



Clarion River cleanup volunteers, Elk County

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on another impactful year, we celebrate the strides we've made together in preserving the beauty of Pennsylvania and our communities. Our efforts continue to foster community stewards and civic leaders through our education programs such as the Young Ambassador program, Litter Hawk Youth Award program, Litter Free School Zone and many more.

This year, 28 high school students became the second class to graduate our Young Ambassador program. The students participated in specialized training, completed community surveys, litter cleanups, education programs and engaged in valuable networking opportunities. We are proud of our graduates and our role in fostering a strong sense of community, supporting the professional development of each individual student and enhancing the collective impact of our efforts.

We received close to 1,000 projects from students across the state who entered our Litter Hawk Youth Award program to tell us and show us how they Opened Their Eyes to Litter. We celebrated the winners with a ceremony at the PA State Capitol Building. Read about it on page 4.

We are deeply committed to involving youth in community stewardship. By empowering young people, we aim to directly influence behaviors and attitudes, inspiring not only them but also their friends and families to join our cause. As more students participate in our community stewardship programs, we anticipate a significant reduction in litter and a stronger sense of community ownership.

We are proud to have provided nearly \$1.4 million in community grants since 2021. These funds have supported a variety of stewardship efforts, including community revitalization, cleanups, food waste diversion projects, river sweeps, community gardens, graffiti abatement and vibrant murals.

We look forward to the future with gratitude and optimism and a new year full of opportunities to serve the wonderful people of Pennsylvania. Thank you for being an integral part of our success!

With gratitude,



Shannon Reiter, President



Phoebe Coles Wetzel, Chair



Shannon Reiter, President



Phoebe Coles Wetzel, Chair



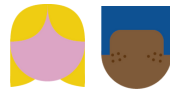
Our dedicated team brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise, with a combined 140 years of experience in leading environmental stewardship and community improvement programs. Pictured from left: Sue Urchek, Heidi Pedicone, Heather Manhart, Kylie McCutcheon, Michelle Dunn, Fred Siekkinen, Rob Dubas, Stephanie Larson and Shannon Reiter. Not pictured are Debra Woolley and Don Benczkowski.

Community Engagement

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful (KPB) team continues to give back to our local community through volunteering.

- We dedicated a morning to packing Easter baskets for children and assembling backpacks filled with essentials for new mothers at Beverly's PGH, an organization passionate about ensuring that every child and family in southwestern Pennsylvania has access to the support and resources they need to thrive.
- We enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Wildlife Works, Inc., raking leaves, learning about the organization's operations and meeting patients including birds of prey, opossums, songbirds and more. Wildlife Works, Inc. is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization, serving Westmoreland County and surrounding areas. They are dedicated to the rehabilitation and release of distressed wildlife and the promotion of responsible attitudes about the preservation of native species, habitat and the environment.
- We continue to pick up and deliver food weekly through the 412 Food Rescue program that prevents food from going to waste by redirecting it to community members in need.

SINCE 1990



2,884,064
invaluable volunteers

161,786,101 pounds
of trash properly disposed



1,206,438 tires
properly disposed



225,312
miles of road cleaned



20,911,342 pounds of electronics recycled



EDUCATION IS PREVENTION



2024 Litter Hawk Youth Award ceremony
at the PA State Capitol Building in Harrisburg.

Thank you for a wonderful Litter Hawk Youth Award ceremony! It was a day that we will always remember and cherish! We are extremely grateful for the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful program. We have a beautiful state, and your program is a huge driver to keeping it clean!

Walt Kalista, Parent

Teaching children about environmental issues can help build a more resilient community. Understanding the effects of litter on the ground and in waterways plus providing an understanding of what they can do to clean their environment is key to long term behavior change. KPBs education programs include a comprehensive selection of educational and technical information and tools for all ages.

Litter Hawk Youth Awards Celebrated at the State Capitol



The Litter Hawk Youth Award program, funded by PA Department of Environmental Protection, celebrates the efforts of young environmental champions in grades K through 6. This program recognizes students for their innovative ideas and actions to reduce litter and also inspires them to continue being environmental stewards. By highlighting their achievements, the Litter Hawk Youth Award encourages a sense of pride and responsibility, fostering a lifelong commitment to keeping our communities clean and beautiful. We received nearly 1,000 posters, essays and videos from individuals, schools and organized groups within Pennsylvania. Student winners were celebrated with an awards ceremony at the PA State Capitol Building. Nearly 60 winners, their families, guardians and teachers were in attendance. Special guests included Ramez Ziadeh, Acting Executive Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Environmental Protection and Phoebe Coles, Chair, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. All winning entries were on display for the month of May.

Litter Free School Zone

The Litter Free School Zone program, funded by PA Department of Environmental Protection, continues to make significant strides in fostering environmental stewardship among students across the state. This program not only educates young minds about the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment but also empowers them to take actionable steps towards achieving this goal.

Launched with the vision of creating a cleaner, greener Pennsylvania, the Litter Free School Zone program engages schools in a comprehensive approach to litter prevention. Participating schools commit to maintaining their campuses and surrounding areas, thereby setting a positive example for the community.

One of the program's core components is educational outreach. The campus litter sweeps are combined with lessons where students learn about the environmental impact of littering and the importance of recycling and waste management.

These educational efforts are designed to instill a sense of responsibility and environmental ethics in students from a young age.

Over the past year, we welcomed 23 new Litter Free School Zones and numerous schools have reported significant

improvements in their local environments. Students at Rostraver Elementary School, a Litter Free School Zone since 2015, worked with the local Rotary Club to organize a community service project.

"We did our School Campus Clean-Up Day on Earth Day with my Aavidum Club! They partnered with the Belle Vernon Rotary and collected seven large trash bags of litter. I had thirty-six members of my club participate and earn the certificate from your website! They were very excited to get involved in a community service project and clean up our school grounds! They thought it was really cool to wear the vests and gloves your organization provides as well! Nice activity!"

Lisa Reynolds, Rostraver Elementary School, Belle Vernon Area SD, Westmoreland County

Updated - Open Your Eyes to Litter In a Watershed

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful believes that our youth is the key to a cleaner and more beautiful tomorrow. Instilling anti-littering habits at a young age will help foster a lifelong sense of responsibility and respect for the environment. By teaching these values early, we empower future generations to take pride in keeping our communities clean and beautiful, ensuring a healthier planet for all.

With funding from PA Department of Environmental Protection, we continue to update our Open Your Eyes to Litter book series. Open Your Eyes to Litter - Book 1 and Book 4 - Open Your Eyes to Litter In a Watershed and their teacher's guides, are complete and available in English and Spanish.



EDUCATION IS PREVENTION



YOUNG AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

This year, 28 students graduated from our Young Ambassador class of 2024! Funded by PA Department of Transportation, the program's goal is to create an environment that fosters cooperation, mutual understanding and support for personal and professional growth. This eight-month program aims to develop community stewards and civic leaders through various opportunities, including:

- Attending six virtual education sessions on topics such as the impact of litter on roadways, litter prevention, waste management and recycling, civic engagement and related public policy, volunteer management and social media marketing.
- Conducting a community assessment and creating a summary presentation.
- Organizing and participating in at least one community cleanup event through Pick Up Pennsylvania and conducting one community education event or activity.

The program provided networking opportunities with professionals, legislators, and other young ambassadors from Florida, Texas, Virginia, South Carolina (Palmetto Pride) and more, building a sense of community within the program and promoting the professional development of individual students.

I think one of the best things I received from this program was the job shadowing opportunity at Columbia Gas! It was wonderful to experience a day in the life of others who work with their community and environment!
Kathryn Boidock, Young Ambassador, Class of 2024

YOUNG AMBASSADORS BY THE NUMBERS

27 Community Assessments	775 Bags of Litter Picked Up
24 Clean Up Events	1,172 Tires Properly Disposed
24 Education Events	77 Greens Planted
951 People Engaged	275 Bags of Invasive Species Removed



Columbia Gas Environmental Coordinator, Will Anderson and Ambassadors Riley Lepley and Maya Lin in the field.

Young Ambassadors Job Shadow with Columbia Gas

Environmental Coordinators at the Columbia Gas facilities in Bridgeville and York hosted juniors, Riley Lepley, Cumberland County; Maya Lin, Delaware County; and Kathryn Boidock, Washington County for a job shadowing event. The day began with an overview of the role of Environmental Coordinators and their importance within the Columbia Gas ecosystem. Students met with engineers to discuss projects requiring Environmental Department involvement, then donned safety gear and visited active work sites.

Young Ambassadors Alumni

Oluseyi Oduntan, class of 2024, completed her first semester at the University of Pittsburgh. She is majoring in Biochemistry and plans to obtain a certificate in Conceptual Foundations of Medicine. Oluseyi volunteers with the University's Food Recovery Heroes, an initiative aimed at minimizing food waste from dining halls by packaging excess food and delivering it to people in the greater Pittsburgh area. In addition to her volunteer work, Oluseyi holds a leadership position in the humanitarian club, Humanity First, and tutors students in biology and pre-calculus. Recently, she joined us to share her experiences with current Ambassadors, particularly highlighting her educational event from last year.

Michelena DeNaples, class of 2024, received the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Emerging Environmental Leader Award for demonstrating exceptional motivation and passion for conservation. As a Young Ambassador, Michelena led her fellow Scranton Prep students in volunteer events with a focus on environmental issues. Her parks conservation group planted hundreds of trees, collected trash, and cleared invasive plants along the Lackawanna Heritage Trail and the Lackawanna River.

I'm thankful for the connections I've made and the good I've done through the YA program. I'm making a difference in my community and it feels great!
Kalub Schreiber, Young Ambassador, Class of 2024



Oluseyi Oduntan (left) and friend package food.

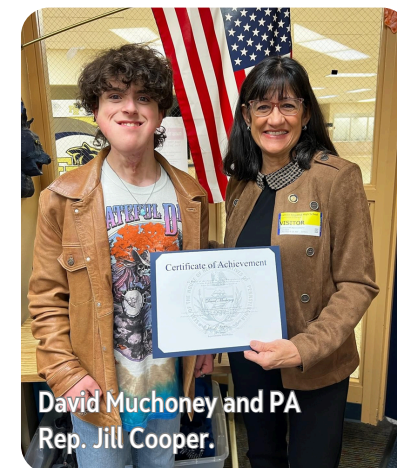


Kylie McCutcheon, KPB Affiliate Coordinator and Michelena DeNaples attend awards ceremony.

Legislators Provide Unique Opportunities for Ambassadors

U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan and her team met virtually with the Young Ambassadors from Chester County. Shriya Chowdavarapu, Fadila Nassir and Vedant Bedekar to learn about their aspirations and offer support.

PA Representative Jill Cooper visited David Muchoney at his Westmoreland County high school to present him with a certificate of achievement and congratulate him on his acceptance to the program.



David Muchoney and PA Rep. Jill Cooper.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP & ENGAGEMENT



Healing The Panet grant recipient, Dickinson College Farm, Cumberland County, received \$20,000 to complete an anaerobic digester project for conversion of community food waste and dairy manure into biogas and grid-tied electricity.



The GIANT Company – Healing the Planet Grants

Through a partnership with The GIANT Company, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful awarded 23 Healing the Planet (HTP) grants, ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000, totaling \$300,000, supporting programs that address food waste prevention, reduction and recovery across The GIANT Company’s operating area, on public land or for public use and benefit. Highlights include:

Evergreen Elementary in Montgomery County incorporated Flex Farm, a hydroponic garden and food composter into the classroom that had a profound impact on students, enhancing their engagement and understanding of sustainability, science and nutrition.

The Friends Community Fridge, in Philadelphia, expanded access to fresh foods in a major food desert from the Delaware River to the Schuylkill River - Spring Garden Street to South Street, a huge geographic and densely populated area that previously did not have access to community food resources.

The GIANT Company Employee Engagement

The GIANT Company’s Reduced Emissions Program, in partnership with PDI Solutions and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, organized employee engagement events to beautify parks. Activities included raking and mulching flower beds in Allentown, and cleaning, painting, and mulching at Santa House Pocket Park in Dubois, with help from Dubois High School students and Downtown Dubois, Inc.

Columbia Gas NiSource Charitable Foundation

In addition to providing a job shadowing opportunity for three Young Ambassadors, Columbia Gas - NiSource Charitable Foundation, in partnership with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, also provided mini-grants totaling \$7,840 for community greening and beautification projects including:

Allegheny CleanWays and the Environmental Charter School of Pittsburgh hosted a GrateKeepers cleanup, where nine families removed 45 pounds of trash. Students learned about storm drains and applied Pittsburgh Water Sewer Authority medallions to nearly 20 drains.

The Elk County Conservation District hosted a workshop and Clarion River cleanup. Homeowners learned eco-friendly practices and received gardening supplies. St. Mary's High School students collected 800 pounds of trash, which the PA Game Commission transported for disposal.

Keep Fayette County Green organized the Mountain Area Series Hard to Recycle Events in Stewart, Springfield, and Wharton townships, providing residents recycling and disposal services for hard-to-recycle items.

With the help of a high school student, Venango County Conservation District enhanced a pollinator garden and created an educational presentation for Venango Technology Center students, who then planted native species.



Yuengling Partners with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful to Celebrate 195 Years with Community Cleanup

Through a collaborative effort between Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, D.G. Yuengling & Son, Inc. and Keep America Beautiful, Yuengling employees and their family members cleaned up trash along Route 209 and the Schuylkill River corridor leading into Port Carbon, PA. An impressive 3,070 pounds of litter, including tires and other items commonly found along roads and public spaces were bagged within a span of two hours. The cleanup marked Yuengling's 195th anniversary and underscored their commitment to community care and sustainability.



Marathon Fuels Community Improvement: Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Awards Greatest Grants

With funding provided by Marathon, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful provided two 'Greatest Grants' of \$1,000 each to local affiliates in support of their community improvement programs including cleanups, education and recycling initiatives. The grants were in coordination with the Greatest American Cleanup, an initiative of Keep America Beautiful to make America look its best for our nation's 250th birthday celebration in 2026.

Scranton Tomorrow received funding for their work related to cleanup and beautification of downtown Scranton, PA. Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling received funding to support their county-wide recycling programs.



Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and PWIA Partner for Free Disposal During Pick Up Pennsylvania

Through an ongoing partnership with the Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, participants registered with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Pick Up Pennsylvania program received free or reduced-cost disposal for trash collected at registered events during the month of April.

AFFILIATE NETWORK



Keep Harrisburg Beautiful



Keep Harrisburg Beautiful



Keep Monroe County Beautiful



Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling



Allegheny CleanWays



HTEMS Community Service Day,
Luzerne County



Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful

AFFILIATE NETWORK: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Affiliate Training Program: Empowering Success

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful provides networking and training opportunities for all affiliates to learn, grow and share with peers across the state with similar roles. This year, the following training opportunities were provided. Ten hours of training were provided and 76% of affiliates were represented at the trainings.

- Affiliate Roundtable and Networking in Harrisburg, PA – This gathering included an affiliate panel on working with youth in rural, suburban and urban areas, strategic partnerships with Victoria Naro Rogers, Director of Partnerships, America250PA and working with the Office of Environmental Justice with Justin Dula, Director for the Office of Environmental Justice, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.
- Special Collections Best Practices – Held remotely, affiliate partners, Keep Cumberland County Beautiful and Tri-County CleanWays shared their expertise on holding special collections and operating a recycling drop-off facility.
- Waterway Cleanups Best Practices – Held remotely, KPB staff Michelle Dunn, Program Coordinator and Kylie McCutcheon, Affiliate Coordinator,

presented building a successful and sustainable waterway cleanup.

- Leveraging Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Community Pride and Affiliate Awards and working with Young Ambassadors - Held remotely, an overview of KPBs robust awards program was presented.

Affiliate Fund: Fueling Growth

The Affiliate Fund is designated by the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Board of Directors to ensure that local affiliates have the financial resources to support ongoing programs and events, seed new program ideas and continue to support our shared vision of a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania.

Thirty-eight grants were issued to the following affiliates:

- Allegheny CleanWays
- Keep Allentown Beautiful
- Keep Centre County Beautiful
- Keep Chester County Beautiful
- Keep Dauphin County Beautiful
- Keep Delco Beautiful
- Keep Erie County Beautiful
- Keep Fayette County Green
- Keep Harrisburg Beautiful
- Keep Lancaster County Beautiful
- Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful
- PA CleanWays of Elk County
- Scranton Tomorrow
- Tri-County CleanWays
- Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling

Affiliate Fund Highlights

PA CleanWays of Elk County

For over 30 years, high school students have come together to embark on a meaningful journey down the Clarion River in canoes. This annual event is far from just a leisurely paddle; it's a dedicated effort to clean the river that flows through their back yard. Students retrieve debris left behind from intentional dumping or storm events, hauling it aboard for proper disposal. Despite their yearly efforts, they still manage to collect hundreds of pounds of trash. This year, during a cleanup event in early September, they impressively gathered nearly 1,000 pounds of trash.

Keep Delco Beautiful

The goal of this event was to provide a consistent and convenient recycling solution for campaign and yard signs following each primary and general election. Yard signs are notoriously difficult to recycle, with very few vendors offering this service. By hosting this event, Keep Delco Beautiful diverted plastics, cardboard and metal from the waste

stream. The spring event was held over two days with the help of eight dedicated volunteers. Approximately 25 to 35 participants dropped off varying numbers of yard signs. In total, three 32-gallon trash bags were filled with polyethylene campaign signs, and an additional 100 to 200 cardboard and corrugated plastic signs were collected and 480 pounds of metal were recycled from the wickets.

Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling

A total of 350 stainless-steel straws were distributed across 11 programs, reaching 415 individuals - 138 adults and 277 youth. Not everyone took a straw, demonstrating sustainability and waste minimization. Distributing the straws provided a tangible example of sustainable alternatives, encouraged environmentally friendly habits, promoted awareness and reinforced the concepts discussed during the program. Students who use the straws help spread awareness, influence others positively and become advocates for sustainability.



EMPOWERING PENNSYLVANIANS



The Western PA Conservancy could not do the work of beautifying and greening the western region of PA without the help from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. The gloves, vests and trash bags are integral to facilitating our spring plantings and fall garden cleanups. We appreciate your support!
Sara Chester, Field Staff, Western PA Conservancy

Pick Up Pennsylvania: A Year-Round Community Improvement Success

For over two decades, Pick Up Pennsylvania has been Pennsylvania's signature cleanup and community improvement program. Through an ongoing collaboration with the PA Department of Environmental Protection, PA Department of Transportation and Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, we have equipped our dedicated volunteers with essential supplies like trash bags, work gloves and safety vests. This year-round community improvement program saw individuals, friends, families, municipalities and groups of all sizes come together to make a difference in their neighborhoods. From cleaning up vacant lots, streets and riverbanks to planting gardens and trees, and mulching local playgrounds, our volunteers' efforts are nothing short of inspiring.

The PA Department of Environmental Protection and PA Waste Industries Association played a crucial role by providing trash disposal services, either free or at a reduced rate, for cleanups held during April. Our collaborative partnerships and the dedication of volunteers enable us to engage with individuals and groups throughout the state, including esteemed organizations like the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy has been protecting and restoring natural spaces in 20 counties of Western Pennsylvania since 1932. They engage thousands of volunteers, plant tens of thousands of bulbs, trees, flowers and shrubs in over 100 community and roadside gardens each year. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is honored to support their incredible efforts by providing essential resources such as gloves, safety vests and trash bags that help transform shared public spaces.

IMPACT SNAPSHOT



76,076
invaluable volunteers



10,057
trees, greens and flowers planted



6,513 miles
of roads & waterways cleaned



3.2 million pounds
of trash properly disposed



46,726
tires properly disposed

LAND AND WATER STEWARD Building a Legacy of Environmental Stewardship and Community Engagement

Land Steward Program

Keep Norristown Beautiful (KNB) and the Municipality of Norristown have enthusiastically embraced our Land Stewards program. Lisa Bobyock, the Affiliate Coordinator and Environmental & Stormwater Compliance Manager for the municipality, has been instrumental in partnering with us to promote and facilitate this initiative among residents. Thanks to the many businesses, organizations, and residents that signed up for KNB Adopt-a-Road program, an impressive number of city streets (22!) have been adopted. The Municipality's commitment to the program is evident through their support in installing recognition signs, organizing community-wide cleanups, and providing essential trash disposal services for litter cleanups with the help of their dedicated Public Works team members. This collaboration not only enhances the beauty of Norristown but also fosters a sense of community pride and environmental stewardship.

"We look forward to continued support from the community in 2025 and adding to the growing list of Land Stewards in town." **Lisa Bobyock, MPA,**
Environmental & Stormwater Compliance
Manager, Norristown Stormwater Authority



Rotaract Club adopted Main Street in Norristown.

Waterway Steward Program: A Year of Growth and Impact

Thanks to funding from the PA Department of Environmental Protection's Coastal Resources Management and Bureau of Waste, the Waterway Stewards program has flourished, reaching nearly 135 participants. This program is designed to engage individuals who are passionate about the health and safety of Pennsylvania's waterways in community science, fostering long-term stewardship of our water trails and preventing harmful chemicals from plastics and other debris from leaching into our waters.

As Jim Zueger approaches his one-year anniversary with the Waterway Steward program, it's clear he's no stranger to the task of cleaning up Pennsylvania's lakes and rivers. For many years, Jim has dedicated himself to collecting as much as 12 tons of litter annually.

At 70 years old, Jim's passion for maintaining the cleanliness of the lakes near his Westmoreland County home is unwavering. Every day, he loads up his

kayak and Waterway Steward Kit and head out to various sites with a singular mission: to clean up trash.

Some days, Jim makes multiple trips, hauling away everything from lumber and metal to discarded lawn furniture and other debris. His efforts are a testament to the impact that dedicated individuals can have on our environment. Waterway Stewards like Jim play a crucial role in highlighting the issue of litter and promoting the health of our waterways. Their stories inspire others to take action and contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment.

Each new steward receives a waterway cleanup kit, which includes gloves, a collapsible litter grabber, mesh bag, tick repellent and a laminated data card for recording trash. These tools empower our volunteers to make a tangible difference in maintaining the cleanliness and safety of our waterways.



James Zueger, Waterway Steward

"I find it to be very gratifying to restore our waterways to the pristine conditions that God intended. The constant opposition to my work at times becomes very depressing and I think "what's the use". At times like these it helps to know that there are people like your organization that support me in the battle." James C. Zueger

Litter Control Methods

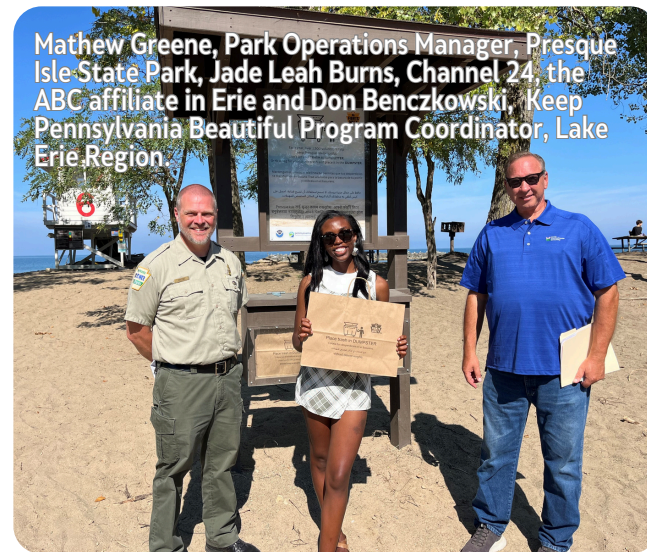
Make a Difference in Presque Isle

Funded by PA Department of Environmental Protection's Coastal Resources Management

As a pilot project, two booms were installed at points of stormwater discharge in Presque Isle Bay at the property of Lakeshore Towing Services, Inc. The litter booms have thus far proven successful in preventing litter from entering Presque Isle Bay. An analysis performed by the Regional Science Consortium at Tom Ridge Environmental Center, of the thousands of pieces of litter captured by the booms indicated cigarette butt litter was the most prevalent, followed by foam pieces, then plastic pieces. Future analyses will examine the occurrence of correlations between meteorological conditions and the presence of litter. Information gleaned from this program will aid in determining how to reduce the amount of trash entering the waterway. Also, educational strategies will be evaluated and developed to inform residents and visitors about the effects litter has on local industry, people and wildlife and help change attitudes and behaviors toward littering.

Education Messaging in Multiple Languages Piloted at Presque Isle State Park Beaches

Dumpsters are usually off-limits to the public, but on Presque Isle beaches, they are used instead of trash cans which are small, can fill up fast and can be easily blown over by the lake winds. Messaging asking visitors to



Mathew Greene, Park Operations Manager, Presque Isle State Park, Jade Leah Burns, Channel 24 the ABC affiliate in Erie and Don Benczkowski, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Program Coordinator, Lake Erie Region

place their trash in the dumpsters provided, was piloted at Beaches 6 and 8. The message is stenciled on picnic tables, dumpsters and kiosks in the four most spoken languages in Erie - English, Spanish, Arabic and Nepali. Trash bags are also provided. The goal is to encourage the use of dumpsters and reduce the amount of trash that makes its way into the waterway.

Presque Isle State Park Provides Recycling for Eclipse Glasses

In April, Erie, PA was in the solar eclipse path of totality! To encourage visitors and residents to properly dispose of eclipse glasses, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, Presque Isle State Park, Keep Erie County Beautiful and Mill Creek Township partnered to provide messaging and infrastructure for unwanted eclipse glasses. Pennsylvania state parks collected 5,625 eclipse glasses. The glasses were sent to Eclipse Glasses USA for future sites in totality.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



Natasha Fackler, Chief of Staff, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and KPB board member; Kylie McCutcheon, Young Ambassador Coordinator, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful; Brady McNamara, Young Ambassador graduate 2023; Shannon Reiter, President, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful; Andy Tubbs, President and CEO, Energy Association of Pennsylvania and KPB board member.

Governor's Award for Excellence Young Ambassadors Program

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's Young Ambassadors program was recognized with a Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. The Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence is an annual award presented to any Pennsylvania business, farm, government agency, educational institution, non-profit organization or individual that has created, or participated in, the development of a project that promotes environmental stewardship in Pennsylvania.

Keep America Beautiful Awards - State Agency Partnership Award

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's partner agencies PA Department of Environmental Protection and PA Department of Transportation were recognized for their support of and collaboration on Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's programming, including Pick Up Pennsylvania, Young Ambassadors Program, Land and Water Stewardship programs and educational outreach.



Pennsylvania
**Department of
Environmental Protection**



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful 2024 Volunteers of the Year Award

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes volunteers for significant and positive impacts toward keeping local communities clean and beautiful. The volunteers recognized include:

Stacy Marinos, nominated by Allegheny CleanWays, has volunteered 54 times with Allegheny CleanWays since 2022, becoming a crucial asset on challenging cleanup sites whether on land or water!

Kathy Frederick, nominated by Keep Allentown Beautiful, conducts weekly cleanups year-round. She led her team to victory in Allentown's first litter pick up competition on Earth Day 2023. She removed over 1,000 bags of litter from Allentown alone.

Kelly McDowell, nominated by Keep Chester County Beautiful, has been picking up litter along Route 1 in southern Chester County since 2013 and coordinates the "Great American Cleanup of PA - Chester County," hosting cleanups every spring weekend from March 1 to May 31. She has collected over 11,114 bags of litter and 430 tires, with her annual events drawing 50-100 volunteers.

Jim Means, nominated by Keep Fayette County Green, holds monthly collections and a fall hard-to-recycle event for Wharton and surrounding townships. He launched a recycling program at the Mountain Area Senior Center and fosters a

collaborative environment, inspiring others to support his initiatives.

Fawn Contreras, nominated by Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful, is Head of Youth Services at Valley Community Library and partners with Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful to organize cleanups in Lackawanna County. She educates students about community involvement and beautification and conducts annual group cleanups for Earth Day, National Cleanup Day, her Birthday and Mother's Day.

Sante DeMichiel, nominated by Keep Perry County Beautiful, has been a dedicated volunteer since 2017, and participated in events including Tire Wars, E-Cycling and river cleanups. He stood out as a leader at the 2023 Tire War, known for his proactive and kind nature.

Randy Wilharm, nominated by Keep Royal Gardens Beautiful, managed the "Villanova Day of Service" with over 100 volunteers, and participated in the "Fall - Love Your Park Event" honoring Veteran's Day, showcasing his commitment to positive change.

Robert Giron, nominated by Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling, has been a dedicated volunteer for over two years, helping to unload and process recyclable items with a smile and kind words and guiding customers on proper plastic container recycling.

2024 Community Partner Award

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Community Partner Award honors outstanding partnerships with local governments, community organizations or businesses who enhance and are essential to local community programming. Recipients include:

Public Lands

nominated by Allegheny CleanWays

AJ Blosenski (Waste Connections)

nominated by Keep Chester County Beautiful

Wildheart Ministries

nominated by Keep Dauphin County Beautiful



AJ Blosenski (Waste Connections) volunteers clean up a section of the Schuylkill River.



Wildheart Ministries clean up Harrisburg's Allison Hill Neighborhood.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



Lynn Appman and Rep. Rob Mercuri



Jack O'Hara of The Greater Bustleton Civic League and Senator Jimmy Dillon



Shakira Davis of 2nd Century Alliance and Coatesville volunteers, Susan Springsteen and Vincent Miles



Newtown Square in Bloom - Newtown Township,



PA State Senator Carolyn Comitta and New Eagle Elementary School staff and students



PA State Senator Katie Muth, Kate Smith, President, Save the Schuylkill, and PA Representative Paul Friel



Representative Marla Brown and Commander William Schafer

Community Pride Award

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Community Pride Award recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship by an individual, school, community organization or civic group that makes an outstanding commitment to litter control, recycling, beautification or general environmental stewardship. The Community Pride Award is available to elected officials to recognize those in the community working to change behaviors at the local level. Community Pride Awards were presented to:

Lynn Appman and the "Litter Getters," nominated by PA Representative Rob Mercuri, District 28.

Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association, nominated by Upland Borough Mayor, Bill Dennon, Delaware County.

Jackson Middle School, nominated by PA Representative Ismail Smith-Wade-EL, District 49.

New Eagle Elementary School, nominated by PA State Senator, Carolyn Comitta, Senate District 19.

Newtown Square in Bloom - Newtown Township, nominated by PA Representative Lisa Borowski, District 168.

Commander William Schafer, nominated by PA State Representative Marla Brown, District 9.

Sheila Shea, Keep Fayette County Green Affiliate Coordinator, nominated by PA State Senator Patrick Stefano, District 32.

Jeffrey and Gretchen Sink, nominated by PA State Representative Marla Brown, District 9.

Kate Smith, President, Save the Schuylkill, nominated by PA State Senator Katie Muth, District 44 and PA Representative Paul Friel, District 26.

The Greater Bustleton Civic League, nominated by Senator Jimmy Dillon, PA State Senator, District 5.

FUNDERS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

\$100,000+

PA Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Waste Management
The GIANT Company

\$25,000-\$99,999

America250PA
Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania - A NiSource
Company (NiSource Charitable Foundation)
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Coastal Resources Management
PA Department of Transportation

\$10,000-\$24,000

Dow Chemical Company
Keep America Beautiful - Cigarette Litter
Prevention Program
Marathon Petroleum Foundation
The Pittsburgh Foundation
D.G. Yuengling & Son, Inc.

\$5,000-\$9,999

PA Waste Industries Association
Sheetz

\$1,000-\$4,999

Down2Earth Interior Designs
EarthPlanter
Foundation for PA Watersheds
Hershey Charitable Giving
Long's EcoWater

Ocean Conservancy
OneBeautifulPlanet.org
PA American Water
Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
Penn Turf, Inc.
Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau
Republic Services
Vistra
Wegmans
Weis Markets, Inc

INKIND

Blakely Borough
Chambers Development
Chestnut Valley Landfill
Commonwealth Environmental Systems
Dunkard Township
Earth Planter
Grand Central Sanitary Landfill
Greentree Landfill
Hempfield Township
Huston Township
Keep America Beautiful, Inc.
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority
Lycoming County Resource Management Services
Municipality of Norristown
Ocean Conservancy
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
PA Department of Environmental Protection
PA Department of Transportation
PA State Association of Township Supervisors
Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Philadelphia Streets Department

Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania
Regional Science Consortium at Tom Ridge
Environmental Center
Sandy Run Landfill, Inc.
Sandy Township
Solid Waste Association of North America
Keystone Chapter
Uwchlan Township
Waste Management - Mid Atlantic Region
Westmoreland County
Westmoreland County Department of Public Works

INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND SMALL BUSINESS GIVING

Sustaining (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Anderson, Scott
Holder, Collin
Jim and Leslie Bonner Fund
Ladman, Allison

Supporter (\$500-\$999)

Kreider, Deb
Monroe County Municipal Authority
Skischeap.com LLC
Von Lunen, Mark and Jana
Walmart - facility 2059
Weir, George

Sponsor (\$100-\$499)

Armstrong Center for Community Learning
Baer, Lisa
Berks Nature
Bronakoski, RL and MD
Ciraulo, Valerie
Comcast
Connors, David and Mary

County of Fayette
 Derry Township Board of Supervisors
 Earth Conservancy
 Fackler, Natasha and Jacob
 Fitzpatrick, Scott
 Gwinn, Linda Sue
 Harr, Doreen
 Hess, David and Mary
 Heydt, Scott
 Hursh, Carl
 Indiana Moose Lodge 174
 Juniata Township Supervisors
 Keenan, Mary M.
 Krupar, Brian E.
 Marshall, Robert
 MeKosh, Mary Anne
 Nestor Resources
 Newman, James and Debra
 Paypal Giving Fund
 Reisinger, Kenneth
 Reiter, Bryan and Shannon
 Shafer, Joanne
 Shirley Township Board of Supervisors
 Smith, Eileen
 Spence, Elizabeth
 Spinato, Michael
 Thornhurst Township
 Tsai, Amy
 Tubbs, Nancy
 Union, Michael
 Wadsworth, Wayne & Dawn
 Warntz, Andrew and Deborah
 Wertz, Francis
 Williams, Philip
 Zona, Jerry

Friend (\$15-\$99)

4UDrew Foundation
 Baker, Barbara
 Bates, Richard K.
 Bielec, Stephanie
 Bray, Frank and Denise
 Buckholz, Frederick
 Buckwell, Gail
 Butters, Robert
 Clark, James and Shirley
 Coffey, Mallory
 Daley, Daniel and Elizabeth
 Darby, Peter and Barbara
 Deluca, LM and DL Wintz
 Dillsburg Borough
 Dolte, Philip and Rebecca
 Duprey, Sara
 Fetter, Jennifer
 Firouzi, Omeed
 Fleischer, Alice
 Gee, Mary
 Gonzalez, Carmen
 Horting, Kenneth and Shari
 Hostetter, James and Patricia
 Howe, Howard
 Johnson, Aedelle
 Kripas, Diane
 Kulp, James
 Kwansy, Patrick
 Lehigh, Donald
 Lipson, Jessica
 Mazzella Di Bosco, Amy
 McQuaide, Ashley
 Moore, Katherine
 Murdough, Cindy
 Myerov, Susan
 Ostermiller, Helen
 PA Computer Connections
 Patterson, James and Donna

Reichert, Brady
 Schuylkill Canal Association
 Shaver, Joan and Richard
 Smerkar, Richard and Barb
 Smith, Brad and Glenda
 Sprowls, James and Louise
 Stacey, Terry and Sondra
 Stoffel, William and Carol
 Thiel, Kathleen
 Thomas, David A.
 Toman, Susanne
 Ulsh, Darrell L.
 Usko, Sharee
 Valenti, Matthew
 Vansickle, Maryann and Sherman
 Wargo, Mark and Daria
 Watson Township Supervisors
 Weaver, Stephen and Mary
 Weiland, Christopher and Susanne
 Williams, Carl and Shelley
 Zanardelli, David

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION

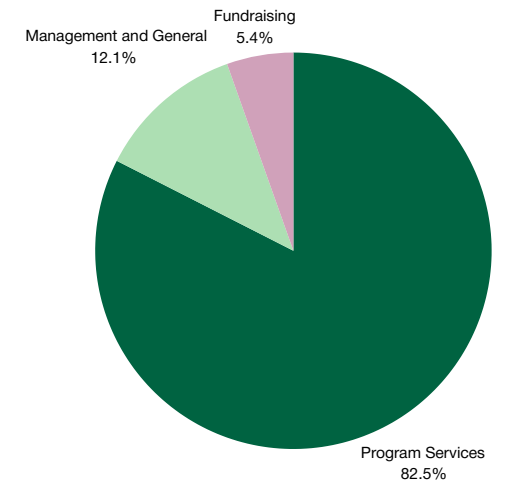
Statement Financial Position

September 30, 2024

Total Current Assets	\$643,171
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$211,582
Total Assets	\$854,753
Total Liabilities	\$98,413
Total Net Assets	\$756,340
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$854,753

Allocation of Functional Expenses

Fiscal Year 2023-2024



Functional Expenses

Program Services	\$1,078,976
Management and General	\$162,375
Fundraising	\$71,869
Total Expenses	\$1,313,220

MANY THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

Scranton Tomorrow planting, Lackawanna County



On behalf of Dickinson College and the farm, we are grateful to The GIANT Company and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful for their support of our food waste to energy initiative. This project will benefit farmers, the watershed and our climate. We are elated to work with these local partners to make our community more sustainable.
Matt Steiman, Energy & Livestock Manager, Dickinson College



Haws Street Adoption by ACLAMO, Norristown, Montgomery County



Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling educated youth at Sewickley Creek Watershed event



Pittsburgh Garbage Olympics, Allegheny County



Greene Dreher Historical Society



Litter Hawk Youth Award ceremony at the PA State Capitol Building, Harrisburg



Stream clean up, Lancaster County

Healing The Planet grant recipient, Fairmount Park Conservancy education event Philadelphia

I was able to meet Senator Comitta through the YA program and schedule time to talk about future environmental legislation.
Emilee K., Young Ambassador Class of 2024



Sunnyside Pike adoption by USW Local 10-00086/Next Generation, Upper Gwynedd Township, Montgomery County



Penn Hills Community Cleanup, Allegheny County

A beautiful day on the water, searching for surprises as we gather trash, seeing the shoreline cleaner every year, a bald eagle, a great blue heron, the other regular volunteers. It's a privilege to participate.
Susan Stout, Allegheny River and Watershed cleanup



Emilee K., Young Ambassador, class of 2024

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has been instrumental in helping Heritage Conservancy in our efforts to host cleanups on properties in Bucks County. It is through Keep PA Beautiful that we have received access to supplies that help us facilitate our cleanups, as well as additional promotion of our events. Working together helps us all keep our home clean!
Melissa Lee, Volunteer and Historic Events Coordinator, Heritage Conservancy



Cleanup at Catawissa Nature Preserve, Bucks County



Spring planting, Westmoreland County



Route 100 Clean up, Chester County



North Village Avenue adoption by Uwchlan Garden Club, Chester County

ABOUT US



Ricketts Glenn State Park

Staff

Shannon Reiter – President
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Board of Directors

Phoebe Coles Wetzel – Chair
Partner, Community Marketing Concepts

Doreen Harr – Vice Chair
Senior Financial Investigator, Pennsylvania
Office of Attorney General

Natasha Fackler - Secretary
Chief of Staff, Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Protection

Deb Kreider – Treasurer
Director of Meat and Seafood, The GIANT
Company

Ken Anderson, Vice President of Civic
Affairs, Chamber of Commerce for Greater
Philadelphia

Chris Barrett, President and CEO, Pocono
Mountains Visitors Bureau

Kelsey DeMerlis, Director, Center for
Community Services, Pennsylvania
Department of Community and Economic
Development

Sarah Desantis, Executive Assistant to the
Deputy Secretary for Marketing, Tourism &
Film, Pennsylvania Department of
Community and Economic Development

Mary Keenan, Executive Director, Webber
Associates, LLC

April Kopas, Consultant

Wesley Robinson, Press Secretary,
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Jerome Shabazz, Executive Director,
JASTECH Development Services, Inc.

Andrew Tubbs, President and CEO, Energy
Association of Pennsylvania

Andy Warntz – Manager of Municipal Sales,
Republic Services


Jerry Zona, Director, Lawrence-Mercer
Counties Recycling and Solid Waste
Department

Emeritis

Mark Von Lunen, Owner, Bookin' Business
Services

Expanding our Affiliate Network

Allegheny CleanWays
CleanScapes (Clinton & Lycoming)
Keep Allentown Beautiful
Keep Cambria County Beautiful
Keep Centre County Beautiful
Keep Chester County Beautiful
Keep Coatesville Beautiful
Keep Cumberland County Beautiful
Keep Dauphin County Beautiful
Keep Delco Beautiful
Keep Erie County Beautiful
Keep Fayette County Green
Keep Harrisburg Beautiful
Keep Huntingdon County Beautiful
Keep Lancaster County Beautiful
Keep Monroe County Beautiful
Keep Norristown Beautiful
Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful
(Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike,
Susquehanna, Wayne & Wyoming)
Keep Perry County Beautiful
Keep Reading Beautiful
Keep Royal Gardens Beautiful
Keep York Beautiful
PA CleanWays of Elk County
PA CleanWays of Mifflin County
PA CleanWays of Venango County
Schuylkill Keep It Pretty (SKIP)
Scranton Tomorrow
Tri-County CleanWays
(Butler, Lawrence & Mercer)
Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling



“Our board members, affiliates
and volunteers are the heart of
our mission and the driving
force behind our success.
Together, their dedication and
passion make everything we do
possible.”

Shannon Reiter, President



Empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful.

