

A community resource for Pennsylvania residents. Funded by the Department of Environmental Protection.



Empowering Pennsylvanians to make our communities clean and *Beautiful*.

MESSAGE FROM KPB

Welcome to our first public edition of Beautiful Resources- an on-line toolbox for everything you need to keep your communities clean and beautiful! Quarterly (at least that is the goal), Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful will deliver this on-line toolkit directly to your inbox. It will include news and notes about national, statewide and local community improvement efforts you can plug into, program and event announcements, and of course grants and award information. As the state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, KPB aims to be the premier source for grassroots community improvement resources and this newsletter will enable us to reach more people and more organizations all working to achieve our shared vision- a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania.

Mike Rowe, the host of Dirty Jobs, recently raised a good question- one that we couldn't agree with more. *"How can we expect people to care about their carbon footprint when they don't even know what they're walking on? How relevant is global warming to a people who still throw their crap out the window?"* Well said Mr. Rowe- well said. Keep America Beautiful is all about behavior change, including getting people to stop "throwing their crap out the window" but that doesn't mean there isn't a role for community stewardship as well. Clean and beautiful communities aren't built in a day and bad behavior doesn't change overnight. KPB is in it for the long haul- we hope you are too! Thanks for everything you do to keep Pennsylvania beautiful. Please share this on-line resource with your friends and family. It takes a village and we invite you to join our effort!

Shannon Reiter

President, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

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KPB AFFILIATES

We have a diverse and active affiliate network. Visit keepabeautiful.org to find an affiliate near you. If your community is interested in becoming a Keep America Beautiful Affiliate, contact [Heidi Pedicone](#).

Go to Keep Pennsylvania's [Calendar of Events](#) for a list of events happening in your area.

NOTES AND NEWS

Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Great American Cleanup of PA was selected to receive a 2015 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. The Great American Cleanup of PA is an annual program empowering Pennsylvanians to make communities clean and beautiful by removing litter and trash along roadsides, streams, beaches, parks, forests and neighborhoods. [Read more.](#)

Great American Cleanup of PA 2015 Report

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has announced the results of the 2015 Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Great American Cleanup of PA. As in years past, all 67 counties participated in this annual community improvement event. In total, there were 4,931 events with 128,157 volunteers. Volunteers collected 300,186 bags, or 6,003,720 pounds of trash. They cleaned 11,943 miles of roads, railroad tracks, trails, waterways, and shorelines, and 6,422 acres of park and/or wetlands. Additionally, volunteers planted 13,050 trees, bulbs, and plants in an effort to keep Pennsylvania beautiful.

This annual event is held in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup and in partnership with support from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT, Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, the Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, Weis Markets, Inc., Wawa, Inc., Sheetz, ShopRite and The Fresh Grocer. Additional 2015 event supporters include: Steel Recycling Institute, Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority, Giant Eagle Inc., Giant Food Stores, Inc., Republic Services and Wegmans Food Markets.

"We are so grateful to our volunteers and sponsors who helped make the Great American Cleanup of PA successful again this

Grants

KPB Celebrates 25 Years with 25 Grants

KAB and Waste Management PA Grants

KAB and UPS PA Grants

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is a state affiliate of [Keep America Beautiful](#).

If you are interested in your community becoming a Keep America Beautiful Affiliate contact [Heidi Pedicone](#).

year.” said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. “Without volunteers on the ground coordinating and carrying out local events and sponsors supporting that work, it would not be a reality.”

A copy of the 2015 Great American Cleanup of PA final report will be available soon at gacofpa.org under photos and reports.

The [2016 Great American Cleanup of PA](#) will begin on March 1st and end on May 31st.

2015 Great American Cleanup of PA Video Contest Winner Chosen

Tri County Community Action received first place for their video of the Great Harrisburg Cleanup. They received a \$200 cash prize. [Read more.](#)

KPB Will Offer Overview of Illegal Dumping in PA to Magisterial District Justices

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is partnering with the Minor Judiciary Education Board to provide a Continuing Education Course to Magisterial District Judges on illegal dumping in Pennsylvania during the 2015-2016 Academic Year. KPB will offer a factual presentation on the way waste and recycling is managed in Pennsylvania, the scope of illegal dumping in Pennsylvania, environmental, social and economic impacts on our communities, as well as the results of a 2013 Public Opinion Poll related to enforcement, cleanup and prosecutions.

Illegal Dump Free PA Program Aids in Prosecutions

Surveillance support cameras on loan from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's IllegalDumpFreePA.org program provided key evidence in recent prosecutions in [Allegheny](#) and [Cambria](#) Counties.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Partners with Community Foundation for the Alleghenies and Lift Johnstown

With a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies and Lift Johnstown are working together to loan eligible grantees a surveillance camera kit which will be placed at undisclosed illegal dumping hot spots throughout Cambria, Somerset and Bedford counties.

The three organizations held an [informational meeting](#) open to the public on July 28. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful provided an overview of their Camera Loan Program grant that is available to Pennsylvania municipalities, local government and conservation organizations. The grant includes the loan of a set of three high quality, motion activated, covert security cameras that provide instant wireless transmission of site activity, photo documentation of license plates at speeds of up to 50 MPH, and clear photos of activity day or night, which are key to prosecutions.

Charting the Multiple Meaning of Blight

Keep America Beautiful releases [Charting the Multiple Meanings of Blight: A National Literature Review on Addressing the Community Impacts of Blighted Properties](#) (May 2015).

Conducted by the Vacant Properties Research Network, a project of the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech in collaboration with Econsult Solutions, Inc. This Review compiles existing research, findings and literature related to community impacts of blight including litter; illegal dumping; vacant, unkempt lots; abandoned buildings; buildings with code violations; abandoned vehicles in public right of way and on private property.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Receives REI Grant

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful received a grant from REI for community improvement projects in Bedford County. [Read more.](#)

Is Your Affiliate Ready for Change?

York County is finishing a year of CHANGE! The [Litter Letter Project](#) created by Artist Rachael Hatley, has had tremendous impact in York, increasing awareness of litter in local communities. It can do the same in your community! For more information contact [Tom Smith](#) at [Keep York Beautiful](#).

PROGRAMS

Illegal Dump Free PA Offers Camera Loan Program and Community Resources to fight Illegal Dumping

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has recently launched Illegal Dump Free PA, an online toolkit that offers public and stakeholder education materials, surveillance support grants and a municipalities toolkit.

The [Surveillance Support Program](#) includes the loan of a set of three high quality, motion activated, covert security cameras that provide instant wireless transmission of site activity, photo documentation of license plates at speeds of up to 50 MPH, and clear photos of activity day or

night, which are key to prosecutions. For a grant information contact [Heidi Pedicone](#).

The [Municipalities Toolkit](#) includes sample letters to legislators and district magistrates, as well as a sample media release, op-ed, and letter to the editor. All are customizable and can be used by local governments or local citizens to help bring the issue of illegal dumping the forefront.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Invites PA Residents to Participate in the International Coastal Cleanup

The 2015 [International Coastal Cleanup](#) is September 1st through October 31st. Any cleanup site is eligible since we all live in a watershed and all waterways flow into our coastal waters. To participate contact [Michelle Dunn](#), Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Program Coordinator.

In 2014, 12,809 volunteers from 50 counties canvassed their communities to remove 646,210 pounds of trash and debris from Pennsylvania's waterways and coastal regions during the International Coastal Cleanup event.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Adoption Program

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful [Adoption Program](#) compliments PennDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program and is an option for most types of local areas, such as municipal roads, communities, parks, neighborhood blocks, greenways, waterways and trails. School grounds can be adopted through the [Litter Free School Zone Program](#). For more information contact [Stephanie Larson](#).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Celebrates 25 Years by Providing 25 Grants for Community Improvements

In recognition of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's 25 year anniversary, the organization awarded [25 grants in 25 days](#) to local affiliates and other tax-exempt groups across the state. The grants provided up to \$1,000 for community improvement projects in their three focus areas of Prevent It, Clean It, or Keep It and were announced daily on Facebook from June 1 through 25. The winning projects are representative of all the different ways we can individually and collectively improve our communities including planting natives, restoring habitats, park restoration, river and community cleanups, special event recycling and so many more.

Pennsylvania Receives \$25,000 in KAB/Waste Management Think Green Grants

Pennsylvania received \$25,000 in grant awards from the national

nonprofit Keep America Beautiful, Inc. as part of a nationwide effort sponsored by Waste Management that encourages local solutions that improve community environments. [Read more.](#)

Keep America Beautiful and UPS Award Community Tree & Recovery Tree Planting Grants to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Affiliates

National nonprofit Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and UPS awarded local Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful affiliates, Keep Philadelphia Beautiful and Keep Westmoreland County Beautiful, each with a \$5,000 Community Tree and Recovery Tree Planting Grant. [Read more.](#)

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

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