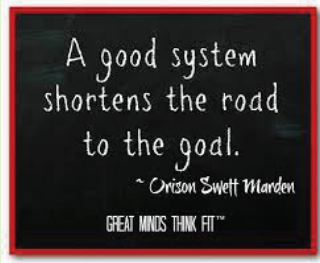


THE PALS PRINTS

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

WINTER QUARTER 2023 • VOLUME 45



DIRECTORS NOTES:

“THANKFUL FOR THE SYSTEM... FOCUS ON THE GOAL”

As we all see with any organization, family, business, classroom or group, the goals are easy to set, but MUCH harder to obtain for the long haul if there is not a workable and dedicated “system” in place. The definition of “system” can be looked at in various ways, but to me the “system” is found within the daily, monthly and annual inner workings found at the heart of the organization, family, business, classroom or group.

As I review and continue to look at the “system” within the Alabama PALS organization, I continue to be humbled and amazed at how this “system” is successful, and by how many valuable parts work together to benefit so many. Thank you for being a part of the PALS organizational system, and for your monumental role in making Alabama The Beautiful a reality through your support and dedication to a common goal.

I want to thank the PALS Board of Directors for their leadership in determining the system that continues to work for Alabama PALS, and for their guidance and dedication to your organization. A system that works has to begin with the top leadership level and PALS continues to be blessed by this committed leadership team.

A successful system also has to include the partners and supporters that make the programs that are designed to reach the goals possible. Within this light, I want to thank the part of the system that affords Alabama PALS the opportunity to grow and offer all Alabama communities the programs that benefit their respective areas. A heartfelt thank you to ALDOT, ADECA, ADCNR,

ALFA, Coca-Cola United, Vulcan Materials Company, Alabama Farmers Cooperative, Association of County Commissions of Alabama, Honda, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and ALL of our valued Alabama Coastal Cleanup sponsors. Thank you for your partnership.

No system can be successful without a staff that is dedicated to the system and goals. I am blessed to be able to work with

Continued on page 3

2023 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”

THE 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ALABAMA PALS

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spencer@alpals.org

Christy Waddell

Executive Assistant

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

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

In a world where division is highlighted daily on television and social media, it's always encouraging to attend the Alabama PALS Governor's Awards, where unity and cooperation are on full display.

Where else can you see conservationists and law enforcement officers dining together; children and retirees enjoying each other's success; and business owners and sanitation workers showing appreciation for a shared commitment to their communities?

The Governor's Awards is a celebration of our ability to set aside differences in pursuit of a common vision. We see glimpses of this human capacity following natural disasters, but with Alabama PALS, it's a common occurrence.

While programs like Adopt-A-Mile and Clean Campus are built on shared experiences, other PALS' efforts bring together volunteers who don't necessarily attend the same church, school or civic club. During the Don't Drop It On Alabama Spring Cleanup and Coastal Cleanup, you're likely to see Baptists and Catholics; Democrats and Republicans; and Tide and Tigers working side by side.

The single unifying factor is our mutual desire to keep Alabama the Beautiful and lessen the impact of litter on our environment. The Governor's Awards showcase what can be accomplished when we focus on agreement rather than disagreement.

Congratulations to all our award winners! Your work to curb litter benefits every Alabama resident, and your example of selfless teamwork is an inspiration to many.

I especially want to thank Secretary of Law Enforcement Hal Taylor and Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources Chris Blankenship for attending the Governor's Awards. Having two members of Gov. Kay Ivey's cabinet participate in our annual event demonstrates her commitment to Alabama PALS' mission.

As we embark on 2023, I hope the Governor's Awards will motivate each of us to argue less, agree more and look for opportunities to work together for our common good.

Thanks to Alabama PALS' volunteers, much was accomplished in 2022. Tons of trash were collected, hundreds of students learned lessons about recycling, and communities were strengthened as neighbors joined forces to fight litter.

But there's still much yet to do. The tight labor market and lingering effects of the pandemic have curtailed state, county and municipal cleanup efforts. That makes Alabama PALS' work even more important.

With trees and grass dormant and creepy critters less active, winter is a great time to engage others in cleanup efforts. Remember, we don't have to agree on everything — just that litter stinks and we want to do something about it!

—Jeff

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Continued from page 1

a dedicated, committed and supportive staff at Alabama PALS each day. Thank you Jamie and Christy for your hard work, attitude, and the genuine commitment to making Alabama PALS grow and prosper every day.

I also want to thank several other staffs that I have the pleasure of working with that are essential to making the programs of Alabama PALS successful. I want to thank the staff at ADCNR/State Lands/ Coastal Section for your unwavering dedication and partnership each year during the planning and implementation of the Alabama Coastal Cleanup. Each of you continue to be the reason that the Alabama Coastal Cleanup continues to be a beacon for other states for coastal cleanup efforts. Thank you also to the Zone Captains, Weeks Bay staff, Recycling coordinators, and the volunteers. Thank you being a part of this wonderful system that has been successful for 36 years!

As I had the opportunity to speak with many of you during the 2022 Governors Awards program, and began putting the newsletter together, it was evident that there are many that play such major roles in the system of Alabama PALS. In summary, thank you for your dedication to commitment to playing such a major role in this wonderful organization, and for your importance in continuing to make this system what it really is at the end of the day... a system that works because of your leadership, support, partnerships, commitment, dedicated staffs, and the goal of a cleaner and more beautiful state for the future.

Thank you again for your support, dedication, and most importantly your friendship. Let's make 2023 a year to remember.



Spencer

MESSAGE FROM:

JOHN COOPER

Director, Alabama Department of Transportation

The partnership between the Alabama Department of Transportation and PALS is one that I am particularly proud of. It is a model for how state government can work with non-profit groups and volunteers to make our state better and more beautiful. With the end of 2022 coming to a close, I like to reflect on how communities, service groups and other organizations have helped ALDOT Keep Alabama Beautiful.

Litter poses a serious threat to Alabama's natural beauty. Together, ALDOT and PALS are dedicated to removing hundreds of tons of litter from highways and natural areas annually with programs like Adopt-A-Mile, Adopt-A-Stream, Coastal Clean-up and Spring Clean-up. This effort helps keep our state beautiful and saves Alabama taxpayers millions of dollars in clean-up costs. This is only possible with the dedicated volunteers who work diligently to ensure our roadways are clean.

We owe Alabama the gift of keeping her clean and we all have the power to do it. It only takes a little effort. From keeping a small bag in your car for trash or volunteering an entire day to picking up litter from roadsides or streams, it's important set a good example for young people. On behalf of ALDOT, thank you for your commitment to Keeping Alabama Beautiful. Together, we are making a difference.

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

The Clean Campus Program continued to thrive in 2022, and we are looking forward to another great year in 2023! We have had more schools request bags than ever, and in the fall we had 42 schools sign up or recommit to the program that had not participated in a while. At our Governor's Awards in November, we recognized 20 students from all over the state from the 2022 Poster and Recycled Art Contests as well as 4 schools that submitted amazing scrapbooks for our Clean Campus Contest. Check out all the winners that are pictured in this edition of the newsletter.

As you make your plans for the spring semester and as Earth Day approaches, we hope that you will consider adding campus cleanups or campus beautification projects into your routine. If you have not yet had an in-person visit from me, I'd love to schedule a time to come speak with your students. The Annual Poster and Recycled Art Contests will be due on April 21st, 2023. The theme for this year's

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

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

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:

CHRISTY WADDELL

State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator

The Adopt-A-Mile and Adopt-A-Stream programs have both had a great period of growth in 2022, but we are hopeful with our wonderful volunteers that we have an even better 2023.

I encourage you to look at your city or county and see if there is a mile of highway or a stream crossing that you or your group could adopt and encourage others to join with you. We live in a wonderful state, and it takes all of us working together to keep Alabama beautiful.

If you do have an adopted mile, please send pictures of your clean ups to me at christy@alpals.org. Also, if you know of any signs that are illegible and need to be replaced, please give me a call at (334)263-7737.

PALS 2023 POSTER CONTEST

GUIDELINES:

- Theme: “Better NOT Litter”
- K-6th (Two categories K-3rd and 4th-6th)
- Only one student may work on each poster... no partners, teams or groups.
- Standard White Poster or Foam Board (May be split in half)
- All mediums acceptable
- Posters will be judged on clarity of theme, age-appropriate neatness, originality, overall design and inclusion of helpful information or tips.
- Please only send in the top 3 posters from your school in each category.
- Back of Poster must include the following:
****We really need ALL this information!!****

Student(s) Name(s): _____

Current Grade: _____

Phone Number & Email for Parent: _____

School: _____

Point of Contact at School: _____

Phone Number & Email of Point of Contact at School: _____

**ALL posters are due in the PALS office by
Friday, April 21st, 2023**

WINNERS:

First Place: \$200 & Plaque

Second Place: \$25 & Plaque

Third Place: \$25 & Plaque

Honorable Mention: Plaque

****All winners will be recognized at our annual
Governor’s Awards Luncheon in November 2023****

poster contest is “Better NOT Litter!”

Please have your own contest at the school level first, then send in only the top 3 posters for statewide judging. Also, note the judging guidelines that will help your students when planning their posters and for judging at the local level. Be sure to have your winners include ALL contact information requested on their posters.

There is no set theme for the Recycled Art Contest, so get CREATIVE! We will accept both 2-D and 3-D works, and the project should be made entirely from recyclable materials (or what would otherwise be considered trash) other than a small amount of fastening materials. As with the poster contest, please only send in the top 3 winners from your school. You may either deliver the pieces or submit them digitally if too heavy or cumbersome to transport for judging. If sending a digital entry and chosen as a winner, that piece will need to be delivered to the PALS office as soon as possible after notification. Be sure to include ALL contact information and turn in entries by April 21, 2023.

The PALS office will notify each winner, school and PALS County Contact by May 12th. Winners will be recognized and presented with

Send posters to:

Alabama PALS
Attn: Jamie Mitchell
340 N. Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

*Please contact Jamie with any
further questions at:
(334) 263-7737
Jamie@alpals.org*

*****Winners will be notified by
May 12th. If your poster is not
chosen, you may pick it up at
the PALS office no later than
May 26th*****

their respective awards at the Annual Governor's Awards Luncheon in November 2023.

In closing, I would like to thank each school that is committed to keeping their campus and community clean. Thank you to those that are a part of the Clean Campus Program. Thank you to students that are learning to be better stewards of our environment and are participating in cleanups, contests and helping spread the word about litter. We are all in this together!

If your school is not currently enrolled in the Clean Campus Program, please visit www.alpals.org to sign up. The program is FREE to all Alabama schools thanks to the generosity of Coca-Cola, ALFA, and the Alabama Farmer's Cooperative. Please call or email me with any questions regarding the program or our contests at (334) 263-7737 or jamie@alpals.org.

-Jamie

ALL Recycled Art projects may either be mailed into the PALS office OR photos of your project may be submitted by email to jamie@alpals.org. If mailing/ delivering your project, send to:

Alabama PALS
Attn: Jamie Mitchell
340 N. Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Please contact Jamie with any further questions at:
(334) 263-7737
jamie@alpals.org

*****Winners will be notified by May 12th. If your piece was submitted digitally and is chosen as a winner, it must be arranged to be delivered to the PALS office after notification. If your piece is not chosen, you may pick it up at the PALS office no later than May 26th. *****

PALS 2023 RECYCLED ART CONTEST

GUIDELINES:

- No set theme, so get CREATIVE and ORIGINAL!!
- 7th-12th grades
- May work alone or with one friend (no more than 2 students per art piece)
- Piece may be 2-D or 3-D and any size, as long as it can be easily moved.
- Art must be made entirely of materials that are eligible for recycling or that would be otherwise considered trash, except for a small amount of fastening materials such as screws, bolts, wire, welding, glue, tape and twine.
- Pieces will be judged on originality, visual impact, overall design and craftsmanship.
- Please only send in the top 3 recycled art projects from your school.
- Please include the following information with each submitted piece: ****We really need ALL this information!!****

Student(s) Name(s): _____

Current Grade: _____

Phone Number & Email for Parent: _____

School: _____

Point of Contact at School: _____

Phone Number & Email of Point of Contact at School: _____

Art pieces due by mail, delivery or email by April 21st, 2023

WINNERS:

First Place: \$200 (to be divided if working with a friend) & Plaque

Second Place: \$25 & Plaque

Third Place: \$25 & Plaque

Honorable Mention: Plaque

****All winners will be recognized at our annual Governor's Awards Luncheon in November 2023****

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 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. As always, all Alabama PALS programs are free to the end user thanks to our state partnerships and corporate sponsors. 🌟

ROCKWELL ELEMENTARY

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.

Fall is always a favorite time of year for us at Alabama PALS. We love the fresh start of a new school year as the Clean Campus Program kicks off at many schools in the state. It is also the season for schools that participated last year to send in their scrapbooks for our Annual Governor's Awards. The first-place winning school wins a \$1,000 scholarship for their efforts with the program and will be recognized at the awards luncheon in November.

Fall is a perfect time for schools that have never participated in the Clean Campus Program to enroll and have me come speak to their students about litter prevention and cleanup. I was able to speak in person to over 25 schools last school year and hope to be back up to my normal visits of 40-50 schools in the 2022-23 school year. Our presentation is a perfect way to cover environmental education and plant seeds for the students to become lifelong stewards of our state and communities.

One of the schools I visited last school year was

Rockwell Elementary in Spanish Fort. Their student government group met with me to learn more ways they could participate in cleanups and litter prevention opportunities on their campus. We discussed that they are the leaders of the school and ways they could convey the anti-litter message to their peers. Each of the students in my presentation was given a pencil made from recycled newspaper and a sheet of stickers to help spread the word.

We are thrilled that Rockwell Elementary is now a part of the Clean Campus Program! If a school near you would like to join or rejoin the program, have them visit www.alpals.org to learn more! They may also call or email to schedule a speaking session at (334) 263-7737 or jamie@alpals.org. Schools are always a great place to start with litter prevention and education. All Alabama PALS programs are free to schools and volunteers thanks to our state partnerships and corporate sponsors. 🌟

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

STUDENTS HEAR CLEAN CAMPUS MESSAGE

BY JAMIE MITCHELL



Trinity Presbyterian School

Several Montgomery County students recently heard the Clean Campus message and learned about how litter negatively impacts their community. Within a week of each other, I spoke at both Trinity Presbyterian School and Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School (FAAM). Trinity has participated in the program for several years, but this is Forest Avenue's first year to participate.

Each year, the third-graders at Trinity participate in a "Market Day" assignment. The students collect "star bucks" throughout the semester, then have a market day where they bring items or goodies to sell and purchase using their star bucks. The third-grade teachers have encouraged the students to consider bringing items that are made from recycled materials from home such as Christmas ornaments made from old light bulbs or birdfeeders made from plastic bottles. On the day I visited, I presented the normal Clean Campus material but made a special emphasis on how to turn trash into treasure! The students all had some wonderful ideas and had a very successful market day!

The fourth-grade students at FAAM also heard the Clean Campus message, but their focus for my visit was to encourage the students to participate in our Clean Campus Annual Poster Contest. We talked all about littering, recycling and reusing, and then we spent some time talking about ideas for the poster contest and the wonderful prizes they could win. The next week, I picked up a stack of posters from their students and even had two winners come from the school! The fourth-graders also participated in a campus cleanup of their own with bags provided by Alabama PALS. Great job, FAAM Students!

We are so happy to have both Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School and Trinity Presbyterian School as participants in the Clean Campus Program! If a school near you would like to join or rejoin the program, have them visit www.alpals.org to learn more! They may also call or email to schedule a speaking session at (334) 263-7737 or jamie@alpals.org. Schools are always a great place to start with litter prevention and education. Alabama PALS programs are free to schools thanks to our state partnerships and corporate sponsors. 🌻



Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY

LITTER CURRICULUM ADDED TO WATER FESTIVAL

BY JAMIE MITCHELL

Every spring, several counties throughout the state welcome fourth-grade students to participate in their local water festivals. I have had the opportunity to work with many of these counties to incorporate litter prevention and removal as a part of their curriculum. We discuss how pollution and litter travels along ditches and streams, eventually ending up in our beautiful lakes, bays, and gulf.

This year, Tallapoosa County added the litter curriculum to their water festival and invited me to come speak to the participating students. I was able to speak to two large groups on two different days at the Wind Creek State Park on Lake Martin. We had two beautiful days that were just perfect to be outside learning about water and being surrounded by the beauty of Lake Martin. The students gathered around and listened while John Thompson with the Lake Martin Resource Association described various types

of litter that typically are found around the lake. My presentation came after Mr. Thompson's introduction where the students learned all about pollution and litter in water. We even had student helpers to conduct experiments showing the movement of pollution from one body of water to another by using food coloring and cups of water.

Water festivals are a great way to get students involved in litter prevention and cleanup! If you would like to add the anti-litter message to your local water festival or add anti-litter curriculum at your school, please visit www.alpals.org to learn more! You may also call or email to schedule a speaking session at (334) 263-7737 or jamie@alpals.org. Schools are always a great place to start with litter prevention and education through the Clean Campus Program. Alabama PALS programs are free to schools thanks to our state partnerships and corporate sponsors. 🌞



Trinity Presbyterian School

SPRING CLEAN-UP 2023

It is hard to imagine that the 2023 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Spring Cleanup is just a few months away. I trust that each of you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year’s holiday and that 2023 will bring you and your families much happiness, fulfillment and joy.

Due to many requests to extend the Spring Cleanup through the month of April, PALS has designated the ENTIRE month of April for the 2023 Spring Cleanup. This will give cities, counties and volunteers the opportunity to designate the time needed to complete their respective cleanups.

We have begun the initial planning for the 2023 Spring Cleanup and wanted to update each of you about the dates for the shipping of materials for the cleanup. PALS is so very fortunate to have Coca-Cola United as our Title Sponsor again in 2023. Coca-Cola United and our other valued Sustaining Corporate Sponsors make the cleanup materials available to all Alabama counties, cities and communities a reality. These dedicated sponsors make all of the statewide PALS programs possible, so please be sure to take time to thank each of these sponsors for all that they continue to do to accomplish the goal of a clean and more beautiful Alabama.

Feel free to contact your respective County Commission Chairman or Engineer and thank them for their part in supporting the “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Spring Cleanup each year. Also, take time to thank them for their willingness to pick up their respective county’s materials in Montgomery, as they did in 2022. The willingness of the Alabama Association of County Commissions to assist PALS in this distribution plays a huge role in PALS being able to meet the growing needs for each county. Each County Commission office will be contacted prior to the 2023 cleanup.

Also, on a very important note, PLEASE fill out the attached information sheet, complete with email address and return it to the PALS office at 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery AL 36104. We will be sending out e-newsletters with information for the 2023 Spring Cleanup, as well as using the PALS web page (alpals.org) and the PALS Facebook page (facebook.com/alabamapals) to send out information, as well as posting updated pictures and news relating to the 2023 statewide cleanup.

Important Facts for Counties Recycling Plastic Bottles

For 2023, PALS is offering cities, counties and volunteer groups the opportunity to recycle plastic (PET 1) soda bottles and aluminum soda cans. Recycling bags will be provided for those that will be participating. PALS is extremely excited about furthering the recycling effort into the 2023 Spring Cleanup. Please fill out the Information Form and indicate if you and your locality will be participating in the recycling effort during the 2023 cleanup.

Important Dates Relating to the 2023 Spring Cleanup

January	PALS has Ordered all Spring Cleanup Materials
January/February	All County/Group Contact Info to PALS Office
March	Groups may order additional materials if needed and if AVAILABLE
March 15	Materials and Supplies in Warehouse for Pick up and Shipping
April 1	Groups may order additional materials if AVAILABLE
April 2023	“Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Spring Cleanup Month
May 30	All Report Forms Due in PALS Office

Materials Provided by PALS for 2023 Spring Cleanup

Large Trash Bags with Corporate Sponsor Logos	Recycling Bags for Counties and Groups Participating
Spring Cleanup Ad Slicks	Reporting Forms
Window Decals	New PALS Program Brochures
Adopt A Mile brochures	Clean Campus brochures

I would also like to encourage each of you and your groups to commit to adding new participants in the Adopt A Mile, Clean Campus and Adopt A Stream programs during this year’s cleanup. This is an excellent opportunity to involve additional numbers of groups and volunteers for the cleanup, as well as growing the active involvement in the mission of Alabama PALS. PALS is setting a goal of 50 new adopted miles during cleanup week. If you need additional brochures for any PALS program, please let us know and we will mail the brochures prior to the cleanup date. The program brochures can also be found at alpals.org.

Please let us know if we can assist you in any way in your planning for the 2023 Spring Cleanup. Thanks again for all that you and your groups do to further the goal of a clean and more beautiful Alabama. It is because of each of you that we can truly say “We Are Making A Difference.”

Spencer Ryan, Executive Vice President, Alabama PALS



2023 Alabama PALS

“Don’t Drop It On Alabama”

Statewide Spring Cleanup

Entire Month of April 2023

ALL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS FURNISHED

Make Plans NOW for your City, County, School, Neighborhood or Volunteer Group to Join Volunteers from Every County in Alabama For the Annual Statewide Spring Cleanup!

Cleanup Coordinator’s Name _____

Contact Phone Number _____ Email Address _____





2023 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” SPRING CLEANUP CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Affiliation _____ County _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Shipping Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

We are interested in RECYCLING aluminum CANS and Plastic Bottles during the 2022 Spring Cleanup?

YES _____ NO _____ Have Questions _____

PLEASE send completed Form to **Alabama PALS, 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104**
or Email to spencer@alpals.org or mcollier@countyrisk.org

2023 Dates to Remember

January

2023 Spring Cleanup Materials Ordered
PALS Newsletter Mailed Statewide

February

All Spring Cleanup Info Forms (Cities, Counties
and Groups) Due In PALS Office

March 15

Alabama PALS Board of Directors Meeting
Spring Cleanup Materials and Supplies Ready
for Pickup

Entire Month of April

2023 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Statewide
Spring Cleanup

July

Alabama PALS Board of Directors Meeting
PALS Newsletter Mailed Statewide

September 12-15

2023 Alabama Coastal Cleanup Materials
and Supplies Distribution Day/ 5 Rivers Delta
Center

September 16

2023 Alabama Coastal Cleanup

October 21

Alabama PALS Governors Awards Nomination
Forms Due In PALS Office

November 8

Alabama PALS Governor’s Awards Program
Renaissance Hotel / Montgomery



2023 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama”

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

For and in consideration of the opportunity to participate in the, 2023 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Spring Cleanup, I hereby forever release from liability,

(1) the City/County/School/Other Entity of _____

and (2) People Against a Littered State (PALS), any of its officers, employees, or agents, (3) the sponsors of the aforesaid, any of their officers, employees or agents (4) the landowner(s) where the event is located, any of their officers, employees or agents from any and all actions, causes of actions, or claims of any kind whatsoever, either for personal injury or otherwise, arising or resulting from my participation in the aforesaid.

Dated: _____

Signed: _____

Participant or Legal Guardian

PLEASE Mail ALL Forms to
Alabama PALS, 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104
or spencer@alpals.org



Spencer Ryan with Opening Remarks



Jeff Helms Introduction of Speaker



Commissioner Chris Blankenship, Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources. Speaker



Bear Exploration Center Students with the Pledge

POSTER CONTEST K-3RD – WINNERS



1st Place: Jackson Stalnaker, Crestline Elementary School



2nd Place: Bladyn Moss, Chatom Elementary School



3rd Place: Dowd Boggus, Guntersville Elementary School

POSTER CONTEST K-3RD – HONORABLE MENTION



Christopher Little, Julius R. Scruggs CDCA School



Annabeth Grimes, Lafayette Lanier Elementary School



Julia Needham, East Elementary School

Not Pictured: Kentley Sellers, Millry Elementary School, Honorable Mention

POSTER CONTEST 4-6TH – WINNERS



1st Place: Nathan Carter, Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School



2nd Place: Kiara Vorster, East Elementary School



3rd Place: Abby Grace Tucker, Hubbertville School

POSTER CONTEST 4-6TH – HONORABLE MENTION



Yibin Chen, Forest Avenue Academic Magnet School



Addison Brunson, Bear Exploration Center



Gracy Melton, WF Burns Middle School



Chais Owens, Crestline Elementary School

RECYCLED ART CONTEST 7-12TH – WINNERS



1st Place: Joseph Estes, Hubbertville School



2nd Place: Maggie Stephens, Trinity Presbyterian School



Honorable Mention: Leah Wall, Kinston High School



Honorable Mention: Brianna Hall, Kinston High School

Not Pictured: 3rd Place: Mylie Kate Hubbert, Honorable Mention: Hannah Winklepeck, Trinity Presbyterian School

CLEAN CAMPUS SCRAPBOOK CONTEST



1st Place: East Elementary School



2nd Place: Hanceville Elementary School



3rd Place: Bear Exploration Center



Honorable Mention: Lafayette Lanier Elementary School

COCA-COLA SPRING CLEANUP/ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AWARD

Wallace State Community College / Cullman





PALS PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Association of County Commissions



PALS PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Osprey Initiative



PALS PARTNERSHIP AWARD
Alabama Broadcasters Association



ADOPT-A-MILE AWARD
Erick N. Wade



ADOPT-A-MILE AWARD
Marshall County Democratic Club



ADOPT-A-MILE AWARD
Mount Nebo Lodge #511



SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD
Hueytown Public Works



SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD
Friends of Shade Creek



SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD
The Cotswolds Homeowners Association



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AWARD
High Rock Farm

SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD Not Pictured:
Cullman Rotary Club



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AWARD
Kappler, Inc.



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AWARD
Super Target Store – Trussville



COASTAL CLEANUP AWARD
Madi Ross / Pensacola-Perdido Bay Estuary Program



COASTAL CLEANUP AWARD
Rock & Roll Offs

COASTAL CLEANUP AWARD Not Pictured: Nick Williams

PALS AWARDS



CITY AWARD
City of Cullman Sanitation
Department



COUNTY AWARD
Marshall County
Commission



MEDIA AWARD
Betsey Iler / Tallapoosa
Publishing, Inc.



MEDIA AWARD
Sand Mountain Reporter



**COCA-COLA "DON'T
DROP IT ON ALABAMA"
AWARD**
Ronnie Tew



COUNTY AWARD
Chambers County Commission



COCA-COLA "DON'T DROP IT ON ALABAMA" AWARD
Cullman County PALS



COUNTY AWARD
Jefferson County Roads and Transportation
Department



LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD
Sheriff Phil Sims / Marshall Co. Sheriff's Dept.



LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD
Jefferson Co. Sheriff's Dept. – Reserves



**LAW ENFORCEMENT
AWARD**
Sheriff Matt Gentry,
Cullman Co.



EDUCATION AWARD
DAR High School



EDUCATION AWARD
Oak Grove High School Student Government



**JEAN McCRADY
SERVICE AWARD**
Marcia Collier



**JEAN McCRADY
SERVICE AWARD**
Keith Golden



EDUCATION AWARD
Clay Chalkville High School



**DON HINES
MEMORIAL AWARD**
Anniston Changers



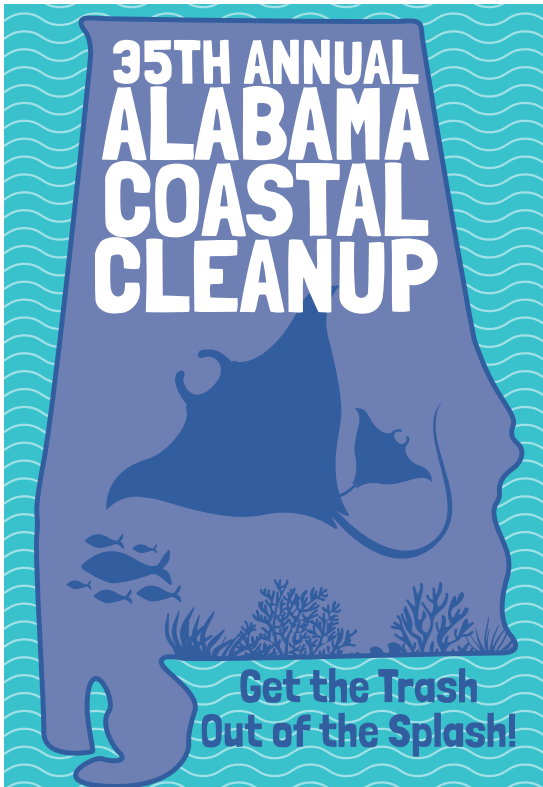
**VULCAN VOLUNTEER
OF THE YEAR AWARD**
Dale Strange



**VULCAN VOLUNTEER OF THE
YEAR AWARD**
Charline Whyte & David Randolph



VULCAN VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
LMRA Renew Our Rivers / Lake Martin Cleanup



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.

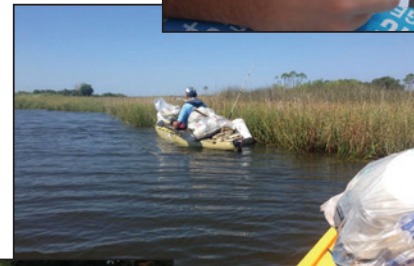
The final information is used to educate the public, business, industry, and government officials about the problem. We believe understanding the problem is the key to finding long-lasting solutions.

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.



The Alabama Coastal Cleanup is coordinated by



PCI AT COASTAL CLEANUP



ALABAMA PALS COASTAL CLEANUP





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



"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

2022 ALABAMA COASTAL CLEANUP SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

THE POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

Ike's Beach Service • Bebo's Express

*Airbus • Alabama Power Company • City of Orange Beach • LuLu's Homeport
City of Gulf Shores • Riviera Utilities • Flora-Bama • Evonik • Rock n' Roll Offs
Coastal Conservation Association-Alabama • Compass Media • Coast 360 • ALDOT
ALFA • Coca-Cola • Vulcan Materials Company • Honda Mfg. of Alabama
Alabama Farmers' Cooperative • Association of County Commissions of Alabama*

*Thank You
To Our Valued Sponsors and Partners!*

