

My clean beach

Health Check

How to use this data card :

- At the end of your cleanup, fill out this data card to assess the health status of your site.
- Refer to Help Card 4 for pictures of important components. This card will also provide you with advice on how to interpret your results and what recommendations you might make.



Cleanup site information

Cleanup site name : _____

Cleanup site location : _____

Name of organizer and organization : _____

Address of organizer : _____

Cleanup date (dd/mm/yyyy) : _____ Distance cleaned : _____ km



Problems that could affect your site

1- What is the riparian buffer zone ?

A riparian buffer zone is a strip of vegetation that stretches along the shoreline of a river or lake. Dense tree, shrub and herbaceous plant communities should grow there. A natural riparian buffer zone prevents excessive bank erosion, reduces mineral and pollutant inflow, and is an important ecosystem for fauna and flora.

Check the components that you find in the buffer zone of your site (check all appropriate boxes)

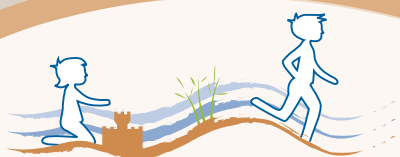
	0–15 m from shoreline	15–30 m from shoreline
Asphalt or concrete		
Bare ground		
Lawn		
Patches of grass on bare ground		
Dense grass		
Trees and shrubs		
Other (specify)		

2- Is the shoreline altered ?

Shorelines are often altered to control erosion and to provide recreational facilities. Many bank stabilization techniques are used, some better simulating a natural habitat than others.

Check the components found (check all appropriate boxes)

	Yes	No
Protective concrete wall		
Rock embankment		
Rock embankment with vegetation		
Dock or launching ramp		
Other (specify)		



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3- Does your shoreline show signs of erosion? (See Data Card 4 for pictures)

Several signs reveal an eroded shoreline. It is important to monitor erosion because it can cause the loss of aquatic habitats, deteriorate fish spawning grounds, reduce biodiversity and create public safety issues.

Check the components found (check all appropriate boxes)

	Yes	No
Bare soil near the shoreline		
Vertical bank with exposed soil		
Exposed tree roots		
Trees leaning towards the water		
Trees with horizontally scarred bark (all scars at same height and facing water)		
Obstacles in the water (e.g., rocks and fallen trees) with sediment and debris upstream		

4- How prevalent are invasive plants? (See Data Card 4 for pictures)

Invasive plants are plants that humans have introduced intentionally or accidentally into a new ecosystem. They are competitive and tend to dominate the ecosystem, thus reducing biodiversity. Since it is difficult to get rid of them once they are established, early detection is the best way to eradicate or control invasive species.

How many individuals of each species are at your site ?

	> 100 plants	< 100 plants	None
Flowering rush			
Water chestnut ***			
European frog-bit			
Eurasian watermilfoil			
Reed canary grass			
Common reed			
Japanese knotweed ***			
Purple loosestrife			

*** Water chestnut and Japanese knotweed are two very harmful species that should be dealt with as soon as possible. If you see them, please inform a local conservation organization immediately.

*Visit the www.mapropreplage.net,
to learn more about these issues*



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*Thank you for your participation!
Don't forget to send us your data.*