

THE PALS PRINTS

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

SUMMER QUARTER 2018 • VOLUME 38



DIRECTOR'S NOTES BY SPENCER RYAN:

PALS "TEAMS" = PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK

When most people think of the word "Team", the initial thought is that of a team in a sports situation. Yes, these teams develop a sense of togetherness, dedication, hard work, with the end result being success. Those of us that have had the honor of being on one of these "Teams"

understands that without each member being 100% committed to accomplishing the team's goal, no team can or will accomplish or realize the overwhelming reality of "Look what we accomplished together." PALS is able to

Continued on page 3

2018 ALABAMA PALS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Form/Application can be submitted online at 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 Ryan
Executive Vice President
spencer@alpals.org

Margaret McElroy
Executive Assistant
State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator
margaret@alpals.org

Jamie Mitchell
Clean Campus State Coordinator
Jamie@alpals.org

Phone: 334-263-7737 or
In-State Watts 800-ALA-PALS
Fax # 334-832-9400
NEW WEBSITE: www.alpals.org
340 North Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

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

Many of our fondest memories were made in summer.

Building sand castles at Gulf Shores. Fishing on one of Alabama's beautiful lakes. Hiking Mount Cheaha. Or, just stopping at a roadside stand for a juicy Chilton County peach or hot boiled peanuts.

Now, imagine these same scenes with litter.

Discarded beer cans, broken glass and fast food wrappers can taint our picture-perfect memories. And, if we're not careful, litter will distort these experiences for future generations.

People often think discarded trash doesn't hurt anyone, but they couldn't be more wrong. Besides marring the aesthetic beauty of nature, litter can create health and safety hazards.

How many family outings have been cut short because of a lacerated foot from glass or metal hiding below the surface of the water or sand? How many picnics have been ruined by the smell of rotting trash or insects attracted to someone else's garbage?

Litter can destroy memories and, when it does, people will stop visiting Alabama's beaches, parks, lakes and towns.

Last month, Gov. Kay Ivey announced Alabama's travel industry grew by \$1 billion in 2017, to a record \$14.3 billion in expenditures. Tourism accounted for 186,906 jobs and brought 26 million guests to our state.

This growth would not be possible without effective litter prevention and control programs like those supported by Alabama PALS. Your volunteer work helps create jobs and strengthen the economy by ensuring visitors have positive memories of Alabama.

Although Adopt-A-Mile, Coastal Cleanup, Adopt-A-Stream and Spring Cleanup don't garner the same headlines as automotive plants, they are extremely important to economic development.

People don't visit dirty beaches and lakes, and they don't return when their memories are spoiled by trash.

Since being elected PALS chair eight years ago, I have been continually amazed at the commitment, enthusiasm and work ethic of our PALS volunteers and staff. Just when I think we've reached the pinnacle of participation, you surpass even our loftiest goals.

This year's Spring Cleanup was no different. Not only did we add recycling in several key areas, thanks to a partnership with Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED, but our volunteers also obliterated records for tons of litter collected and community involvement.

Thanks to you millions of Alabamians and visitors to our great state will make lifelong memories this summer as they enjoy our beaches, lakes, streams, forests, towns and cities.

— Jeff

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Continued from page 1

accomplish many goals each year, and because of the SPECIAL "Teams" that are working together for the common goal of a cleaner and more beautiful Alabama, all Alabamians, as well as those that travel to and through our state each year can understand that these teams are being successful in their many efforts. Thank you for your most valuable part in the PALS Team!

I want to give a special thanks to **Coca Cola United** for their stewardship, dedication, leadership, and hard work as the Title Sponsor for the 2018 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Statewide Spring Cleanup. This sponsorship gave PALS the opportunity to introduce plastic recycling to this annual statewide cleanup effort, and we look forward to being able to grow recycling component of the Spring Cleanup each year. A special thank you also goes to the employees of Coca Cola United, that assisted in creating teams that joined in during this 2018 cleanup. As you will see in this edition, the 2018 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup was a beacon for cleanup in the future. To date, and with approximately 65 % of Reporting Forms received, approximately 380 tons of litter has been reported as being picked up during the 2018 cleanup!

On September 15, 2018, we will celebrate the **31st Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup**. In 30 years, this annual cleanup has involved 92,578 volunteers, removed trash and debris from 5,681 miles of coastline, and accounted for 1,633, 283 pounds of litter being picked up. The "Team" of PALS, ADCNR/State Lands/Coastal Section, Zone Captains, Recycling Coordinators and the approximately 6,000 volunteers that participate in this annual effort are proud to be a part of this "Team" that can claim their success as one of the most successful Coastal Cleanup efforts in the country.

I also want to thank a special "Team" that makes the many efforts of Alabama PALS possible, the Corporate Sponsors of Alabama PALS. The statewide programs of Alabama PALS, which are offered and implemented at no cost to all Alabama cities, counties, schools, neighborhoods and volunteer groups are made possible through the "Team" concept of the PALS Corporate Sponsors. I want to thank ALDOT, ALFA, Coca Cola UNITED, The Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Vulcan Materials Company, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Alabama Farmer's Cooperative, Alabama Power, as well as our many Alabama Coastal Cleanup Sponsors for their continued support, dedication and leadership as we work together to achieve the goal of a cleaner and more beautiful Alabama.

In this issue, you will find **the Nomination Forms for the 2018 Alabama PALS Governor's Awards Program**, which will be held on Wednesday, November 7th at noon at the Marriott on Capitol Hill in Prattville Alabama. This is the highlight of the PALS year as we recognize those that have made a litter free Alabama a priority, and have taken an active role in their respective communities. Please make your plans now for you and your "Team" to be our guests at this annual celebration!

In closing, I appreciate and am honored that each of you is a vital part of this Special PALS Team. Your many contributions, support and hard work continues to make success stories for your organization. Thank you!

Spencer Ryan
Executive Vice President



PALS SUSTAINING CORPORATE SPONSORS



HONDA

Vulcan
Materials Company



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

The Alabama Clean Campus Program

Adopt-A-Mile

Adopt-A-Stream

Alabama Coastal Cleanup

Adopt-An-Area

Adopt-A-Beach

Litter Education Curriculum

Annual Governor's Awards

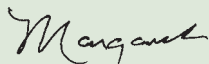
Statewide Chapter Network

MESSAGE FROM:

MARGARET McELROY
State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator

2017 was one of the most successful period of growth for the Alabama Adopt A Mile Program. 2018 is proving to be the equal of 2017, as we continue to receive and process Adopt A Mile applications weekly. This tremendous growth and participation can be attributed to each of you that work so hard each year to make your "special mile" a priority. I deeply appreciate the opportunity to work with each of you as we continue to make the Alabama Adopt A Mile Program one of the most successful volunteer programs in the country.

Please let me know how I can best assist you and your groups!



ALDOT REGIONAL ENGINEERS AND AREA OFFICES

JOHNNY HARRIS

North Regional Engineer
256-505-6141

DEJARVIS LEONARD

East Central Regional Engineer
256-234-8401

GEORGE CONNER

SE Regional Engineer
334-353-6850

VINCENT E. CALAMETTI

SW Regional Engineer
251-404-8204

JAMES D. BROWN

West Central Regional Engineer
205-562-3100



"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"

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

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

MESSAGE FROM:

JAMIE MITCHELL – Clean Campus State Coordinator

Back-to-school time is upon us! Now is the perfect time to get your local schools involved in the Clean Campus Program and keep the schools just as clean as when the students walk onto campus the first day. The Clean Campus Program is designed to involve all Alabama schools in litter control, beautification, recycling and cleanup efforts. Our goal is to instill good stewardship and environmental awareness for future generations and provide opportunities for schools and students to win awards and stay motivated!

Schools can participate in the Clean Campus Program by simply enrolling online at www.alpals.org, and the program is completely FREE to all Alabama schools thanks to ALFA and the Alabama Farmer's Cooperative. If I can answer any questions or provide any assistance at all, feel free to give me a call at (334) 263-7737.

Let's work together to keep our campuses across the state litter-free! Just give me a call or email at jamie@alpals.org to set up a speaking program for the school year or to get your school onboard!

Thank you!!

Jamie

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

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 2017-2018 school year.

Signed: _____ (Principal) Date: _____

MESSAGE FROM:

JOHN COOPER

Director, Alabama Department
of Transportation

Summer is a particularly exciting time for travelers around the country. The family road trips, weekend excursions to the lake and annual vacations to Alabama's beautiful beaches and state parks bring record number of travelers to our state. We host people visiting from all over the country on our roadways and it is important to make a great lasting impression on these visitors. That is why keeping Alabama's roadways free of litter is of the utmost importance.

The partnership between the Alabama Department of Transportation and Alabama PALS has brought state government, non-profit groups and, especially, dedicated volunteers together for over thirty years together with programs like Adopt-a-Mile. We hope to keep Alabama's roads pristine and beautiful every day of the year. The Adopt-a-Mile program boasts countless of volunteer groups dedicating hours and hours of their time to litter cleanup. We have approximately 860 miles of highway adopted but we want 100% of Alabama's highways adopted through our program. With your help, it is possible.

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

— John

THE 2018 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 • 12 Noon

The Marriott at Capitol Hill

Prattville, 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.*

2018 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

Honda "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Award • Education • Judicial • Law Enforcement

Business and Industry • Adopt A Mile • Adopt A Stream

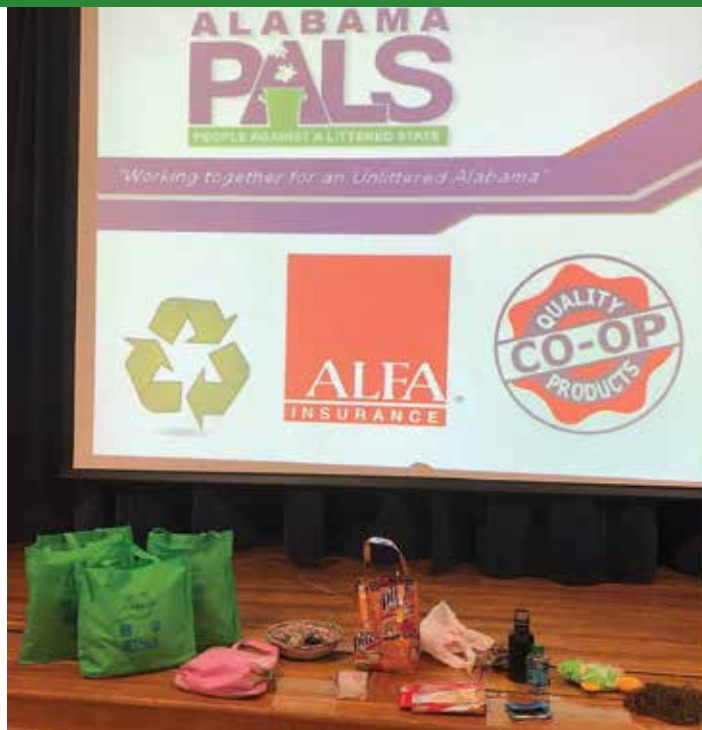
Don Hines Memorial Award • Jean McRady Service Award • Coastal Cleanup Award

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 10, 2018.**
6. Statewide winners will be recognized with a handsome plaque to be presented At the PALS Governors Awards Program on November 7, 2018.

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



Pictured from left are Raymond McGough, Crenshaw County PALS Coordinator; Jamie Mitchell; and Cliff Maddox, principal of Highland Home School.



Pitching in to Eradicate Litter

Highland Home School gets involved to keep Crenshaw County clean.

by Jamie Mitchell

Highland Home School in Crenshaw County is now a member of the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program! Thanks to Crenshaw Area Coordinator Raymond McGough and Principal Cliff Maddox, Highland Home is fully onboard with keeping their campus and community litter free!

In a recent visit to Highland Home School, I met with over 800 students to teach them the importance of making a lifelong commitment to litter prevention. We wanted to emphasize that preventing and cleaning up litter is not just a one-time event. I explained that if each student would pick up one piece of litter a day, we could pick up around 5,600 pieces of litter in one week! There is power in numbers! I also explained the opposite ... if we all let one wrapper blow away per day, we could also contribute a huge amount of litter to the ground each day.

Crenshaw County has a renewed commitment to keeping their road-sides litter-free. This spring, volunteers picked up hundreds of bags of litter totaling several tons of litter. With the students onboard in the community, we hope the roads of Crenshaw County can remain litter free for many years to come!

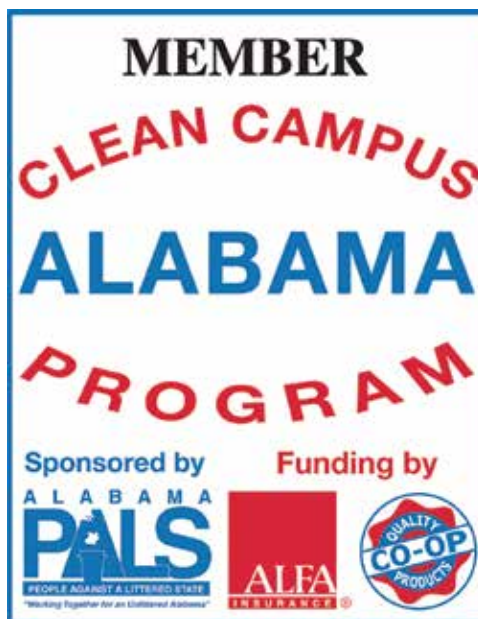
The goal of the Clean Campus Program is to get students involved. Whether they can do a lot or just a little, with everyone pitching in we can eradicate the litter problems throughout our state. When students become aware, they begin to care. Once they understand the problem, they get excited about becoming a part of the solution.

Let's work together to get more schools signed up in the Clean Campus Program! If a school near you would like to participate in our anti-litter movement, please have them contact me at jamie@alpals.org or 334-224-7594.

One of the most wonderful things about the Clean Campus Program

is that it is FREE to all Alabama public and private schools, thanks to ALFA and Alabama Farmers Cooperative. ■

Jamie Mitchell is the PALS State Clean Campus Coordinator.





Rehobeth Elementary Beta Club - Making a Difference in Houston County

by *Jamie Mitchell*

The Rehobeth Elementary School Junior Beta Club has signed on to be a part of the Clean Campus Program! This impressive group of fourth- and fifth-graders works all year long to not only have academic excellence but also have community involvement and extracurricular excellence, as well. The Clean Campus Program is proud to partner with this group of over 60 scholars!

I recently had the opportunity to visit with these students and got to see firsthand how they work together to prepare for their Beta Club conferences, as well as brainstorm for new ways to help in the community. These students are already having regular campus cleanups and, now, plan to do more around the school to encourage the antilitter movement on campus. They plan to make recycled book-marks for their local library from

cereal and snack boxes, and several students also plan on entering our upcoming poster contest!

At the direction of Junior Beta Club sponsor Holly Seales, these students are making a huge difference in Houston County!

Our youth really are the future of the beauty of Alabama. I speak to thousands of students each year through the Clean Campus Program, but it is still only a fraction of the youth in our great state. If a school near you would like to participate in our antilitter movement, please have them email me at jamie@alpals.org or a call 334-224-7594.

One of the most wonderful things about

the Clean Campus Program is that it is FREE to all Alabama public and private schools thanks to ALFA and Alabama Farmers Cooperative! The Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program really is a win-win for Alabama communities. Won't you join us? ■

Jamie Mitchell is the PALS State Clean Campus Coordinator.



ALABAMA PALS CLEAN CAMPUS

ALABAMA PALS / ALFA / AFC CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM

STATEWIDE COMPETITION

2017-2018 AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

NOTE: Scrapbooks are Encouraged

Name of Participating School _____

Address of School _____

County _____ Telephone (____) _____ - _____ Contact Person _____

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? _____

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? _____

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

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

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

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.

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 10, 2018!

Poster & Recycled Art Contest Winners 2018

POSTER WINNERS K - 3RD

1st - Peyton Crager

Fruitdale High School, 2nd Grade
Ms. Betsy Turner
Washington Co.

2nd - Karlee Pollard

Hubbertville School, 2nd Grade
Mrs. Ingle
Fayette Co.

3rd - William "Gene" Baldwin

Crestline Elementary School, 1st Grade
Mrs. Barb Helton
Morgan Co.

HM - April Guevara

Prattville Primary School, 2nd Grade
Autauga Co.

HM - Azariah Harris

Reform Elementary, Kindergarten
Ms. Kennedy
Pickens Co.

HM - Harper Johnson

Trinity Pres. School, 1st Grade
Ms. Morrison
Montgomery Co.

POSTER WINNERS 4TH - 6TH

1st - Sara Roy

Gwin Elementary, 4th Grade
Ms. Karen Davidson
Jefferson Co.

2nd - Carly More

Pickens Academy, 5th Grade
Pickens Co.

3rd - Anna Beth Cooper

Prattville Intermediate, 6th Grade
Ms. Ayana McQueen
Autauga Co.

HM - Charlie Dudley

Prattville Intermediate, 6th Grade
Mrs. McQueen
Autauga Co.

HM - Kobyn Johnson

Hubbertville School, 6th Grade
Mrs. Youngblood
Fayette Co.

HM - Katelyn Davis

Goshen Elementary School, 5th Grade
Mrs. Chesser
Pike Co.

RECYCLED ART WINNERS 7TH - 12TH

1st - Hanna Fuller and Nikita Rozanova

Arab High School
11th and 12th Grades
Mrs. Wanda Shipp
Marshall Co.

2nd - Zachary Brown

Pike County High School
Ms. Carrie McLaney
Pike Co.

3rd - George Ard

Pike County High School
Ms. Carrie McLaney
Pike Co.

HM - Kelsey Franklin

Trinity Pres. School
Ms. Becky Miller
Montgomery Co.

HM - Daisy Smith

Hubbertville School
9th Grade
Mrs. Dunavent
Fayette Co.



Dates to Remember.....

✓ July 12th

PALS Audit Committee Meeting

PALS Board Meeting

✓ July

All Coastal Cleanup Materials and Supplies Ordered

✓ September 13th

Alabama Coastal Cleanup Materials Distribution Day

5 Rivers, Daphne, Alabama

✓ September 15th

2018 Alabama Coastal Cleanup

✓ October 10th

Governor's Awards and Clean Campus Nomination
Forms Due

✓ November 7th

Alabama PAL Board Meeting

2018 Alabama PALS Governor's Awards Program

ALABAMA PALS ADOPT-A-MILE



We are the members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Omega Xi Zeta Chapter, Wetumpka, Alabama.
Members Present: Tonya Allen (President), Velvet Moore, Diondra Davenport, and Marcy Freeman.



ALABAMA PALS SPRING CLEAN UP

MLK JR. DAY OF SERVICE ROADSIDE CLEANUP - MINOR HIGH SCHOOL



Union Springs Herald

People you know, news you can trust since 1866

By Amber Anderson

Hello Union Springs! Spring is here, as is our annual Spring Clean Up!

Again, we are partnering with the beautiful State of Alabama and PALS – People Against a Littered State and doing our part in roadside litter cleanup.

Please join us this Saturday, April 14, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. to gather supplies, neighborly fellowship and some breakfast motivation.

Here, in Bullock County, we are steadily increasing our volunteer participation and look forward to having you join us!

We are meeting at FPH Bakery 108 Conecuh Ave (across from Super Dollar) to check in and pick up supplies to beautify your neighborhood.

There will be a City truck driving throughout town picking up collection bags. If you cannot attend this day, we encourage you to participate in your own way, in your own neighborhood.

If you do, please let me know how much or how many bags of garbage collected so I can report back to PALS about how awesome our community is!

This does count as community service for our school kids so if you/they are in need of hours, this is a great way to earn those! Contact Amber Anderson at (951) 514-5217 for more information.



County cleanup week set

By Michelle Mann

"We are trying to get the message across to citizens not to litter."

That was the message Coffee County Environmental Service Specialist Emily Smith told those attending the Coffee County Commission meeting April 9.

"Don't Drop It on Alabama" is the theme of the statewide Spring cleanup campaign which is sponsored by the Alabama People Against a Littered State and spearheaded in Coffee County by the Solid Waste Department.

The statewide Spring cleanup week is April 21-28. "Make plans now for your city, county, school, neighborhood or volunteer group to join volunteers from every corner of Alabama for this annual statewide cleanup," Smith said. "It's just one of those things we don't really pay attention to as we are driving along our way each day.

"We encourage citizens to keep trash in their car and throw it away when they get somewhere with a proper disposing method," she added.

Smith said that cleanup supplies, to include trash bags and program brochures provided by the AL PALS, can be picked up at the Environmental Service office, by calling Smith at (334) 894-6600 or emailing her at esmith@co.coffee.al.us.

The Elba Clipper

Coffee County preparing for 'Spring Clean-up' event

By Linda Hodge

During the regular bi-monthly meeting held Monday, April 9, Coffee County Commission were reminded of upcoming "Don't Drop It on Alabama" campaign, which is being led by the Coffee County Solid Waste Department for the county. Emily Smith, an environmental services employee for the county, is leading this year's effort for Coffee County, and she said litter is a huge problem in the county. "It's just one of those things we don't really pay attention to as we are driving along our way each day," Smith said. She said Coffee County is teaming up with Alabama PALS [People Against a Littered State] to promote a Spring clean-up during the week of April 21-28 this year. "We are trying to get the message across to citizens to not litter," Smith said. "We encourage to keep trash in your car and throw it away when to get somewhere with a proper disposing method. There are trash cans at home or at the stores we stop at each day, etc." Smith presented a slideshow to commissioners, which showcased several areas throughout the county where litter and dumping as prevalent. She said her goal with this program is to "Keep Coffee County Beautiful" and she said she would be encouraging citizens and organizations to get involved as the Clean-Up Week approaches. Commissioner Dean Smith thanked those involved for working on this project for the county, and he said he too hopes that citizens will be involved with this year's Spring Clean-Up event.



Emily Smith, an environmental services employee for Coffee County, is leading the county's efforts this year for "Don't Drop It on Alabama", a statewide program by Alabama PALS to stop littering. Smith said she wants to keep Coffee County beautiful and this program is a good start.



County prepares for "spring cleaning"

By Leah Lancaster

The term "spring cleaning" may conjure up mental images of buckets, scrub brushes, and mops, but Coffee County Environmental Services is hoping to bring spring cleaning outside with its annual "Don't Drop It on Alabama" Spring Cleanup initiative.

The week-long event is the result of a partnership with Alabama People Against a Littered State, or PALS, and is set to take place April 21-28 throughout Coffee County. During that week, CCES requests that any church groups, school groups, community groups, civic organizations, and volunteers throughout Coffee County who are able to clean up along the roadsides and waterways within their communities participate in the initiative. According to Environmental Specialist Emily Smith, all clean-up supplies, including bags, advertising stickers, and program brochures have been provided by AL PALS and can be picked up at the Environmental Services office.

Smith will also be serving as the point of contact for any questions regarding the initiative. To reserve clean-up supplies for individuals or groups, contact Smith at 334-894-6600 or esmith@co.coffee.al.us; please provide a name, the date and time of cleaning, the area or road where the cleaning will occur, and the amount of bags needed. If it is possible to dispose of the garbage in a proper area, please do so – otherwise, notify CCES of the bag placement to ensure the litter is disposed of properly. Additionally, Smith requests that each group take pictures of themselves during the clean-up process and send them to the provided email address.



SPRING CLEANUP



Volunteers 'get dirty' for clean-up – The Covington County 'Don't Drop It On Alabama' clean-up initiative started Friday morning as several companies and volunteers, coordinated by the Andalusia Area Chamber of Commerce and Opp Area Chamber of Commerce, picked up trash on Hwy. 84, and in other areas of the county.





1st Annual Operation Spring Clean was a HUGE Success! Spring Clean 2018

With 7 groups participating in Saturday's Operation Spring Clean, approximately 1 ton of trash was removed from the county's roadside. There were a total of 74 volunteers picking up litter on close to 12 miles of roadway. Along with the roadside clean up, there was approximately 40 tons of trash collected during the County wide Cleanup and approximately 4.66 tons of litter removed from Lake Jordan during the Lake Jordan HOB0 cleanup. This means there was approximately 46 tons of trash cleaned up and picked up in Elmore County this past weekend.

Advanced Disposal Awards School for Collecting Most Litter During Elmore County Spring Clean 2018



The Elmore County Commission pictured awarding Tallassee High School representatives an iPad during our recent County Government day. The iPad was donated as a prize by Advanced Disposal. Advanced Disposal played a major role in the county's efforts during #EC Spring Clean2018 by collecting and disposing of the estimated 46 tons of litter/debris cleaned up county wide.

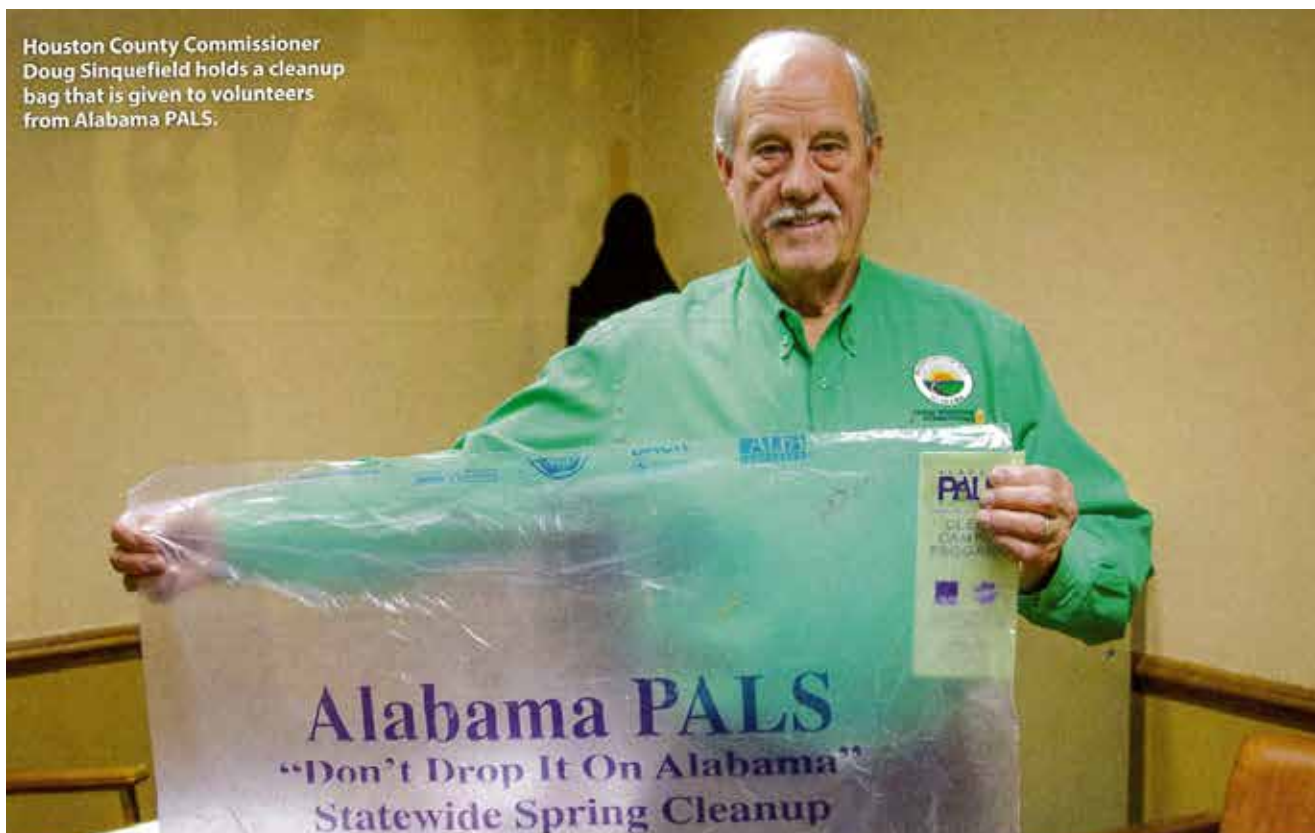
Elmore County Highway Department getting prepared for EC Spring Clean 2018



With Operation Spring Clean, the Elmore County Highway Department is ready by preparing all the materials needed. In this package of materials are vests, trash bags, and a location map for each area. We are anticipating a great outcome and look forward to seeing everyone helping clean our county!



Houston County Commissioner Doug Sinefield holds a cleanup bag that is given to volunteers from Alabama PALS.



Sinefield works to reduce litter in Houston County

Doug Sinefield's 30-year career at UPS took him across Southeast Alabama. During those years, he couldn't help but notice the growing litter problem along rural roadways.

When he became Houston County Commissioner in 2010, he knew he had a chance to make a change for the better. Sinefield has focused on reducing litter in Houston County by working with statewide organizations and sharing information during county commission meetings.

Reducing litter will make the area look better and also make it more attractive for potential industries or businesses interested in moving to Houston County.

"I wish more people would take pride in their county, community and country," Sinefield says. "By controlling litter and not just throwing it out on the public road for people to pick up, we can make the county look better."

Wiregrass Electric Cooperative has long been a supporter of efforts to benefit the environment, including making sure the people of the Wiregrass have a clean place to call home.

"Commissioner Sinefield has done amazing work with reducing litter in Houston County," says WEC Chief Operating Officer Brad Kimbro. "The Wiregrass is a great place to live, and there are great people who live here. If we all did just a little more to help reduce litter, then we could make the Wiregrass even better than it already is."

For the last five years, WEC has partnered with the Arbor Day Foundation to give away free sapling trees throughout April.

By planting saplings around your home, you can help the environment and make your yard look great. You also can lower your energy bill by 20 percent from the shade a fully grown tree provides.

WEC believes in a clean environment, and planting trees is a great way to help promote that.

Making a difference

One way Sinefield has helped control litter is through his work with the nonprofit People Against A Littered State, an organization dedicated to providing and implementing anti-litter programs. The Adopt A Mile Program and the Clean Campus Program are used in Houston County.

Dothan also has Spirit of Service Day each April. This year, the day was dedicated to reducing litter.

But Sinefield says the best way to make a difference is for people to just clean up around their homes and where they work.

"When we call it 'Alabama the Beautiful,' it's just a statement, but we need to make that statement true," he says. "If we can bring enough attention to the problem and more people start helping, then it might just make people who are causing the problem stop doing it." ■

SPRING CLEANUP

JEFFERSON COUNTY



ALABAMA PALS

JEFFERSON COUNTY - LEEDS



Pike Road Lions Club first clean-up effort went out at 8:30 AM on Saturday, March 24th and picked up 8 bags of litter!

Saturday, April 21st

- Lions Club Community Yard Sale | 7:00 AM - Noon Pike Road Town Hall
- We will have a tent where people can come sign up!
- C7 Learners from Pike Road Historic School | 12:00 PM | Stone Park Blvd

Monday, April 23 – “Mondays with the Mayor”

- 11:00-12:00PM | The Grove @ Stone Park
- 12:30-1:30 PM | Troy Alumni @ Chantilly (near PrimeSouth)

Thursday, April 26th

- 5:30 – 6:30 PM | Pike Road Community Club @ Wallahatchie

Friday, April 27th

- 4:30-5:30 PM | Pike Road Historic School Key Club @ Meriwether (Feed Lot to Meriwether Trace)

Saturday April 28th

- 8:30 AM (Time is still tentative) | Pike Road Lions Club @ Vaughn Road (in front of Town Hall)



spring clean up

APRIL 21-28

TOWN OF PIKE ROAD

Your organization can make a difference in just a few hours. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Gather a group of volunteers
2. Pick a roadside to clean
3. Clean your location & bring your trash bags to the dumpster in front of Town Hall by April 28.

We will provide all supplies. Just add volunteers, and help us #pickupPikeRoad!

In Partnership with Alabama People Against a Littered State

CONTACT:

Katy Garren
334.495.4123
katy@pikeroad.us

Good morning, Arica jump started the week of Spring clean up Saturday with a couple friends and family. I attached a couple of pics. Thanks for the supplies. People thanked us as we moved along, cleaning the street. It was a good experience for the kids.



The 2018 statewide “Don’t Drop It on Alabama” Spring cleanup

Alabama PALS (People Against a Littered State) distributed 200,000 bags statewide for the 2018 cleanup, as well as all materials and supplies to all participating cities, counties and volunteer groups. The bags are available at Randolph County Courthouse and at the county commission annex. A list of all cleanup coordinators for the 2018 effort can be found at alpals.org. Volunteers wanting to participate are encouraged to contact the local coordinator to join an existing cleanup or to establish their own local cleanup within their respective community.

Alabama PALS hopes to surpass the 400+ tons of litter that was reported during the 2017 spring cleanup, where 65 counties participated.

The cleanup is held annually and coordinated by Alabama PALS, which also coordinates and implements the Alabama Coastal Cleanup, Alabama Clean Campus Program, Alabama Adopt-a-Mile and Adopt-a-Stream programs statewide. Each of these efforts are made possible through partnerships with business and industry, corporate support and long lasting partnerships with state agencies committed to making Alabama a leader in environmental awareness.

PALS is proud to partner with Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED as the title sponsor for the 2018 cleanup effort. This partnership has enabled PALS to

incorporate recycling into the annual cleanup during 2018. In an effort to offer recycling to all Alabama counties during the cleanup in future years, PALS and Coca-Cola UNITED will work with cleanup coordinators in Tuscaloosa, Jefferson, Marshall and Cullman counties in 2018 to establish a recycling model for future years.

“Coke UNITED and our associates throughout Alabama are excited about partnering with PALS because it gives us a way to engage in a statewide effort to help reduce litter and educate communities on how we can all make a difference,” said Linda Sewell, corporate director of community affairs for Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED. “Bringing recycling into the PALS cleanup efforts is consistent with Coca-Cola’s goal of recycling one bottle for every bottle we sell globally by 2030. An ambitious goal, but one that Coca-Cola and its bottlers believe can help the environment in a big way for the future.”

The “Don’t Drop It on Alabama” spring cleanup is also made possible through PALS Sustaining Partners, ALDOT, Alfa Alabama Farmer’s Cooperative, Vulcan Materials Company, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, the Association of County Commissions of Alabama, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and Alabama Power Company.



SPRING CLEANUP

CAHABA RIVER CLEANUP



Businesses encouraged to follow Russell Lands' lead on litter cleanup



Employees of Russell Lands pose for a photograph before setting out to clean up Highway 63 last week. (Submitted / The Outlook)

By Cliff Williams

Two things are consistent in the Lake Martin area – littering and businesses being asked to give to causes.

There is a way for a businesses to take care of both of those and provide their employees some team building along the way. It is something Russell Lands has been doing for a while as they do at least two cleanups along Highway 63 every year.

"It is good to get out of the office," Russell Lands Robert Gunn said. "We do it at the beginning of the season and in the fall. You get to visit with employees you are not around as much."

Gunn said they purposefully pair up employees and set up a friendly competition.

"We pair up with someone different than we normally work with," Gunn said. "We challenge each to pick up more trash."

Last week Russell Lands went a little further after picking up more than 140 bags of litter along Highway 63 from Highway 280 to Kowaliga.

"We spent about four to five hours picking up," Gunn said. "We then ate lunch in the woods at tables and chairs set up for us. It was really a lot of fun."

Gunn said other businesses along Highway 63 have taken notice of Russell Lands' efforts.

"David and Jodi McGuiert at Lake Martin Dock will come out and join us too," Gunn said. "They have started to do other

things as well."

The Russell Lands effort on combating litter is something administrators and the company endorse.

"Tom Lambert (Russell Lands CEO) feels strongly about the issue," Gunn said. "You can find him out there about once a month picking up trash."

Russell Lands may have the manpower to clean 13 miles in a day, but even a small business can put a dent in the problem by taking on a mile on Highway 22 or a county road.

Lake Martin Resource Association's John Thompson says companies can help put a dent in the litter issue without laying out any monies.

"They have taken on keeping that stretch of road clean for a lot of years and we really appreciate it," Thompson said. "It just goes to show what can happen with a concentrated effort like that. We would love to challenge other businesses and companies to do something similar. Take an area that is identified with their business and help keep it clean on a regular basis. It's positive for the community and for them as well."

Thompson said the regular scheduled trash walks help, but he sees the business-led adoption of areas for cleanup as a way to make a wide-spread, lasting impact.

If you would like to get involved in a similar project, contact Thompson at John.Thompson@hcsinc.net.



SPRING CLEANUP

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY





Landfill will be free on April 28

By Ed Howell

The Walker County Landfill will have a free day on Saturday, April 28, which has been designated Clean Up Walker County Day.

The event is being held in conjunction with the statewide "Don't Drop It On Alabama" cleanup being scheduled across the state on April 21-28. Volunteers are needed from citizens, organizations, businesses, churches, youth groups and families.

Janet Adams-Clayton, the human resources coordinator and a payroll official with the commission office, was identified at the Walker County Commission's April 16 meeting as the chairman of the Walker County Litter Cleanup Committee. She told the commission that she and other citizens are excited about the event, and that emails and calls are coming in about the cleanup.

At the meeting, the commission agreed to make the day a "free day" at the Walker County Landfill.

"That means anyone who has any garbage can go out there and it won't cost them anything to turn it in," Chairman Jerry Bishop said. "That's what we want them to do. We want to them go in their yards where they have stuff piled up and haul it out there. It is not going to cost them a thing. It will be open from 8 to 4 on Saturday."

The landfill is located at 23471 Highway 78 in Jasper.

Bishop said the clean up effort needs to be started in the county, quoting the late First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt as saying, "You can't do anything about the past and we don't know what is going to happen in the future. But we have to start something today." Bishop said the county needs to start cleaning itself up immediately.

District 1 Commissioner Keith Davis gave his plans for his district at the commission meeting during the commissioner comment period. Adams-Clayton said on Tuesday after another meeting of the committee that the same plans would be adopted at the other districts.

He said that he plans for the cleanup to start at 8 a.m. at his district shop at 141 Langley Rd. in Jasper, with biscuits offered.

"We will have 10 different trucks which will leave roughly at 8:30 a.m.," he said. "We will start a little after lunch in my district due to the fishing tournament." Crews will work the week

before in that area, picking up trash on Smith Lake Dam Road and other areas that lead to the tournament, he said.

Anyone who wants to pick up trash bags in advance may come by the district Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Davis said.

"If you decide in my district you want to pick up in your area, that is fine," he said. "If you will call our district shop and let us know you have got bags out, I will send my crews out to pick them up (to take to the landfill). My district number is 221-4212. We will have bags available," as well as vests, gloves and grabbers.

Adams-Clayton said on Tuesday that the same plans would be in effect at the other district shops. The locations and phones for the other shops are as follows: District 2, 1055 Second Ave. NE, Carbon Hill (205-924-4131); District 3, 19 Taft Rd., Parrish (205-686-7116); and District 4, 55 Fourth Ave., Sipsey (205-686-7116).

People who come by the district office on April 26 will be asked to sign in, so deputies and constables will know where to go to protect volunteers while they clean up. She said officials are still planning to ask county constables to help out with the effort.

Volunteers can call district crews to come by to pick up the bags of litter, or they can take it to the district for later disposal at the landfill, she said.

She said bags, vests, gloves and grabbers will be available from the county the day of the April 28.

"We're also working on being able to provide water and Gatorade," she said, noting another committee meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, to finalize plans.

She said that the event will try to be concluded across the county around lunchtime, noting a number of events taking place that way and the possibility that it could get hot by mid-afternoon.

During the commission meeting, District 2 Commissioner Jeff Burrough said all the districts will have trucks available that day, and the crews across the county can be organized.

He said just discussing the litter clean up among commissioners has kept up discussion across the county.

"It doesn't matter what coffee shop or restaurant I go to. Someone says, 'Hey, I've seen you cleaning that garbage up. We're trying to do our road.' It's working just talking about it," he said.

Burrough said he continues to take his crews out to clean roads for a couple of hours during the afternoons, and he might buy their dinner for their help.

"We've picked up probably 200 bags of garbage in the past seven or eight days," he said. "Slowly but surely we are getting in different areas of my district."

District 3 Commissioner Ralph Williams noted



District 3 Commissioner Ralph Williams, standing, confers with District 1 Commissioner Keith Davis, left, and District 2 Commissioner Jeff Burrough before Monday night's Walker County Commission meeting. Officials discussed the county clean up efforts being held later this month.

clean up efforts that have already taken place in his district thanks to residents around Union Chapel and Valley School. One man picked up an entire road, asking it not be mowed by the county until he could get the litter picked up. He said it would take people taking pride in their community to get the litter picked up.

Burrough added many elderly people will take "ownership of where they live," picking up in their communities for several hundred yards. He has kept up a list of people doing that, and he would like to hear more names so they he can recognize them in a few months.

Bishop noted in his comment period the resolution for the free day at the landfill notes that the county's communities "are a reflection of the citizens who live in them" and "are the home to our children and future generations." It noted the clean up effort was being done "in order to make the communities of Walker County a cleaner, safer and brighter environment for all."

Bishop said when he started the process, looking at trash and litter on county roadsides a couple of months ago, he was upset.

"But since then I've seen the good side of our county, and I've seen the people who want to clean it up," he said. "They have started talking to their neighbors. They've started talking to everyone. They want to be a part of it ... This made me feel good. I haven't felt this way in a long time about something."

Bishop said he would talk with Sheriff Jim Underwood, who was sitting in the audience, about getting deputies to help patrol that day, as safety would be a major factor that day.

"I don't want anyone hurt picking up trash," he said, adding some roads could even be barricaded at places.

Anyone wanting more information about the event may contact Adams-Clayton at the commission at 384-7230, or e-mail her at j.clayton@walkercountyal.us.

ALABAMA PALS ADOPT-A-STREAM



**SHADES CREEK
CLEAN UP ALONG
JEMISON TRAIL**

COSTA
KICK  PLASTIC



SCHAEFFER EYE CENTER

ALABAMA PALS COASTAL CLEANUP



We recycled over 2,000 pounds of plastic with TerraCycle Company. These plastics will be turned into new plastic products such as shampoo bottles.

Get the Trash Out of the Splash!

31st Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup 2018

On Saturday, September 15, 2018, thousands of volunteers will descend on 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.

Over the past 30 years...

- 92,578 volunteers have participated in the Alabama Coastal Cleanup.
- 5,681 miles of coastline have been cleaned.
- 1,633,283 pounds of debris have been removed.

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.

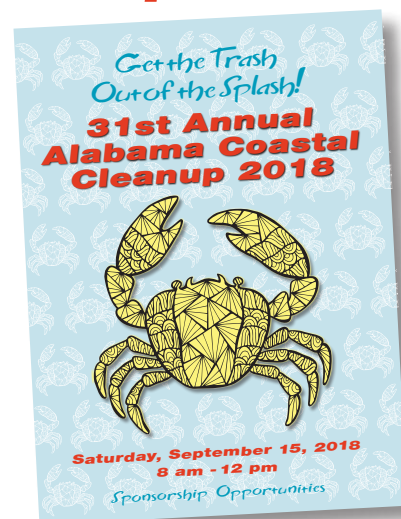
What makes the Alabama Coastal Cleanup unique is its data collection component. Volunteers record specific types of marine debris being found, allowing Ocean Conservancy, sponsor of the International Coastal Cleanup, to compile, analyze and track this data year-by-year and make discoveries about the

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.

Marine debris is dangerous

Animals are harmed and killed by marine debris. They get tangled in discarded fishing gear, and they ingest debris that can kill them. For example, a plastic sandwich bag floating in the ocean may look like a jellyfish, a favorite food of sea turtles. If a sea turtle tries to eat the bag it could block its throat or remain in the stomach making the turtle feel full, leading to starvation and death. Ending marine debris will help us all protect marine-life.



Ten things you can do to help prevent marine debris

1. Join Alabama's 31st Annual Coastal Cleanup on September 15th.
2. Clean up your trash, even when not near the water. It's amazing that a vast majority of trash in our waterways comes from land-based activities. Even trash discarded miles inland can make it to the ocean, carried by the rain and the winds.
3. Retrieve your monofilament fishing line. Don't leave fishing line in the water and remove others' when you find it...being careful not to tug on snagged lines that could be caught on important habitat below the surface. Also be aware of hooks that may be left on the line.
4. Contain and properly clean spills when boating. Use oil-absorbent rags or even diapers to clean spills. Ocean Conservancy's Good Mate program can provide you with plenty of tips for reducing impact when on the water.
5. Recycle used motor oil and oil filters. Your local gas station should have facilities for recycling these materials. Never pour oil, paint, antifreeze, or other household chemicals into an open sewer.
6. Better yet, find alternatives to household chemicals. Don't use fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides that can wash into open waters. Use lemon juice, vinegar, and baking soda for household cleaning.
7. Become a storm drain sentry. Stencil your local drains to remind people where the things they dump there end up...and of the potential consequences.
8. Use cloth bags for groceries. Take them with you when you shop to reduce the number of plastic bags you use. In addition to being ugly, plastic bags can choke marine wildlife when mistaken for food.
9. Properly dispose of used batteries and electronics. Use your local recycling center. Electronics leach harmful chemicals into the environment. Once there, these toxic pollutants can affect the environment for decades.
10. Contact your elected representatives. Let them know you care about the effects of marine debris and that you are watching what they do to stop it. Then, vote for candidates who support marine debris prevention and are good stewards of our ocean.

Get the Trash Out of the Splash!

31st Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup 2018



**Saturday
September 15, 2018
8 am - 12 pm**

2017 ALABAMA COASTAL CLEANUP SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

ALDOT • ExxonMobil • Bebo's • Alabama Power • LuLu's • Mobile Bay NEP • Ike's Beach Service
City of Gulf Shores • City of Orange Beach • Riviera Utilities • Utility Board of Gulf Shores
Baldwin EMC • Home Depot • The Flora-Bama • Dog River Clear Water Revival • Compass Marketing
ALFA • Vulcan Materials Company • Honda Manufacturing of Alabama
Alabama Farmers Cooperative • Evonic-Degussa
Mobile Bay Sierra Club • Baldwin County Sewer Service, LLC

**On behalf of Alabama PALS and ADCNR/State Lands/Coastal Section,
we would like to thank our dedicated and supportive Corporate
Sponsors for making the Alabama Coastal Cleanup
such a huge and growing success story!**

THE ALABAMA ADOPT-A-BEACH PROGRAM

An Alabama PALS/ADCNR Coastal Program Partnership

ALABAMA ADOPT-A-BEACH PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name: _____

Name of Organization/Group _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Location of Beach Area To Be Adopted (if known) _____

ADOPTION AREA PREFERRED ☐ Mobile County ☐ Baldwin County

ADCNR/State Lands/Coastal Section • 3115 Five Rivers Blvd. • Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Alabama PALS • 340 North Hull Street • Montgomery, Alabama 36104

ADOPT-A-STREAM APPLICATION FORM

Name of Participating Group _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____

Location of Proposed Stream Crossing: _____

_____ County: _____

Location for Adopt-A-Stream Signs (Hwy #'s, Mile Markers, etc.) _____

Send Applications to Alabama PALS, 340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Application can be submitted online at alpals.org



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Alabama PALS Newsletter
People Against A Littered State

340 North Hull St.
Montgomery AL 36104

2018 ALABAMA PALS
"Don't Drop It On Alabama"
SPRING CLEANUP 2018
Thank you for you Support!



HONDA