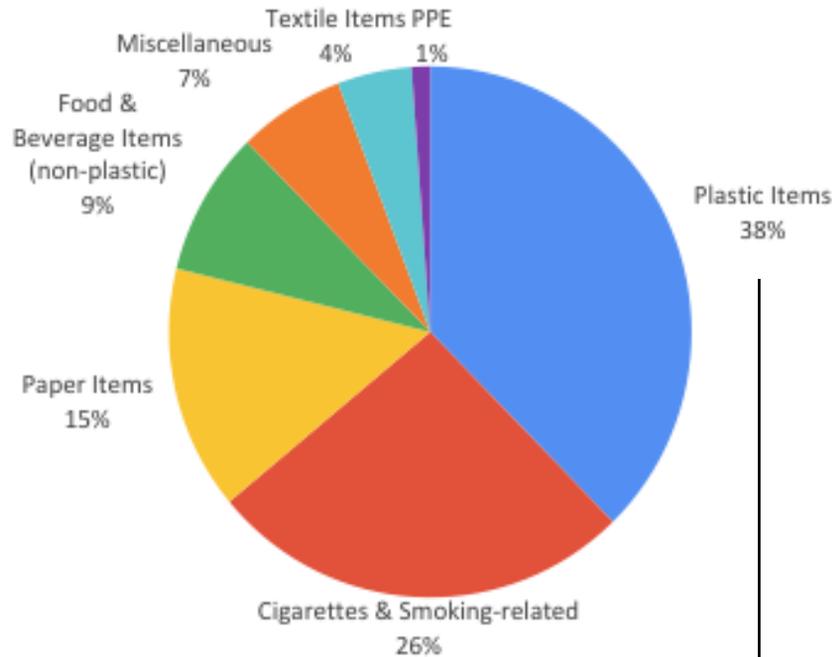


Litter Breakdown – What Did We Find?

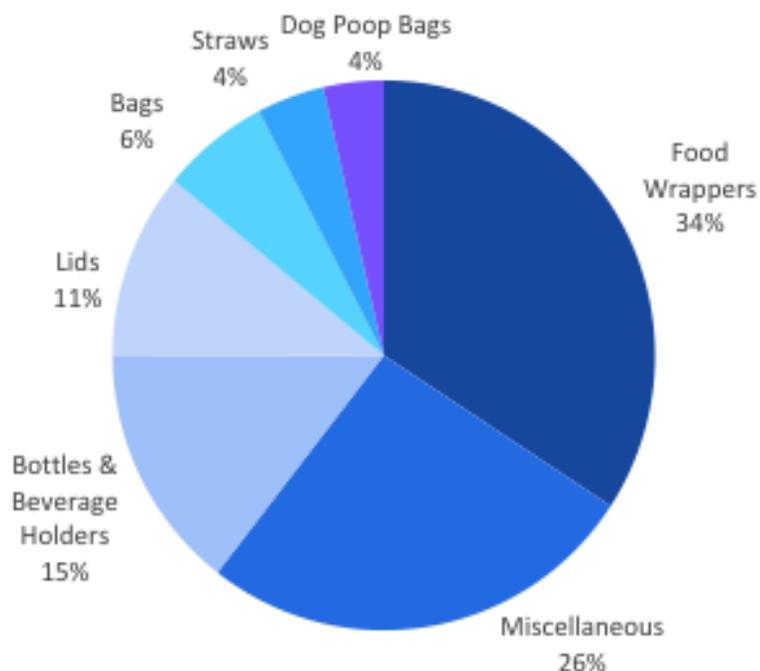
Plastic Items made up the greatest proportion of litter (38%), highlighting the importance of addressing plastic pollution in our environment.

Cigarette butts and other smoking-related items (e.g. packaging, lighters) were next, comprising 26% of all litter pieces.

Breakdown of All Items



Breakdown of Plastic Items



Delving deeper into the plastic items collected, we see that food-related items, including wrappers, bottles, lids and straws, make up the majority (64%) of plastic collected. Trail users can help reduce plastic litter on the trail by packing snacks and drinks in reusable containers.

What did participants have to say about their experience?

“I will do this on most hikes now.”



“We are beginning to feel more confident in replying to the comment, ‘Thank you for doing this - great job’, with, ‘You can do this too!’ ”

“All items were found in the parking lot! The trail was perfectly clean.”

“We had a sense of accomplishment when we looked back [...] So glad we decided to pick up in this location and have decided to continue cleaning this stretch of the Bruce Trail.”

“Seems to be less litter than last year.”

“We were shocked not just by the amount of litter (it adds up quickly), but by the fact that people are deliberately littering, including hikers!”



“My son wanted to earn his ‘Hike It! Love It! Keep It Clean’ badge so we went out two days in a row!”

“So much fun doing this with friends. Also three little brothers treated the litter pick up as a scavenger hunt. They were very enthusiastic and promised to tell their friends.”



**Thank You to All Who Participated in the BTC's
2022 Hike It! Love It! Keep It Clean! Project!**

**You are making a real positive difference on
the Trail and in the environment.**

