

# THE PALS PRINTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA PALS AND THE ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PROGRAM

SUMMER QUARTER 2022 • VOLUME 45

## DIRECTORS NOTES: "JUST WHAT IS 35 YEARS?"

As we approach the 35th Anniversary of the Alabama Coastal Cleanup AND are in the 35th Anniversary year of Alabama PALS, I spent a few hours examining just exactly what 35 years means. Not only was I humbled and proud of what the Alabama Coastal Cleanup and YOUR organization has accomplished during this period, but I was amazed at just what has transpired during that time period! I think after you see the list below of the things that have transpired over the 35 year period, you will be not only be shocked, but you will be more than proud of what you, through your dedication, stewardship and support have accomplished! You Are Truly REMARKABLE!

**1987** The Dow Jones Industrial Average has largest daily percentage drop in history.

**1988** Concerns for terrorist attacks in South Korea at Olympics

**1989** The Berlin Wall comes down.

**1990** Nelson Mandela is released from prison in South Africa

**1991** Operation Desert Storm

**1992** Bill Clinton elected President

**1994** The O.J. Simpson saga

**1997** Princess Diana dies in car crash

**1998** Y2K Scare

**2000** George W. Bush elected President

**2001** The World Trade Center attacks

**2005** Hurricane Katrina

**2007** Barry Bonds breaks Home Run record

**2008** President Obama elected President

**2011** Osama Bin Ladin killed

.....and the list could go on!

*Continued on page 3*

## 2022 ALABAMA PALS MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Form/Application can be submitted online at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

☐ Sustaining Partner: \$500

☐ Sustaining Steward: \$ 250

☐ Litter Free Leader: \$100

☐ PALS Advocate: \$50

☐ PALS Partner: \$25

(Membership Dues are paid Annually)

Alabama PALS is a 501C3 non-profit organization.

Your contribution to Alabama PALS is tax deductible

Please Make Checks Payable to:

Alabama PALS, 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36106



*"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"*

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*spencer@alpals.org*

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*State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator*

*Christy@alpals.org*

**Jamie Mitchell**

*Clean Campus State Coordinator*

*Social Media Director*

*Jamie@alpals.org*

**Phone: 334-263-7737 or**

**In-State Watts 800-ALA-PALS**

**Fax # 334-832-9400**

**WEBSITE: [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)**

**340 North Hull Street**

**Montgomery, AL 36104**

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### ALABAMA PALS MISSION STATEMENT

*"Alabama Communities Working  
Together for A Cleaner and  
More Beautiful Alabama"*

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

*BY JEFF HELMS, CHAIRMAN, ALABAMA PALS*

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Every day I'm reminded of the importance of PALS.

Fast-food bags, beer cans and water bottles litter the ditches on my daily commute. The scenery along 21 miles of county roads and city streets is marred by dirty white paper, dented silver aluminum and crumpled brown paper.

It's always bad in winter — when the dying grass and bare trees reveal the laziness of passersby. Since COVID, it seems worse.

Reduced indoor dining and increased carryout orders are part of the problem. People eat while driving and don't want to leave uneaten food and soiled wrappers in their cars. So, they toss their trash — not in a can but out the window.

The labor shortage may also be to blame. Counties, municipalities and sanitation companies have trouble finding and keeping workers. The result: overflowing garbage cans and no one — except PALS volunteers — to clean the medians and roadways.

Meanwhile, thriving sectors of the economy also increase litter. Waste and debris overflow from trucks and construction sites. Cardboard boxes from mail-order deliveries clog dumpsters and spill onto the land.

Then there's the pandemic itself. Sickness and social distancing have hampered the work of some PALS groups. Sadly, we've also lost loyal members of the PALS family to the disease.

Underlying all these issues, however, is COVID's toll on emotional health. Anxiety and pessimism plague society. We are facing another pandemic — one of hopelessness.

People are tired. They're tired of the disease, of economic uncertainty, of social unrest and of political tension.

I believe one symptom of this national malaise is litter. When folks are tired, angry and depressed, appearance doesn't matter as much — not personally, and not environmentally.

Adding one more piece of trash to an already littered roadside is like wearing a wrinkled shirt and worn-out sweatpants to the grocery store — it doesn't seem to matter.

All these factors make the work of Alabama PALS more vital than ever. As we dig out from the effects of COVID, our organization faces a huge task.

Yes, it often falls on us to clean up the mess left by others. But more importantly, we have an opportunity to help rekindle feelings of accomplishment, hope and community for our neighbors.

Nothing heals the heart quite like service — especially when the results are visible. Few things unite people like working together. And, seeing nature refreshed following a cleanup can help restore optimism for both volunteers and potential litterers.

As we begin a new year — take heart! You are important. The work of Alabama PALS is important.

Don't be discouraged by the size of the task! You never know who will be inspired by your simple act of service.

*—Jeff*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*Continued from page 1*

There are SO many to thank for what you have meant to Alabama PALS and the Alabama Coastal Cleanup! There is no way that I could effectively name each person that has been the arms, legs and backbone of this wonderful organization or the Alabama Coastal Cleanup in this one message, but I want each of you to know that because of your friendship, dedication to a common goal, your commitment and a willingness to be a part of something larger than ourselves, we can look back and see how extremely blessed we have been to have played a role in making Alabama a better place for future generations. It is indeed an honor to work with each of you each day and you have surely blessed my life with your friendship, leadership, prayers and support during these 35 years. Thank you!

To date, over 650 tons of litter have been reported as being picked up during the 2022 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup. Please make sure that your city, volunteer group or county has reported your totals for the Spring Cleanup! As you will see inside of the newsletter, the participation was once again remarkable! Thank you to each of you that made the 2022 Spring Cleanup such a huge success! Along with the cities, counties, volunteer groups and other, I want to thank the Alabama Community College System campuses for their commitment and participation in 2022!

Included in the newsletter, you will find the Nomination Forms for the Alabama PALS Governors Awards Program, as well as the Nomination Forms for the 2021-22 Alabama PALS Clean Campus Awards. Please take time to nominate those that continue to make a difference to your local and statewide efforts. We look forward to seeing you and your volunteers at the 2022 Governors Awards Program on November 16, 2022.

The Alabama Clean Campus program and the Alabama Adopt A Mile are gearing up for what looks to be a banner year! Please give Christy and Jamie a call to let them know how they can best serve you and your communities.

In closing, thank you again for making these 35th Anniversaries possible. As it has been for these 35 years, we are proud and honored to work with each of you, and we thank you for ALL that your organization has accomplished due to your unwavering support and dedication.



### MESSAGE FROM:

*CHRISTY WADDELL, State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator*

The Adopt-A-Mile and Adopt-A-Stream programs are off to a great start this year. We are happy to report that we have already ordered 50 sets of new signs in 2022! We hope to hit the 100 mark by the end of the year. I encourage you to look around your area and see if there is a mile or stream that you could adopt. Our volunteers are what help keep Alabama beautiful. Please consider today!

## PALS SUSTAINING CORPORATE SPONSORS



**The "Don't Drop It On  
Alabama" Spring Cleanup**

**The Alabama Clean  
Campus Program**

**Adopt-A-Mile**

**Adopt-A-Stream**

**Alabama Coastal Cleanup**

**Adopt-A-Beach**

**Litter Education Curriculum**

**Annual Governor's Awards**

**Statewide Chapter Network**

## ALDOT REGIONAL ENGINEERS AND AREA OFFICES

### CURTIS W. VINCENT

North Regional Engineer  
256-505-4956

### DEJARVIS LEONARD

East Central  
Regional Engineer  
256-234-8401

### STEVEN GRABEN

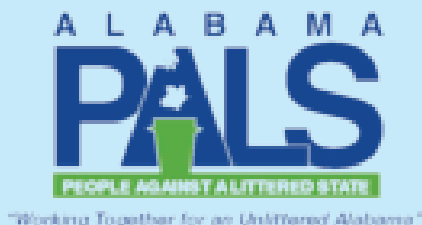
SE Regional Engineer  
334-353-6851

### MATTHEW J. ERICKSEN

SW Regional Engineer  
251-470-8204

### JAMES D. BROWN

West Central  
Regional Engineer  
205-562-3100



## MESSAGE FROM:

JAMIE MITCHELL – Clean Campus State Coordinator

Back to School 2022 is upon us, and we are so very excited as things are finally pretty close to “normal!” Last schoolyear, I was able to visit many schools in the spring as Covid guidelines loosened, and I am hopeful the momentum continues into this fall! The Clean Campus Program is ready to work with you this school year in whatever way works best for your school. I am hopeful that most of my visits this year will be in-person, but I am still available for Zoom calls when needed. The Clean Campus video is always an option, also, and can be found on our website.

The Clean Campus Scrapbook Contest is in full swing with entries due on October 12th. We understand if your scrapbooks are still not as robust as years past, but send them in anyway! Please include any cleanups you conducted, any campus beautification projects, recycling projects or anything else that made your campus shine. Remember, first prize is \$1,000, second is \$750 and third is \$500 for your

*Continued on page 6*

## CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FORM

Either fill out form and mail to Alabama PALS Attn: Jamie Mitchell

340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 or apply online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)

Current Member? \_\_\_\_ Y or \_\_\_\_ N      Circle One:    City School    County School    Private School

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Participating School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Our school has reviewed the requirements for the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program and is therefore applying to be a participating school in this statewide program.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Contact Person)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRINCIPAL PERMISSION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal), give consent for \_\_\_\_\_

school to participate in the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program for the 2021-2022 school year.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal) Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PARTICIPATION FORM

Please Complete and Return to The PALS Office  
340 North Hull Street / Montgomery, AL 36104

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Group or Individual on Sign \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address of Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

State Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Highway # \_\_\_\_\_ County Highway or Road # \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Sign: Mile Marker# \_\_\_\_\_ to Mile Marker # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Currently Participating

\_\_\_\_\_ Not Participating at This time and want sign taken down

\_\_\_\_\_ Participating But Sign Needs Replacing or Repaired

### Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for Highway Adoption - State/Federal

City \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Highway section(s) you propose to adopt:

(minimum of one mile)

State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_

Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_

State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_

Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature of Applicant

Recommended for Approval:

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

#### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Form/Application can be submitted  
online at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org)

### County Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for County Road Adoption

County \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Road section(s) you propose to adopt:

(minimum of one mile)

County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_

Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_

County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_

Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature of Applicant

Recommended Approval:

County Engineer

Chairman, County Commission

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

#### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Form/Application can be submitted  
online at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org)

## MESSAGE FROM:

*JOHN COOPER*

*Director, Alabama Department  
of Transportation*

The Alabama Department of Transportation and Alabama PALS are dedicated to keeping our state's road and waterways clean. The over 30-year partnership between our organizations has brought together state government, non-profit groups and volunteers to keep Alabama beautiful with our Adopt-a-Mile Program and Alabama's Coastal Cleanup.

The men, women and particularly young people who volunteer their time to helping keep Alabama's environment beautiful and roads clean are the most important factor in our efforts. When these dedicated volunteers remove hundreds of tons of litter from highways every year it saves Alabama taxpayers millions of dollars in cleanup costs. The impact on the environment is immeasurable. Since the 1980s, over 100,000 volunteers have participated in Coastal Cleanup, 6,500 miles of coastline have been cleaned and over 1.7 million pounds of debris have been removed.

The roads we drive everyday are also the roads people visiting from all over the country see when they make their way to our stunning coast or to our many beautiful towns and cities. We may overlook and take for granted the scenic views we get when we're driving to work or running errands, but visitors to our great state do not. Let's continue doing everything we can – and to encourage others to join us – to help make a positive lasting impression by being good stewards in how we dispose of our trash. It's our responsibility to protect Alabama's environment.

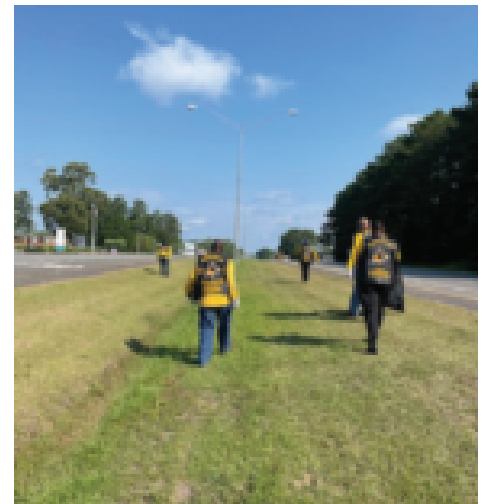
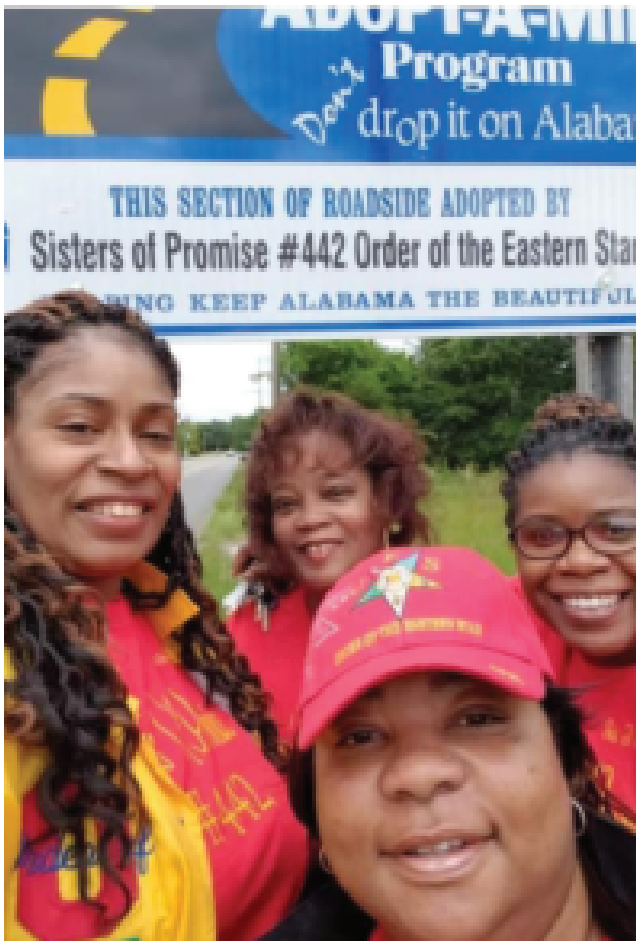
On behalf of ALDOT, thank you for your commitment to our ongoing battle against litter. Together, we're making a difference.

John Cooper is the director of the Alabama Department of Transportation.

# ADOPT-A-MILE



## SOP#442 Helping to clean up Alabama



school, so it is well worth the effort! All forms can be found in this newsletter and online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org).

Please also remember to enroll or renew your membership in the Clean Campus Program for the 2022-2023 school year. Schools may participate in the Clean Campus Program by simply enrolling online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org). The program is completely free to all Alabama schools thanks to ALFA, The Alabama Farmer's Cooperative and Coca-Cola. If I may answer any questions or provide any assistance at all, feel free to give me a call or email at (334) 263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org).

I am really looking forward to seeing full classrooms and auditoriums this year! It is going to be a GREAT year to be a part of the Clean Campus Program!

**ALABAMA PALS/ALFA/AFC/COCA-COLA  
CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM  
STATEWIDE COMPETITION**

**2021-2022 AWARDS NOMINATION FORM**

***NOTE: Scrapbooks are Encouraged***

Name of Participating School \_\_\_\_\_

Address of School \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address for Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Did Clean Campus Committee meet at least once each month to evaluate the progress of the program? \_\_\_\_\_

How many campus clean-up events did school have? \_\_\_\_\_

Did school participate in monthly campus litter pick up? \_\_\_\_\_

Did school hold campus cleanup in April to coincide with Alabama PALS Annual Spring Cleanup? \_\_\_\_\_ N/A for this school year \_\_\_\_\_

Does school participate in some form of environmental education program? \_\_\_\_\_

Does school participate in an ongoing recycling program? \_\_\_\_\_

**First Place School – \$ 1,000.00 • Second Place School – \$750.00 • Third Place School – \$500.00  
Nominate Your School Today!!!!!!**

When answering the following questions, please attach additional sheets if necessary. Also, please attach any documentation (photos, etc.).

What was the single most important reason that your school made the decision to enroll in the Clean Campus Program? \_\_\_\_\_

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What goals did you set for your school to achieve in the Clean Campus Program? \_\_\_\_\_

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List all events held to promote the Clean Campus Program, include the date of each one. \_\_\_\_\_

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How has participation in the Clean Campus Program influenced the student body and/or faculty? \_\_\_\_\_

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What influence, if any, do you think that the school has had on the surrounding community since becoming a member of the Clean Campus Program. \_\_\_\_\_

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Please give a brief (no more than 2 page) narrative explaining why your school should be selected to receive one of the scholarships.

**All Nomination Forms and Attachments Are Due In The PALS Office by October 12, 2022!**

# SELMA CITY SCHOOLS

## JOIN THE CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM

BY JAMIE MITCHELL



*Students from Payne Elementary*

Earlier this school year, I had the pleasure of conducting a Zoom call with Ms. Ozella Ford, Chief Academic Officer of Selma City Schools, as well as several Principals from schools around Selma. I explained the Clean Campus Program to them and how it could easily integrate into existing school clubs and academic classes. We discussed options for getting the “anti-litter” message to their students, and they were happy to have several options.

Shortly after our meeting, I met in person with the scholars from Payne Elementary school, and I was able to conduct a Zoom call with students from Edgewood Elementary. Some of the other schools have chosen to watch our Clean Campus Teaching Video, which you may find on our website. We are excited to have multiple ways to share the message so that schools may truly customize the

Clean Campus Program to fit the needs of their campus.

I also encouraged each school to check out our online curriculum to find ideas to integrate into their classrooms. Our curriculum ideas contain ways for students to think through problems such as how to eliminate solid waste that goes to our landfills and ways to keep litter off the streets. Any school may access our online curriculum by visiting [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org).

We are so happy to have Selma City Schools onboard with the Clean Campus Program! We look forward to seeing the progress they make this year. If a school near you would like to learn more, please have them contact me for a Zoom or in-person visit at 334-263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). I'm happy to answer any questions about the Clean Campus Program and help your local school get up and running! 🌞

# ARCADIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## JOINS THE CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM

BY JAMIE MITCHELL



*Students from Arcadia Elementary*

Arcadia Elementary School in Tuscaloosa County is new to the Clean Campus Program this year! This fall, I had the opportunity to meet with the school's after-school program and speak to them about littering in our state and their community. Students from ages k-4 up to fifth grade came to the presentations, and they had a lot of positive feedback on how they could make a difference!

In our talks, I encouraged the students of Arcadia Elementary to make one small decision each day that can have lasting impacts. Switching to a reusable bottle instead of one-time-use plastic bottles would make a huge impact if large numbers of students made that choice. Picking up one piece of litter every day would add up to thousands of pieces of litter if the students all made that choice. It really does make a huge impact when the children begin to realize we are all in this together!

Tuscaloosa County has wonderful resources for recycling and litter control, so I encouraged them to get involved in community initiatives that are already in place.

In April, every county in the state receives bags from Alabama PALS for the annual "Don't Drop it on Alabama" spring cleanup to allocate to any town, community or neighborhood conducting a cleanup. PALS also provides bags to all schools that are members of the Clean Campus Program for campus cleanups. Be sure to check with your local County Commissioner if you are interested in receiving bags for your school or community to have a cleanup.

We are excited to see how the students of Arcadia Elementary develop into lifelong stewards of our environment! The Clean Campus Program is the perfect "springboard" for schools with the desire to educate their students further on how to keep our state litter-free. If a school near you would like to learn more, please have them contact me for a Zoom or in-person visit at (334) 263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). I'm happy to answer any questions about the Clean Campus Program and help your local school get up and running! 🌻



# CHAMBERS COUNTY

## JOINS THE CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM

BY JAMIE MITCHELL



*Students in Chambers County were able to hear our anti-litter message just in time for the spring "Don't Drop it on Alabama" Cleanup.*

In December 2021, I was contacted by Chambers County Commissioner Sam Bradford regarding a new countywide anti-litter initiative. I attended a meeting soon thereafter with several leaders from the community, including School Superintendent Casey Chambley. Mr. Chambley was fully onboard with this initiative and made it a priority to have the Clean Campus Program presented to every school in the county.

Over a two-week period in February, I visited all 11 schools and presented the presentation multiple times at some locations. Thanks to the leadership of Chambers County, thousands of students were able to hear our anti-litter message just in time for the spring "Don't Drop it on Alabama" Cleanup! All schools made a commitment to have at least one campus cleanup, and Alabama PALS provided bags and grabbers to the county to help the schools with their efforts. I also communicated with the two local private schools so that they could work the Clean Campus Program into their spring curriculum, as well.

In addition to the presentations, Chambers County had posters made to display at the schools with the tag line, "Be a Part of the Solution, Not the Pollution!" These posters helped reinforce the message that was delivered earlier in the semester. The county also has been promoting the Adopt-A-Mile program as a part of their anti-litter initiative, so we are looking forward to having several new miles adopted there in 2022!

It is always a pleasure to see leadership come together in a county to tackle a problem and work in unison to find a solution. If litter is a problem near you, please contact us to work on a plan to help make it a thing of the past! Visit [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org) to learn more! Schools are always a great place to start with litter prevention and education. If a school near you would like to learn more, please have them contact me for a Zoom or in-person visit at (334) 263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). As always, all Alabama PALS programs are free to the end user thanks to our state partnerships and corporate sponsors. 🌻



# Farmers Lead On Litter Control



*Litter is a pricey problem for farmers like Joy and Harry Noble of Macon County. To help bring awareness to and combat the issue, the couple serves on the Alabama PALS (People Against a Littered State) board, led by Spencer Ryan, left.*

By Jeff Helms

Windblown plastic bags, sauce-laden Styrofoam and discarded drink bottles mar the landscape along Alabama roads. Litter – made worse by COVID-fueled carryout orders – is more than an eyesore for Alabama farmers. It's a pricey problem.

"When folks dump stuff on your land, you've got to clean it up," said Macon County farmer Harry Noble, who serves on the board of Alabama PALS (People Against a Littered State) with his wife, Joy. "When a Bush Hog runs over litter, it makes a thousand pieces instead of just a few. There could be a tire or something in there, and it will tear up equipment. Plastic can wrap around shafts, burn bearings and damage seals."

Litter's impact on farmers, forest landowners and rural families led to PALS' creation in 1987 by then-State Forester Bill Moody. Archives discovered during the Alabama Farmers Federation's centennial celebration last year, however, showed the organization's fight against illegal dumping began decades earlier.

"Back when we started, illegal dumping was a huge problem, whether it was on a private landowner's property or at a state park," said PALS Executive Vice President Spencer Ryan. "We worked with the Alabama Farmers Federation, the governor's office and the Legislature to pass bills so law enforcement can use prima facie evidence for prosecution. It really helped us clean up the illegal dump situation in Alabama."

Prima facie, meaning "on first impression," allows names, addresses and other identifying information found in litter to be used as evidence.

While enforcing litter laws is important, Joy said community involvement and education have made the most difference.

"A lot of farmers and forest landowners get involved with organizations like PALS to try to raise awareness," she said. "We start in elementary schools so young children really learn how wrong it is to litter."

The Federation and Alabama Farmers Cooperative co-sponsor PALS' Clean Campus program, which engages students in anti-littering and recycling

activities. Ryan said over half of Clean Campus schools are rural. In addition, almost 900 miles of roads are part of the Adopt-A-Mile program. In April, PALS sponsored the Don't Drop It On Alabama Spring Cleanup and will hold its 35th Coastal Cleanup in September.

"When we started, I think we had four counties involved in our first cleanup," Ryan recalled. "Because of the Farmers Federation and other sponsors, we now have a statewide program. It's overwhelming to think about how far we've come."

The Nobles have seen how a few committed volunteers can transform a community. Over 30 years ago, Joy printed flyers inviting neighbors to meet one Saturday to clean up a strip of Highway 80. About two dozen people showed up. Soon, Harry was using farm equipment to help volunteers fill up to 10 roll-off dumpsters during Macon County's recurring third Saturday cleanups.

"One thing I've noticed is the cleaner the place, the cleaner it stays," Joy said. "The more trash you find in an area, the more trash is going to be there. When people tell me, 'I can't clean up where I live because they're just going to bring it back,' I tell them my experience has been once you clean it up, people don't litter as badly."

The Nobles said farmers and rural residents can help fight litter by getting involved in a local PALS chapter and being careful about their own trash – especially bags and boxes, which can fly out of truck beds when unsecured.

"Take pride in the land," Harry said. "It's a reflection on the kind of farming operation you run."

Joy said landowners and concerned citizens shouldn't accept litter as inevitable.

"Don't get discouraged," she said. "Keep working to keep it clean. Eventually, people are going to pay attention; they're going to be concerned about the Earth. You can see farmers are good stewards. Where we live is beautiful."

Visit [alpals.org](http://alpals.org) to learn more. ■

## BISHOP STATE

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the successful Spring 2022 Clean-up in our community around Bishop State Community College!

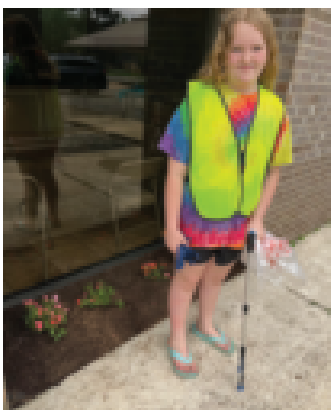


## MARSHALL COUNTY

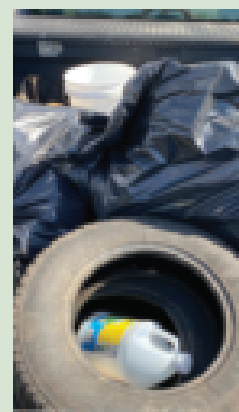
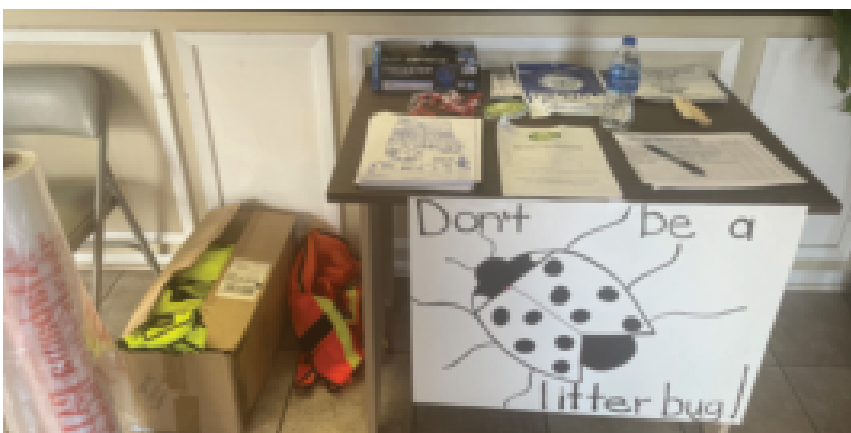
March 26, 2022 MCPALS provided a free Shred Day for anyone who had documents to be shredded. We were able to Shred 1,240 pounds of paper.



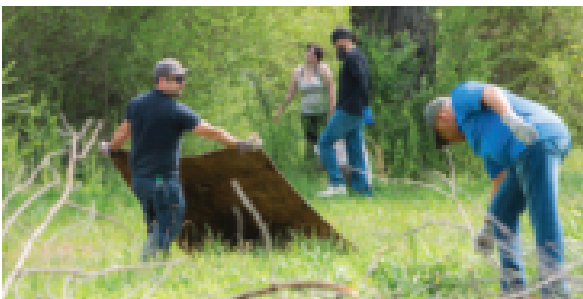
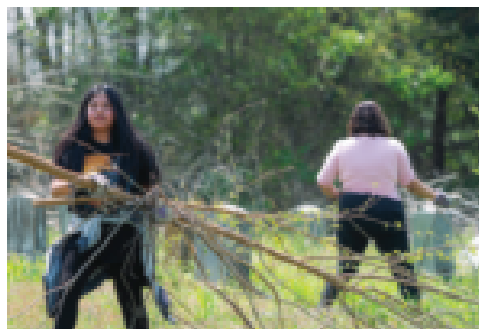
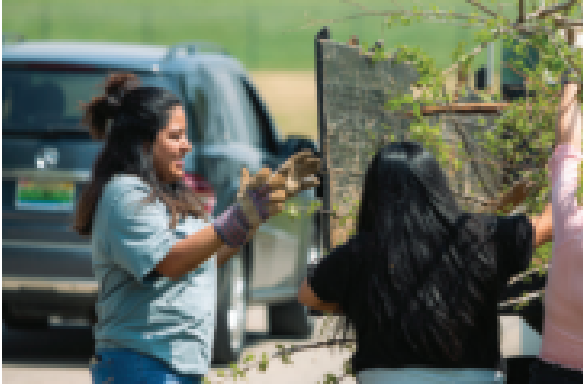
## COFFEEVILLE



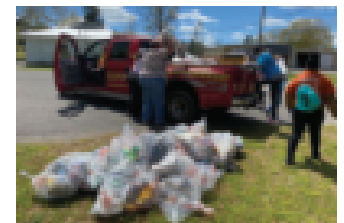
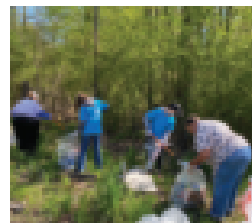
## POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS



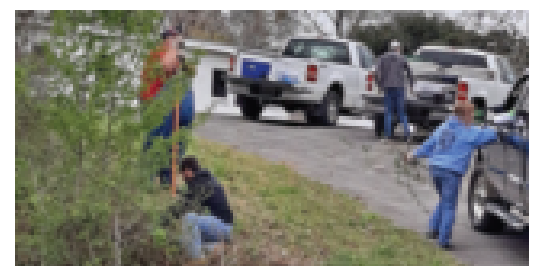
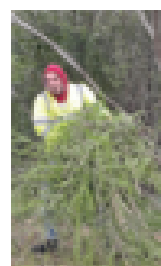
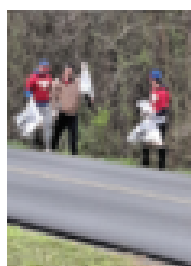
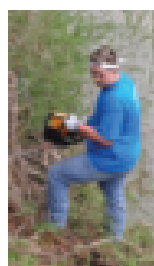
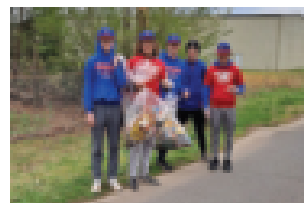
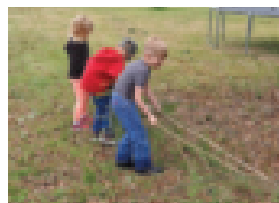
## CALHOUN CC



## CONCORD-ALLIANCE



## CORDOVA





## EDGEWATER



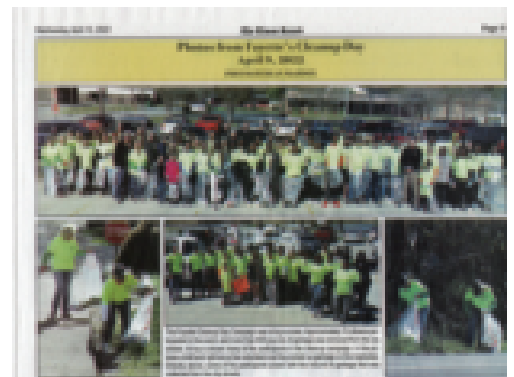
## ENTERPRISE STATE



## EUTAW



## FAYETTE



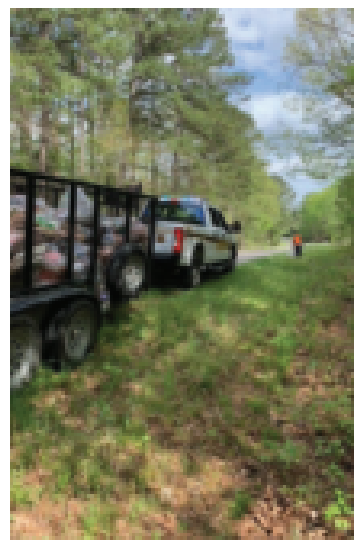
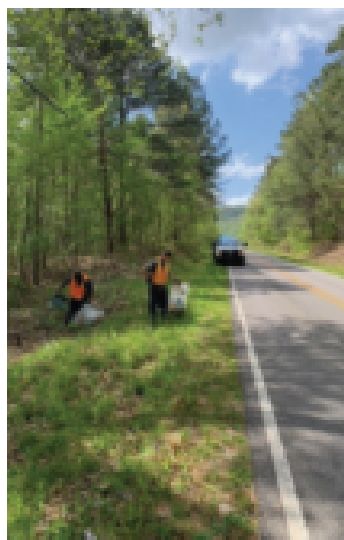
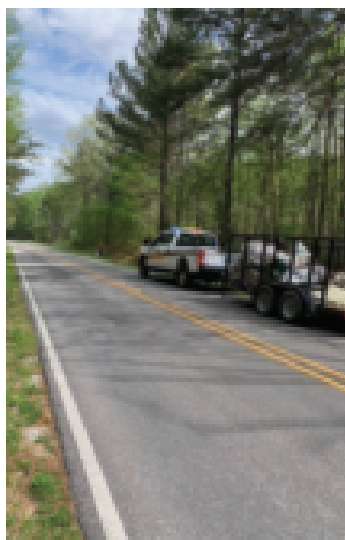
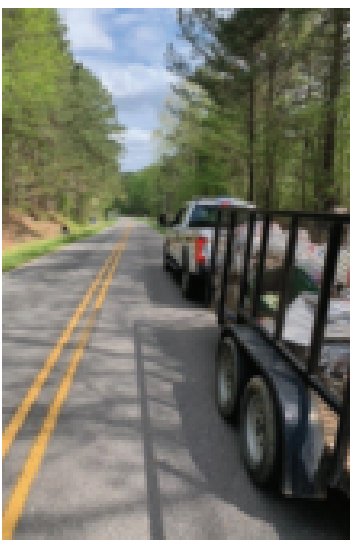
## MARSHALL COUNTY DAR



## GRAYSON VALLEY



## ST. CLAIR COUNTY







## MOBILE COUNTY

Mobile County Environmental Enforcement held 3 community "Operation Clean Sweep" events from March 5, through April 23, 2022. 811 acceptable loads of junk and rubbish were collected to include 94,686 pounds of scrap metal, 17,723 pounds electronics and 622 tires collected for recycling in an effort to keep Mobile County beautiful.

Additionally, two families walked and removed over 10 bags of litter.

The "Operation Clean Sweep" event held at Bay Road Saturday, May 7 for the Fowl River community was a huge success. 186 acceptable loads of junk, rubbish, electronics, and tires were collected for recycling and disposal.

The American Legion Club 31 held an Adopt-A-Mile right of way clean up, also. Club 31 walked Hwy. 193 from mile markers 13-14.

The citizens of Fowl River also had great success in their "Operation Clean Sweep" event. Greg Richardson from Public Works Dept. participated by unloading rubbish from vehicles, and Richard Kimbrell was the winner of the free tarp for attending the event.



## 2022 Dates to Remember

### September 15

Alabama Coastal Cleanup Materials and Supplies Distribution Day  
5 Rivers Delta Center

### September 17

35th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup

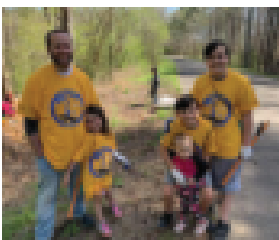
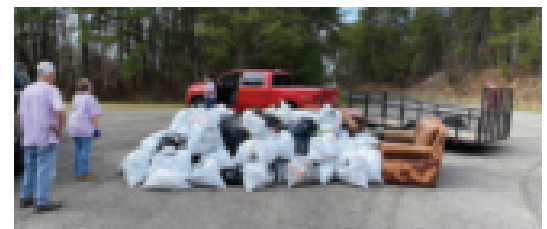
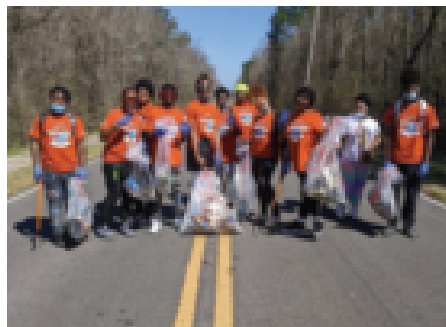
### October 12

Alabama PALS Governors Awards Nomination Forms Due In PALS Office

### November 16

Alabama PALS Governor's Awards Program Renaissance Hotel / Montgomery

## JEFFERSON COUNTY



# SPRING CLEAN-UP 2022



## REID STATE



Garrett Payton (Coca-Cola United) Dr. Tangela Purifoy (Reid State Community College), and Spencer Ryan during presentation of \$1000 check to Reid State Community College for most litter picked up by ACCS school in 2021.

## SOUTHERN UNION



## THE 2022 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 • 12 Noon  
Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery, Alabama



Make Plans Now to Join Us On This Special PALS Day!  
Bring Your Chapter Leaders, Volunteers and Others That  
Share A Vision Of A Cleaner and More Beautiful Alabama.

*We Look Forward to Having You And Your  
Guests Join Us For This Special Awards Day.*

## 2022 GOVERNORS AWARDS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

1. Competition is open to ALL Alabama City and Counties
2. Nominations for outstanding anti-litter projects by individuals, organizations, businesses, civic groups, PALS Chapters and Affiliates, schools, etc. will be accepted in following categories.  
**Vulcan Volunteer of the Year • County • City • Special Media**  
**Coca Cola "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Award • Education • Judicial**  
**Law Enforcement • Business and Industry • Adopt A Mile • Adopt A Stream**  
**Don Hines Memorial Award • Jean McRady Service Award • Coastal Cleanup Award**
3. Nominations should include name of nominee, name of person nominating, description and classification of nominee, location of nominee's anti litter activity, size of area affected, number of individuals involved, length of time of project, and a narrative of work accomplishments.
4. Final judging for the statewide awards will be determined only from nominations forwarded to the PALS Office.
5. Nominations MUST be submitted to the PALS office at 340 North Hull St., Montgomery, AL 36104 by October 12, 2022.
6. Statewide winners will be recognized with a handsome plaque to be presented at the PALS Governors Awards Program on **November 16, 2022.**

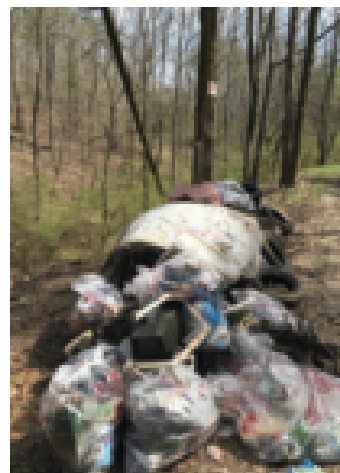
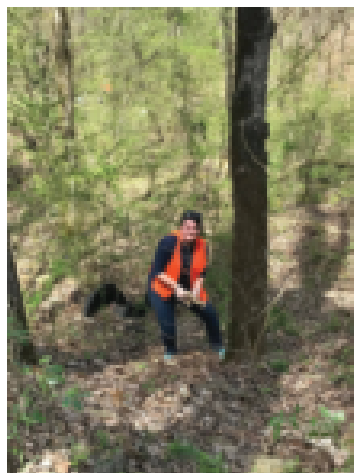
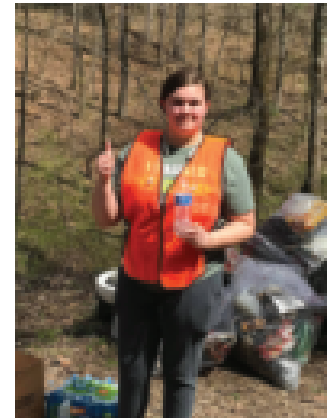
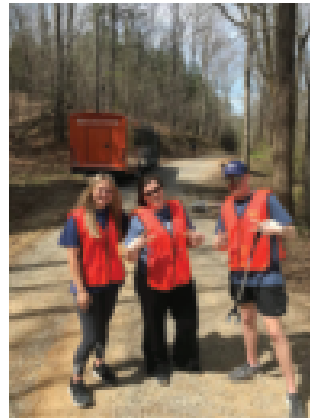
***We wish you and your Groups the Best and  
Look Forward to Recognizing Each of Your Winners!!!!***







WALLACE STATE





"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"

## Alabama PALS Newsletter

People Against A Littered State

340 North Hull St.  
Montgomery AL 36104

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Montgomery, AL  
Permit No. 571

## Alabama's Coastal Cleanup

### Get the Trash out of the Splash!

On Saturday, September 17, 2022, thousands of volunteers will head towards the beaches, lakes, and streams of Alabama to remove trash and debris on land and under the water. Volunteers of all ages will form the largest one-day volunteer event in the state on behalf of clean oceans and waterways — Alabama's Coastal Cleanup.

During last year's cleanup, many dedicated volunteers braved rainy weather and were able to remove 26,336 pounds of debris. We are proud of our volunteers and look forward to a successful 2022 cleanup!

### Pollution prevention is the key

Alabama's Coastal Cleanup isn't just about pollution cleanup — it's also about pollution prevention. The event focuses on educating and empowering people to become a part of the marine debris solution.

What makes the Alabama Coastal Cleanup unique is its data collection component. Volunteers record specific types of marine debris being found, allowing Ocean Conservancy, sponsor of the International Coastal Cleanup, to compile, analyze and track this data year-by-year and make discoveries about the behaviors that cause the debris.

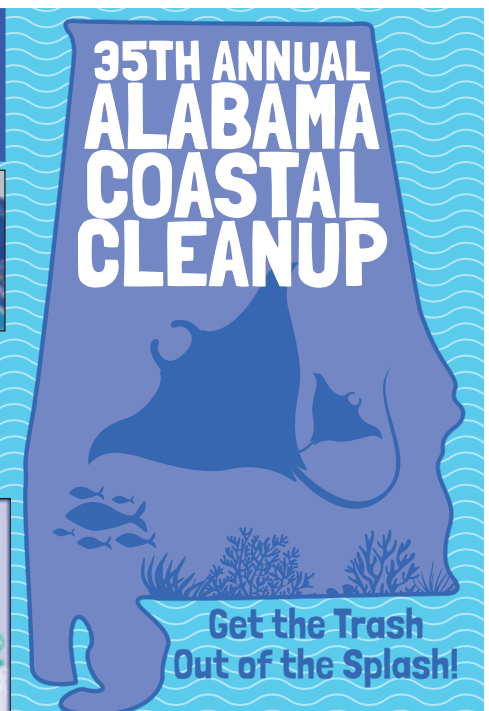
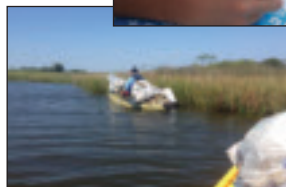
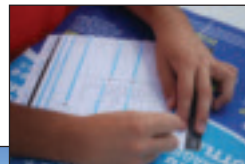
The final information is used to educate the public, business, industry, and government officials about the problem. We believe understanding the problem is the key to finding long-lasting solutions.

The Alabama Coastal Cleanup is coordinated by



Over the past 34 years...

- 105,785 volunteers have participated in the Alabama Coastal Cleanup.
- 6,509 miles of coastline have been cleaned.
- 1,734,224 pounds of debris have been removed.



**Saturday, September 17, 2022 | 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

2022  
PRESENTING  
SPONSOR



**visit [www.alabamacoastalcleanup.com](http://www.alabamacoastalcleanup.com) or call 251-621-1216**