



# Average Weights of Common River Cleanup Trash

Unfortunately, millions of tons of trash end up in our nation's rivers and streams every year from litter on the ground and illegal dump sites. Trash is more than just an eyesore; it can contaminate drinking water and threaten the lives of all who depend on it. River cleanups are a great way to remove trash and possible pollutants from local rivers and streams. Some of the most common items found in rivers are objects we use every day, like bottles and plastic bags, or have in our homes, like washing and drying machines. While these items are useful in our daily lives, they are quite a burden on our rivers and clean water.

Plastic Bag	Plastic Water Bottle	Aluminum Can	Glass Bottle	Cigarette
8 grams	12.7 grams	14.9 grams	0.5 pound	1 gram
Truck Tire	Hubcap	Bicycle	Car Tire	Car Battery
100-120 pounds	5 pounds	19-23 pounds	20-25 pounds	40 pounds
Shopping Cart	Washer	Dryer	Traffic Cone	55-gallon metal drum (empty)
30-40 pounds	150-200 pounds	75-100 pounds	1.5 pounds	40 pounds

## About American Rivers®

American Rivers protects wild rivers, restores damaged rivers, and conserves clean water for people and nature. National River Cleanup® was launched in 1991, offering support to individuals, organizations and anyone interested in conducting a cleanup on their local river.

“The only way forward, if we are going to improve the quality of the environment, is to get everybody involved.”  
-Richard Rodgers

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