



Contact: Heidi Pedicone
Tel: 724-836-4121
Email: hpedicone@keeppabeautiful.org
Web site: www.keeppabeautiful.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Mini-Grants Improved Watersheds throughout Pennsylvania *with funding from Keep America Beautiful and Anheuser-Busch*

(February 5, 2019) – With a grant awarded to [Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org) from Keep America Beautiful and Anheuser Busch, the nonprofit offered twenty mini-grants of up to \$500 each to groups throughout Pennsylvania for volunteer initiatives ranging from river cleanups to invasive species removal, all designed to improve the health and vitality of local watersheds. Grant funds awarded totaled \$95,000 nationally.

Pennsylvania grant recipients coordinated 75 events, including cleanups, stream stabilization projects, the creation of a rain garden, and a number of invasive species removal projects. Cleanups resulted in the proper disposal of 103,040 pounds of trash and 889 tires and were coordinated in conjunction with [Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's International Coastal Cleanup of PA](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org). Projects were completed in fall 2018.

Grant recipients include:

Allegheny County:

- Allegheny CleanWays – Allegheny River cleanup
- Allegheny Watershed Alliance/Allegheny County Conservation District – Watershed cleanup
- Montour Run Watershed – Montour Run Watershed cleanup
- South Side Chamber of Commerce - Historic South Side neighborhood cleanup

Beaver County:

- Tri-County CleanWays/Allegheny Aquatic Alliance - 7th annual Connoquenessing Creek cleanup

Blair County:

- Keep Blair County Beautiful - Construction of a rain garden to mitigate storm water erosion

Bucks County:

- Churchville Nature Center - Churchville Reservoir stream cleanup and invasive removal
- Silver Lake Nature Center - Silver Lake waterway cleanup

Centre County:

- Keep Centre County Beautiful - Bald Eagle State Park Cleanup

Clinton County:

- Clinton County CleanScapes - West Branch Susquehanna River/Greater Jersey Shore and Valley Creekbank Cleanup

Cumberland County:

- PA CleanWays of Cumberland County/Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association – Three creek cleanups

Erie County:

- Keep Erie County Beautiful – Cleanup of 18 sites

Huntingdon County:

- Keep Huntingdon County Beautiful – Juniata River cleanup

Lehigh County:

- Keep Allentown Beautiful - Little Lehigh Creek land stabilization

McKean County:

- PA CleanWays of McKean County - Kinzua Creek streambank stabilization

Monroe County:

- Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful - County-wide visitors bureau cleanup

Montgomery County:

- Upper Merion Township - Upper Merion stream cleanup

Philadelphia County:

- Keep Royal Gardens Beautiful - Cobbscreek/Darby Watershed litter and invasive removal

Union County:

Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation – Lewisburg River Town fall cleanups

Venango County:

PA CleanWays of Venango County - Allegheny River cleanup and stream stabilization

Keep Philadelphia Beautiful was independently awarded a grant to collaborate with the Philadelphia Water Department and social enterprise United by Blue to conduct the second annual river cleanup at the Heinz Wildlife Refuge in Southwest Philadelphia. The cleanup was a registered Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful event.

“Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is honored to receive this funding from Keep America Beautiful- Anheuser Busch that allowed us to provide resources at the local level, where it is needed. We are thankful to all the groups and their volunteers for improving our watersheds and neighborhoods, whether through cleanups, invasive plant removal or streambank stabilization,” said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. “Healthy watersheds and neighborhoods improve the quality of life for people and the overall environment.”

Anheuser-Busch is a founding partner of Keep America Beautiful and has supported the organization’s efforts for more than 65 years. The Keep America Beautiful/Anheuser-Busch Watershed Grant Program supports the water stewardship component of the company’s U.S. 2025 Sustainability Goals, which were recently announced. Anheuser-Busch’s sustainability efforts in the U.S. through 2025 include water stewardship, renewable electricity and carbon reduction, smart agriculture and circular packaging.

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.

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Photos: Top – Erie County; Bottom – Allentown streambank stabilization.

