

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Provides Online Learning Materials with their Open Your Eyes to Litter Book Series

For kids k through 6 grade

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is reminding students, teachers and kids of all ages to visit their Facebook page for links to their educational activity books, Open Your Eyes to Litter. This series of five books provides hands-on learning for grades K through six and can supplement online learning during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

- **Open Your Eyes to Litter, Volume 1** - Explains the difference between intentional and accidental litter and who is affected by it. Also available in Spanish.
- **Open Your Eyes to Litter, Our Littered Past** – Illustrates litter and waste issues from prehistoric times to the present and explains how each culture managed or didn't manage their waste. Also available in Spanish.
- **Open Your Eyes to Litter, Think Before You Toss** – Explains ways trash can be properly disposed, what happens to trash once it is thrown away, and why you should reduce, reuse and recycle.
- **Open Your Eyes to Litter, In a Watershed** – Illustrates how litter and illegal dumping affect watersheds and the animals and people who live, work, and play there.
- **Open Your Eyes to Litter, Keeping Our Greenways Clean** – Explains how litter affects our greenways, how greenways function, and encourages both awareness and stewardship of greenways. This book illustrates the major greenways in Pennsylvania and shows how they connect cities and communities.

Each book addresses the PA Department of Education Academic Standards for Environment, Ecology and Geography and has a supplementary Teacher's Guide that suggests multi-discipline educational activities that expands on the information, ideas, and activities that are included in each book. The books and teachers guides are available to download at this link: <https://www.keeppabeautiful.org/prevent-it/education-resources/> or on the groups Facebook page.

"As an unintended consequence of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, state parks, state forests, game lands and communities all across Pennsylvania are seeing an increase in littering. Our books can help kids learn the huge impact litter has on our economy and the natural world and gives them ideas of what they can do about it," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "Our hope for the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day is that we all become more aware of how our individual choices and actions affect the world around us."

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful will provide technical assistance to parks and recreation departments, solid waste authorities, schools, local officials and others who wish to include the cost of printing and distribution of Open Your Eyes to Litter books in their budget. Contact Stephanie Larson at slarson@keeppabeautiful.org or 724-836-4121.

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About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 147 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit www.keeppabeautiful.org.