

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Michelle Dunn, Program Coordinator  
Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful  
Tel: (724) 836-4121 x113  
Email: [mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org)  
Web site: [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org)



### Community Improvement Projects Completed with the help of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Fresh Paint Days Program Grants

This fall, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, in partnership with BEHR and The Home Depot Foundation, awarded eight community groups with paint and painting supplies enabling them to renew a community structure in need.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful received applications from a wide variety of community organizations for structures such as churches, art galleries, historic homes, community centers, playgrounds, a pool house and even a museum. This year's program recipients received 20 gallons of paint and painting supplies. Community partners and volunteers then got to work transforming their structure and improving their neighborhoods. "The theory is that one improvement can lead to another and eventually spur economic growth and development," explained Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. The organization has made the grants available to community groups across Pennsylvania for the past nine years through a partnership with BEHR Paint and the Home Depot Foundation.

"At BEHR Paint, we believe in doing the right thing and we're on a mission to make a difference in the communities where we live and work. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is an amazing organization and everyone in the community is enriched by their Fresh Paint Days efforts. We are proud to once again be partnering with them to help beautify communities across the state," said Drew Hatcher, Contract Management Director at BEHR Paint.

2019 Fresh Paint Days grant recipients include:



**Sunbury Revitalization, Inc., Sunbury, PA** – Custom Metal Coatings building is located along Chestnut Street, a thoroughfare that brings people into Sunbury. It is part of the Federally Designated Historic District and is one of the first buildings visitors and residents see when entering the town. "The Old Towne Neighborhood Group has been sprucing up multiple downtown facades this year. This project was a continuation of positive momentum. It is efforts like these that help people reconnect to their community and see that they can make a difference," stated Meghan Beck, Old Towne Neighborhood Committee Co-Chair.



**Tri-City Meals on Wheels, Greensburg, PA** – The Tri-City Meals on Wheels building houses a commercial kitchen, freezers, food storage space and a garage for the Tri-City Meals on Wheels vehicle. Volunteers prepare 170 meals a day for elderly and disabled individuals who reside in Greensburg, Jeannette, Penn, Harrison City and the surrounding neighborhoods.



**8<sup>th</sup> Police Division, Philadelphia, PA** - Serving the residents of Philadelphia and surrounding communities, the 'little white church on the hill' recently celebrated its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary making it the second oldest African Methodist Episcopal Church in the world. The church is a cornerstone of the community, providing a venue for back to school nights, various feeding programs, HIV testing, and many other outreach programs.



**Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 928, Folsom, PA** – The VFW Post has served the local community as a meeting space for countless outreach and support projects for both veterans and civilians alike. The Post's attached banquet hall has been the venue for hundreds of annual celebrations and charitable events. Joe Bartenbach, the groups Quartermaster, has reported that the new facelift and associated activity has increased membership and local involvement. "We couldn't have asked for a better outcome as our once dying VFW post has been resurrected with the help of BEHR, The Home Depot Foundation, and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful," stated Bartenbach.

"It is so inspirational to see what can be accomplished when community members work together. The transformations are a visible reminder of the pride that people have for the places they

live. Through our partnership with Behr and The Home Depot Foundation, we are honored to be a part of these community revitalization efforts," added Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

For a complete list of 2019 projects and pictures, visit [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org) and choose Keep It, then Fresh Paint Days.

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### **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 141 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org).