

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful: 108,638 Volunteers Organize Over 5,000 Events as Part of 2018 Great American Cleanup of PA

(November 2, 2018) – [Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful](http://www.KeepPennsylvaniaBeautiful.org) has announced the results of the 2018 Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful [Great American Cleanup of PA](http://www.KeepPennsylvaniaBeautiful.org/GreatAmericanCleanupofPA) that runs annually from March 1 through May 31.

The event engaged 108,638 invaluable volunteers in 5,362 events across the state that focused on community greening, beautification and cleanups. Organized groups, civic organizations, families and friends took to Pennsylvania parks, trails and streets to reclaim communities by picking up over 5 million pounds of trash and planting 10,979 flowers, bulbs and other plants in an effort to keep Pennsylvania beautiful. As in years past, all 67 counties participated in this annual community improvement event. Click [here](#) to view the 2018 Great American Cleanup of PA final report. Click [here](#) for a breakdown of stats by county to see how your county performed in 2018.

Community projects, completed between March 1 and May 31, included:



- Scranton Tomorrow's Adopt a Planter beautification initiative involved 100 residents who planted 500 flowers in Scranton's core business district. "We very much appreciate Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful for the support and materials," said Leslie Collins, Executive Director of Scranton Tomorrow. Scranton Tomorrow has been a Great American Cleanup of PA participant since 2014.



- Twenty community volunteers joined Partnership for the Delaware Estuary to clean up 26 bags of trash from Miles Mack Playground on North 36th Street and the surrounding West Philadelphia neighborhood.



- Ten municipalities in Northampton County - Bushkill, Forks, Lower Nazareth, Moore, Nazareth, Palmer, Plainfield, Stockertown, Tatamy, and Upper Nazareth - worked together to provide an electronics collection for their residents where 59,087 pounds of electronics, 2,895 appliances, 800 pounds of steel and aluminum and over 1,000 pounds of miscellaneous items were collected for proper disposal.

"We are so grateful for the ongoing participation of our local community groups, volunteers and affiliates who coordinate cleanup, beautification and collection events for our residents of Pennsylvania year after year during our Great American Cleanup of PA event. The contribution of everyone's time and energy towards keeping our communities clean, healthy and beautiful is appreciated beyond words. We also want to thank our sponsors, Business Council members, volunteers, local municipalities and local businesses who donated goods and services or made a monetary donation," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "Without these partnerships and the tireless work of the volunteers the Great American Cleanup of PA would not be

possible.”

In 2018, this annual event was held in partnership with support from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, Sheetz, ShopRite and The Fresh Grocer, Wawa, Inc., Weis Markets, Inc., BioHiTech, Giant Food Stores, Inc., Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority, Mahantango, Republic Services, Steel Recycling Institute and Wegmans.

To inquire about becoming a 2019 Great American Cleanup of PA sponsor, contact the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful office at 724-836-4121.

Registration for the 2019 Great American Cleanup of PA will open in January. During this period, events registered through www.gacofpa.org will receive free bags, gloves, and vests from PennDOT District offices, as supplies last. As part of this event, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association will sponsor Let’s Pick It Up PA – Everyday from Saturday, April 13th through Monday, May 6th. During Pick It Up PA Days, registered events will be able to take the trash collected during their cleanup to participating landfills for free or reduced cost.

About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful’s mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to make our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 133 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania’s roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit www.keeppabeautiful.org.