

# Think about your impact on the landscape



Nothing beats being active outdoors – it's good for the soul. But all these extra feet, wheels and paddles take their toll and nature is already very vulnerable. We can still enjoy these beautiful landscapes; let's protect them at the same time.

## Three simple ways you can reduce your impact:



### Understand the landscape – check in with landowners

As well as the risk of harming nature at certain times of year, you could incur a fine if you're not aware that a place is protected by law as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Get in touch with the land owners – it's good for them to know your plans. They may have some helpful suggestions and be able to alert you to any risks or threats to nature. It's also wise to check your relevant sporting body for advice on good practice.



### Avoid unnecessary overcrowding

As outdoor events become more popular, places risk being 'double booked.' Larger volumes of visitors can also create parking issues, with cars churning up fragile ground or blocking roads for other users, including emergency vehicles. Before picking a date, check local and national events calendars to avoid scheduling clashes. Encourage people to use alternative transport or share lifts to minimise carbon emissions.



### Pride yourself on being a sustainable event

Events can generate huge amounts of waste. Take steps to avoid single use plastic: set up water refill stations if you can and use rope instead of plastic chevron barrier tape (tying on bits of material/old event t-shirts to increase visibility). Make sure any signs are reusable or recyclable, not fixed with plastic cable ties. Take all event debris away with you and ask participants to pick up litter and report any damage they find.



# What resources are out there?

There are some great resources to help you plan an event that has a positive impact on the landscape.

## 1 Litter picking



### Trash Free Trails

encourages people to make a positive difference every time they run, hike or ride by picking up litter. See their 'Do It Ourselves' toolkit for event organisers.

## 2 Sustainability

**Preventing Plastic Pollution** has free guidance on planning sustainable events, focusing on races, clubhouses and catering. The British Association of Sustainable Sport also offers access to resources and case studies.



## 3 Biosecurity



**British Canoeing** have detailed advice on setting up biosecurity measures at paddling events with awareness raising materials as part of their CHECK CLEAN DRY campaign.

## 4 Accessibility



**Experience Community** is a not for profit organisation that can offer advice on making an outdoor event accessible for people with different disabilities.

## 5 Refill stations

Contact your **local water company** to see if they can support with providing hydration and refill stations for outdoor events.



## 6 Sustainable transport



Encourage participants to think about alternative transport options or ride sharing. **RaceLifts** is a UK app that facilitates ride sharing to racing events.