WaterWays / Gear Closet

Bonnaroo Clean Up Volunteer Guide

Welcome to the team! We really appreciate your willingness to help the WaterWays and the Gear Closet!

Happy ‘Roo! Remember that although we’re showing up after a full night’s sleep, the festivalgoers have been going hard for three days or more. In the morning, many of them will still be packing up or may not have even started. This leads to some things to be aware of…

* Be respectful –
  + If you’re not sure if the things in a campsite belong to the people nearby, ask them.
  + If someone is going through a pile and you think that they might not be the original owners, don’t worry about it. There will be plenty more things for us to snag.
  + There will be other volunteers from Clean Vibes coming behind us, picking up the unusable gear and trash. Try to keep the mess as small as or smaller than you found it.
  + There’s a difference between lost and abandoned property. Backpacks may be left behind on purpose, but a backpack with ID, cellphone, etc. is probably lost. Let Mary Beth or another leader know about it and we’ll get it to the appropriate Bonnaroo staff member.
* Be safe –
  + Wear comfortable clothes and use sunscreen.
  + Wear closed-toe shoes. Flip-flops are highly discouraged. There’s a lot of tent stakes and random stuff laying around, so punctures are a possibility.
  + There may be festivalgoers who supplemented the lightshow with pharmaceutical enhancers. Don’t stick your hands into boxes or bags that you can’t see into and even then, do so carefully.
  + Don’t overheat or dehydrate. We bring plenty of water and we’ll find plenty more, so please make use of it. Take breaks if you need to, either in the shade or an air-conditioned vehicle.
* Be clean –
  + “Clean off the wook.” It’s a ‘Roo term for the funk that happens after a 4-day music festival. Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer in between, as needed.
  + Avoid the poop tents/buckets. If you see a closed 5 gallon bucket, leave it closed. Trust us on this. The same goes for tents. If you see a tent with a bucket in it, zip it back up and leave it. It’s not worth it. Bottles filled with amber liquid are also a no-go.
* Be discerning –
  + We’ll have a yard sale when on the Wednesday after the clean-up, weather permitting, so keep that in mind as you gather. Only grab what will sell. The biggest factor is condition.
  + Some things get left behind because people can’t pack it out. But most things get left behind because they’re broken, torn, or just nasty. If you wouldn’t buy it at a yard sale, we probably shouldn’t try to sell it.
  + The Gear Closet can’t resell food that’s found at Bonnaroo. Much of it won’t be safe to eat after 4 days in a cooler. Some will. That’s up to you. Use your best judgement. If you like, bring it back and someone on the crew may find a home for it.