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Pre-Intermediate Student’s Book

Life

Coastal clean-up

**00.00–00.14** It is the first day of autumn on America’s coasts, rivers and beaches.

**00.14–00.25** Every year at this time, nearly half a million people around the world volunteer and help to clean up the world’s coasts.

**00.25–00.50** In the last couple of years, the international volunteers have collected over three and a half million kilos of rubbish.

**00.50–01.04** From California to New Jersey ... and here along the banks of the Potomac River just outside Washington DC ... people search the coast for rubbish.

**01.04–01.10** **Volunteer** 35 glass bottles and we need an extra bag ’cause this one is ripping.

**01.10–01.20** The Ocean Conservancy started the clean-up in 1986. The organisation writes down everything it finds. From cigarette ends to tin cans.

**01.20–01.33** **Ocean Conservancy Official** It’s coming from land areas. People who were at the beaches, people who were inland, and things are washing downstream.

**01.33–02.00** **Volunteer** It’s disgusting all this stuff that’s out here. I was so shocked when I came out here I thought ‘oh, you know, people don’t litter that much.’ You see stuff on the side of the road, but when you come out here it’s just everywhere.

**Volunteer** Yeah it is pretty amazing, actually. We can pick a lot of it up one day and the next day we come back and there’s twice as much as there was the day before. So it seems like there is no end to the trash.

**02.00–02.05** At this part of the river, the volunteers collected about a thousand kilos of rubbish in just an hour and a half.

**02.05–02.16** They make a lot of progress in many places but there is still a lot of work to do.

**02.16–02.37** **Ocean Conservancy Official** The river is going to require continued maintained efforts for many generations to come, but we are getting there. This is a sign that the next generation is going to care about the resource and is going to want to pass it on to the next generation improved.

**02.37–end** Where water meets land, the aim of this clean-up is to make the coastlines beautiful again. And also so that people will think about what they do with their own rubbish.

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