



Contact: Michelle Dunn  
Tel: 724-836-4121 x113  
Email: [mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org)  
Web site: [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Kicks Off 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Great American Cleanup of PA** *Community Groups Large and Small Lead the Way*



**(March 8, 2019)** – The Great American Cleanup of PA is officially underway. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, a statewide nonprofit that provides resources to neighborhoods for community improvement projects, is encouraging anyone who is planning a local event, large or small, to register with the Great American Cleanup of PA, their signature program.

“Cleaning up your neighborhood is one of the best investments you can make. Whether it’s cleaning up a vacant lot, roadway or common area, planting flowers or mulching a playground, all neighborhoods can be improved with a little effort and camaraderie,” said Shannon Reiter, President of

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

The 15th annual [Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Great American Cleanup of PA](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org/gacofpa) kicked off on **March 1 and will run through May 31**. The program brings together thousands of Pennsylvania families, friends and communities who will pick up litter, clean illegal dumpsites, plant flowers or trees, join recycling efforts and education programs all geared towards the vision of a cleaner and more beautiful Pennsylvania. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful partners with PennDOT, the Department of Environmental Protection and Keep America Beautiful to provide free trash bags, gloves and safety vests to registered participants, as supplies last. During **Let’s Pick It Up PA – Everyday from April 13th through May 6th**, cleanups registered with the Great American Cleanup of PA are eligible to take their trash to participating landfills free of charge or for a reduced rate.

“It’s always amazing to see the amount of energy that is created when neighbors join together to work on a project that benefits the whole community. The improvement is instant and the volunteers can see immediate results,” said Reiter.

During the 2018 Great American Cleanup 108,638 volunteers were instrumental in cleaning up over 6.6 million pounds of trash. **To register an event go to [gacofpa.org](http://gacofpa.org)**. Questions can be answered by Michelle Dunn, Great American Cleanup of PA Program Coordinator, at 1-877-772-3673 ext. 113 or [mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:mdunn@keeppabeautiful.org).

Anyone participating in Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful’s Great American Cleanup of PA can earn cash for their nonprofit or charity of choice by entering the [Great American Cleanup of PA Video Contest](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org/gacofpa). To participate, send Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful a 60-second video of your Great American Cleanup of PA event showing how YOU keep Pennsylvania beautiful. For details go to [gacofpa.org](http://gacofpa.org).

**Current 2019 supporters of the Great American Cleanup of PA include:** Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association, Giant, Wawa, Wegmans, Mahantango Enterprises, Inc., Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority and Republic Services.

If you are interested in becoming a supporter of the 2019 Great American Cleanup of PA contact Shannon Reiter at 724-836-4121 or [sreiter@keeppabeautiful.org](mailto:sreiter@keeppabeautiful.org).

#### **About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful**

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful’s mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 133 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania’s roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit [www.keeppabeautiful.org](http://www.keeppabeautiful.org).

###