

3.2 Trash removal and sweeping

There are two approaches to managing trash accumulation on a trailway. The most common method is to establish a program of ongoing trash removal and as-needed debris management. The other is to institute a “carry in / carry out” policy in which trash cans are not provided and the public is asked to remove any trash generated while on the trailway; rural Brown County State Park has pursued this method with success, while the urban Falls of the Ohio State Park abandoned a similar policy based on poor outcomes, finding better results with a mixed approach of providing trash receptacles and removal for its parking and picnic areas and a carry in / carry out policy for its paths and fossil beds. Regardless of the preferred approach, the goals of trash and debris removal policies are the same: to improve public health and safety, and enhance trail user experience. The primary reasons for implementing a street sweeping program are air and water quality control, access and appearance, and maintenance clean-up.

Purpose: Protect public health and safety, improve air and water quality, and improve trail user experience.

Best Practices: Design guidelines and maintenance notes for hazardous materials planning and response can be found in Indiana Design Manual, Ch. 51, 51-10.0 Hazardous Materials.ⁱ

Reasons for sweeping and types of sweepers are among the topics covered in the Resource for Implementing a Street Sweeping Best Practice. The information can be adapted for trails.ⁱⁱ

ⁱ[INDOT, 2013 Design Manual](#)

ⁱⁱ[Kuehl, Resource for Implementing](#)