



# Environmental Concern Orkney

Burness Cottage, Burness Road KW17 2ET  
Tel: 01856 761230 (24hr)  
E-mail: [info@eco-orkney.org.uk](mailto:info@eco-orkney.org.uk)  
Web site: [www.eco-orkney.org.uk](http://www.eco-orkney.org.uk)

# Bag the Bruck.

## Official Weekend

Sat 18th - Sun 19th April 2009

### Information for Group Coordinators

Dear Friends,

Thank you for volunteering to take part in this year's Orkney wide Cleanup! With your support we can try to keep Orkney looking pristine, at least over the spring and summer months and more importantly, this effort will ensure that less wildlife will die or suffer serious injury through entanglement or swallowing waste debris.



**EMEC**  
The European Marine Energy Centre Ltd



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTING HIGH STANDARDS OF ANIMAL WELFARE IN ORKNEY

If you participated last year, one of our members will already have been in contact with you with regards the number of bags and gloves etc. Hopefully, everything will go well and your group will have an enjoyable and rewarding time helping to clean up the area you have selected. To ensure however that the cleanup goes smoothly here are a few points we would like to highlight:

#### ECO green bags:

Only use the green ECO 'Bag the Bruck' bags. After each bag is reasonably full, tie or secure it closed so that no debris can be blown back into the environment prior to pickup.

#### Gloves and Outdoor Wear:

Gloves should be worn at all times during the Cleanup. These will offer some protection, but great care should be taken as there are often broken glass and other sharp objects in littered areas. We will provide suitable gloves for those in your group who do not have any. We have again this year managed to source smaller sized gloves and we suggest that children might wear an ordinary pair of woollen gloves underneath the ones we provide. Everyone should wear strong footwear. Conditions may also necessitate warm clothing, waterproofs, visibility clothing etc.

#### Collection of bags & gloves:

Some group coordinators have their allocation of bags and gloves delivered to their homes address since they live near one of our members. For other groups, organisations and individuals, Mills Filling Station, Deerness Stores and the RSPB office in Stromness have all kindly agreed to house the labelled packs of bags and gloves in their store rooms. In our initial telephone contact with you we will establish which of these stores suits you best. Packages of bags and gloves will be available to uplift from April 1st onwards.

Should you be unable to collect your bags and gloves, please don't hesitate to call the mobile number below and they will be delivered to you. Should you require additional supplies on the actual weekend of the clean up then an ECO member will deliver extra supplies to the site.

### DON'T COLLECT

#### Dangerous Items:

(a) Please do not attempt to pick up dangerous items such as canisters, syringes, cylinders, drums or any other containers that might contain or have contained chemicals. Instead make a note of their exact location on the attached form and we will inform the Environmental Services or SEPA. Any medical refuse, such as hypodermic needles, pills and medicine bottles should be handled with extreme care by adults only and reported on the attached form. Make sure that any unknown objects, broken glass, rusty metals; a responsible adult collects fishhooks or aerosols reported by children. Please don't bag wood, driftwood or seaweed, these are natural materials and are often collected by locals beachcombing.

#### Large Items:

(b) Do not attempt to remove bulky items such as cars and fridges. Once again please make a note of their location on the details form and we shall ask the Council to deal with this separately.

#### Birds:

Please do not collect dead birds from the beaches - leave them where they are and make a note of them on the details form (the R.S.P. B. regularly carry out bird counts on beaches.) Be careful to avoid disturbing nesting birds. The Cleanup dates were chosen to avoid the nesting season but there may be a few early starters!!

### DO COLLECT

**Plastic:** All plastic and all non-biodegradable rubbish

# Suggestions:

## First Aid

It is a good idea to take along a first aid kit and that at least one person in the group has first aid training.

## Children

Children must be accompanied and supervised by appointed responsible adults (e.g. Minimum ratio of one adult to 10 children).

Please ensure that parents' permission is obtained for all children taking part. If working near water then supervisors and children should be able to swim. Before the Cleanup please ensure all children are aware of and understand the items they should pick up and the items they should avoid.

## Weather

If the weather becomes too bad then consider delaying the Cleanup until the next day or even the next weekend. It is not essential (only preferable) that the Cleanup be completed on the first weekend.

## Roadsides/Verge

If you decide to cleanup these areas then high visibility clothing is essential and road cones / signs are advisable. Please take extra care near traffic.

## Tide Times:

The British Summer Time tide times for the weekend are as follows:

	Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2009		Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2009	
Kirkwall	Low Water	High Water	Low Water	High Water
Tide times	11.40	18.42	13.40	19.43

- Deduct 1 hour for all locations north of Kirkwall (North Isles)
- Deduct 1 hour for Stromness and Barriers (West side)
- Add 1 hour for Barriers (East side)

# After the Cleanup

(i) Please try to ensure that all the green bags are well tied up and placed at a collection point which is accessible for Refuse vehicle collection by the Council. If you are clearing a long stretch it would be easiest to have several pick up points along the way. Just indicate this in the detail sheet or tell your contact person. Please ensure that all netting, metal or plastic items that are too large to fit easily in a bag are bundled together and placed in a separate pile next to the bags.

(ii) Keep count of all the bags you collect and confirm the pick up point on the details sheet (also enclosed.) Estimate the no. of bags for large items, i.e. a large piece of netting if divided up, might fill 3 bags.

(iii) Please complete the detail form and send it in the S.A.E. provided and return as promptly as you can, this will provide a double check system to ensure that all the bags and other items are collected ASAP.

Much of the bruck collected will be taken initially to the Bossack landfill site by Council transport for further sorting, most of this will go to the "Waste to Energy" plant in Shetland. However, should you wish to recycle anything locally or have local outlets available to you for recycling any items collected on the day, glass items, aluminium cans i.e. bottle banks or the mini recycling centres, please do so, this would be the ideal. For logistical reasons the recycling needs to be done at your end. Thank you!



# Sponsorship

You may wish to make the Cleanup into a sponsored event and / or approach you local Community Council who could pay you a set amount for every bag collected.

You will have to apply to the Community Council prior to the event. They tend to prefer a rough estimate of how many bags you might collect before the event along with the application. ECO has already contacted Community Councils about the Bag the Bruck weekend and we have asked that they continue to sponsor and support their local group volunteers. Alternatively or in addition, if you would like ECO to send you out a personal sponsor-sheet for your particular clean-up area, to allow you to seek individual sponsorship from families, friends, neighbours and relatives, then contact me, Susan, now! on 761230 and I can make up the sponsor sheets specifically for your area.

# Fly-tipping

It is likely bruckbusters will come across fly-tipping sites. ECO would encourage any fly-tipping incident or site, old or new, to be reported either to the dumb dumpers stopline on 0845 2304090, or through <http://www.dumbdumpers.org/index.asp?tm=3> where there is a confidential online report facility.



ECO are delighted to have the **European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC)** as part sponsors of Bag the Bruck 2009. The European marine Energy Centre is at the forefront of the development of marine-based renewables – technologies that generate electricity for homes and businesses by harnessing the power of the waves and tidal streams. To assist EMEC with their ongoing research they have asked if Bag the Bruck volunteers could photograph any **large items** of bruck found around the coastline. Large items would constitute netting or rope etc larger than 10m and containers whose capacity is greater than 25litres. Please send your photos or email your photos to:

**Edwina Cook**, Business Development/Client Relationship Officer, The European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) Limited. Email: [Edwina.cook@emec.org.uk](mailto:Edwina.cook@emec.org.uk)

# Eggcases

In recent decades several species of **skate** and **ray** around the British coast have dramatically declined in numbers. The empty eggcases that wash up on to our beaches all year round are an easily accessible source of information on the whereabouts of skate and ray nursery grounds. If you find any eggcases during your beach cleanup, please take a photo and post or email it to Dan Wise on 850285 or email Dan at [sula.diving@virgin.net](mailto:sula.diving@virgin.net). For an Identification Guide browse the site at <http://www.eggcase.org>.

**Should you require any further information, your ECO contact members are: Susan Ferguson: tel. 761230 or tel. mobile: 07760-207608; Clive Strutt: tel. 831541.**

**ECO wish you every success with your cleanup. Thank you again for your hard work and support . . . have fun!**

Very best wishes, Susan  
(SUSAN FERGUSON, HON. SECRETARY)