## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful celebrates America Recycles Day by reminding Pennsylvania to first, Reduce, Reuse and then Recycle!

(November 3, 2021) Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful wants to remind Pennsylvanians that the easiest way to lessen our environmental impact is to use what we already have available to us. It is more sustainable to maximize the value of an item by using it to its fullest extent and repairing it when possible. Only then, should an item be disposed of properly by recycling, if possible, or thrown away.

Reducing the amount of new items purchased reduces waste, decreases the need for raw materials and therefore lessens the impact on our environment and climate. Making it a priority to purchase products made with recycled content and with less packaging also reduces waste and costs.

America Recycles Day is a program of Keep America Beautiful, held on and around November 15, to educate and encourage individuals to be more mindful of what they consume, where and how to properly dispose of items, with an emphasis on recycling and to pledge to be more mindful of recycling correctly in their everyday lives. This year, America Recycles Day is focusing on individual action, highlighting small actions we can all take to collectively make a positive impact on our environment.

"We invite all residents and whole communities to recognize the economic, environmental, and social benefits associated with reducing, reusing, repurposing and recycling and to continue to be mindful of how our waste is handled 365 days a year whether it's at school, home or whole communities," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "When combined, our small, individual actions can make a significant environmental impact."

Contact your local Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful affiliate for more information about proper disposal in your area by going to <a href="keeppabeautiful.org">keeppabeautiful.org</a> and choosing Affiliate Network. To find collection and recycling events near you, visit <a href="Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Calendar of Events">Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Calendar of Events</a> or contact your local County Recycling Coordinator.

For Reducing and Reusing Basics, visit <u>United States Environmental Protection Agency</u>.

In support of America Recycles Day, all Pennsylvanian's are encouraged to take the #BeRecycled pledge to learn how waste is handled in your community, reduce individual waste produced and encourage others to do the same.

## **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 148 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.