

RIVER CLEAN UP PARTNERSHIP BAGS TWO TONNES OF WASTE



Ready for action – the volunteers gather their tools prior to the big clean up

Volunteers from companies at Wilton International retrieved a phenomenal amount of waste in a concerted clean-up of the site's River Tees frontage.

In total, an estimated two tonnes of rubbish including thousands of items of plastic were collected from the Bran Sands Lagoon area in just three hours.

The fantastic team effort saw more than 20 volunteers from Sembcorp, SABIC UK Petrochemicals, Sirius Minerals and other firms on the site gather more than 22 large bags of plastic waste and further 30 large bags of general rubbish.



The team get to work in the river front area of the site

Many of the plastic bottles retrieved will now be recycled and made into a special bottle greenhouse for fruit and vegetable growers at the nearby Marske Allotments.

The initiative, organised by the charity Tees Rivers Trust, was inspired by a similar clean up organised by Sembcorp last year in which just four Sembcorp employees bagged almost a tonne of waste.

The tidal action of the River Tees also sees large amounts of driftwood brought ashore (see below) and this too was collected and will be carved into birds to be displayed at the internationally renowned Royal Society for the Protection of Birds nature reserve at Saltholme.



“Once again it was concerning to see the sheer volume of plastic waste that is washed ashore,” said David Miles, of Sembcorp’s infrastructure team, who organised the previous pick and this time rallied colleagues Chris Ratliff and Laura McLaughlin to form the Sembcorp contingent.





After – the cleared area