



#NEWCASTLEROCKS



The City of Newcastle is proud to partner with the Newcastle Rocks Facebook Group to offer free rock painting kits! During this difficult time, the Newcastle Rocks movement has brought our community together in a very meaningful way. Our hope is that these kits can continue to facilitate the rainbow of creativity bringing smiles to everyone's faces. We aren't really alone, and this may make us feel a little more connected right now!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Paint some Rocks! Instructions on the back.
- Be sure to write #NewcastleRocks somewhere on it. This will ensure that for future walks, when this has all left our memories, people still remember where to go log their finds.
- Take a photo of yourself or your kids hiding the rocks...maybe do or don't include landmarks? Up to you! Upload your photo(s) to Facebook or Instagram with the #NewcastleRocks hashtag. Prevent pollution from eroded paint by keeping painted rocks out of creeks and lakes.
- Go for a walk! Keep your eyes out for Newcastle Rocks!
- When you find one, take a photo and upload it with the #NewcastleRocks hashtag. This way, the person who hid it, knows it was found! **Don't take it though! Leave it for someone else to find!**
 - Share in the #NewcastleRocks Facebook Group: fb.com/groups/259514427880333
 - Tag the City of Newcastle on Instagram (@newcastlewa)
 - Tag and share with the City of Newcastle on Facebook (fb.com/newcastlewa)

YOUR KIT INCLUDES

- PAINT BRUSHES
- ACRYLIC PAINT PENS
- MOD PODGE FINISHER
- WHITE ACRYLIC PAINT



YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR ROCKS EASY TO FIND, HARD TO FIND, WHATEVER SUITS YOU. MAYBE ONE BY YOUR DRIVEWAY ALLOWS THE LITTLES TO EASILY PARTICIPATE, BUT ONES ON THE NEWCASTLE TRAILS SYSTEM MAY BE FUN FOR THE MORE ADVENTUROUS!

ROCK PAINTING TIPS

- Pick smooth, flat rocks. You can decorate any rock, but it's harder to decorate ones with ridges. If you can't find them in nature (check your garden, yards, parks, etc.), the craft stores sell them as do home improvement centers. Please do not take rocks from creeks or lakes. These rocks are important habitat for Newcastle wildlife.
- Wash the rocks before decorating them. You want to remove dirt so that it doesn't mess up your design. You can wash several at once with dish soap and leave in a colander to drain and dry. Never wash rocks over a storm drain or dump dirty wash water into a storm drain.
- Seal the rock before painting on it. Use a clear brush on or spray sealer. This helps so that the rocks (which are porous) don't suck the life out of your markers. Another option: Prime with white paint (***included in your kit***) as a base to help the colors that you paint on top appear more vibrant.
- Paint your design on top and use several coats then let dry between layers. Use an outdoor or multi-surface paint to help them hold up to the elements.
- Avoid adding extra glitter or gluing extra items on rocks. Glitter and extra items can wear off and become pollution.
- Use small brushes or a stylus to make small details and/or dots.
- Use acrylic paint pens (***included in your kit***) and Sharpies to write and draw on your rocks. These work the best! Just make sure to let the base fully dry before any writing.
- Paint Pen Tips: Shake well before use with the cap on. After removing the cap, press the tip several times until ink flows. Recap tightly after use.
- Finish off your rocks with a coat (or two or three) of Mod Podge (***included in your kit***). This will help protect your beautiful painted rocks from the elements.
- Wash out paint brushes and other materials in your sink. Never wash materials over a storm drain or dump extra supplies or paint brush water into a storm drain.

This is just a starter kit! We encourage you to get creative, customize your materials and make it your own. Add your own paints, expand your paint pen collection and more. Join the Newcastle Rocks Facebook Group to get inspired and learn tips and tricks from this growing community:
[fb.com/groups/259514427880333](https://www.facebook.com/groups/259514427880333).

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR
CHRISTINA CORRALES-TOY AT CHRISTINAC@NEWCASTLEWA.GOV**