

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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)



---

## Clean Up Your Neighborhood with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Pick Up Pennsylvania



(OCTOBER 13, 2020) Litter affects the health and safety of humans and wildlife, is visually unpleasant and sends a message that no one cares. Once it reaches our waterways, it transports chemical pollutants, threatens aquatic life, and interferes with river, marine and coastal environments.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Pick Up Pennsylvania program can help you make a difference in your own community. Pick Up Pennsylvania is a statewide cleanup program that supports the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup. Cleanups registered with the program receive free trash bags, gloves and safety vests provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT, Keep America Beautiful, GLAD Products Company and the Ocean Conservancy, as supplies last.

The goal is to keep litter from reaching our oceans. Land-based cleanups, in addition to waterway cleanups, are encouraged since a significant portion of waterway pollution originates on land. Individuals, families, neighbors, students, civic organizations and local governments are all invited to participate. This year's program runs through November 30.

With an estimated 502 million pieces of litter on Pennsylvania roadways, according to the [Pennsylvania Litter Research Study](#) conducted by the Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, there is plenty to go around.

“Picking up litter, even if it’s not currently in or near the water, helps keep it from ending up there. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the great fall weather. It’s the perfect time to organize or participate in a litter sweep, before the leaves drop and camouflage the litter,” explained Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. “It’s something that everybody can do. It’s a great feeling and the results are immediate.”

The group suggests doing a cleanup either solo or with household family members and encourages adhering to the recommendations for social distancing. All that is needed is a trash bag, gloves and bright colored clothing, if you are cleaning up near a roadway.

To host or join a cleanup event near you visit [keeppabeautiful.org](http://keeppabeautiful.org) and choose Pick Up Pennsylvania. Questions can be answered by Michelle Dunn, Pick Up Pennsylvania Program Coordinator, at 877-772-3673 ext. 113 or [mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org).

Current 2020 Pick Up Pennsylvania supporters include: Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania funded by the NiSource Charitable Foundation, Coca-Cola, The GIANT Company, Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, Sheetz, Wawa, Weis Markets, Mahantango Enterprises, Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, Wegmans Food Markets, Giant Eagle, Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority, Luminant, a subsidiary of Vistra Corporation and Republic Services.

If you are interested in becoming a Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful program supporter contact Barb Christner at 724-836-4121 or [bchristner@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:bchristner@keeppabeautiful.org).

###

### **About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful**

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's vision is a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has worked with hundreds of thousands of volunteers across the state to pick up nearly 147 million pounds of trash from Pennsylvania's roadways, waterways, greenways, vacant lots, forestlands and other community spaces. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's core programming focuses on litter and illegal dump prevention, cleanup, community greening, and proper waste handling and sustainable practices. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful works with many partnering organizations on the state and grassroots level to accomplish our goal of a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is the state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., the nation's largest volunteer-based community action and education organization. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org).