

## PickUpThePoconos.com — DO YOUR PART —

CONTACT: James Hamill Director of Public Relations Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau jhamill@poconos.org (570) 419-8461

## **VOLUNTEERS TACKLE LITTER ACROSS POCONOS**

Annual 'Pick Up the Poconos Day' has wide, meaningful impact

September 30, 2020 – In just its third year, the volunteer litter cleanup event "Pick Up the Poconos Day" on Saturday, September 26 expanded to cover all four counties (Wayne, Pike, Monroe and Carbon) and removed hundreds of bags of garbage from area roadways and public spaces. Nearly 300 volunteers including the entire <u>East Stroudsburg</u> <u>University football team</u> spent the day picking up discarded trash, helping to make the Poconos clean and green.

This year, amid a pandemic and economic hardships, volunteers throughout the Pocono Mountains removed 650 bags of litter so far and covered dozens of miles of roadway stretching from Honesdale, Newfoundland and Lake Wallenpaupack to Stroudsburg, East Stroudsburg and Jim Thorpe. Milford Borough parks were cleaned of bottles, cans and discarded cigarettes and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area also had some big help from the ESU players to rid its riverbanks of unsightly litter.

The volunteer group, <u>Keep Hawley-Honesdale Beautiful</u>, also coordinated its litter pickups the same weekend adding considerably to the bag and mileage totals (45 volunteers, 239 bags with another 11 groups yet to complete their pickups).

Volunteers had a choice of which location they would like to help clean-up. Gloves, bags, vests and free t-shirts were provided thanks to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, PennDOT and the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau. Waste Management supplied roll-off containers and the Monroe County Municipal Waste Manage Authority helped provide traffic safety to a group of volunteers.

"We feel it's one of the things we need to do to give back to our community," said PMVB President/CEO Chris Barrett. "We're trying to beautify our community more and even during the pandemic we've had more than 200 people volunteer. If we get one bag off our landscape, that makes our landscape all the better."

"I'm really thankful for the opportunity to give back to this community," said Jimmy Terwilliger, East Stroudsburg Warriors Head Football Coach. "Let's do everything we can to keep this community clean, keep this community beautiful, and keep this community safe so we can get back to normalcy, classes can start back up, the team can resume practices and these local businesses can get back to the things we do best: a great area in the Poconos."

For more information on how you can play a part in the effort to keep our area clean and green head to <u>PickUpThePoconos.com</u>.

## PHOTOS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST: pr@poconos.org

Pocono Mountains visitor information is available online at PoconoMountains.com or by phone at (570) 421-5791. Follow @PoconoTourismPR on Twitter to stay current with up-to-date information. Established in 1934, the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau is a private, non-profit membership organization. The PMVB is the official destination marketing organization for the four counties of Wayne, Pike, Monroe, and Carbon in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

BAGS FILLED:	650
VOLUNTEERS:	283
MILES COVERED:	80
LOCATIONS:	Strou Town

Stroudsburg Borough, East Stroudsburg Borough, Delaware Water Gap Borough, Ross Township, Barrett Township, Chestnuthill Township, Tobyhanna Township, Coolbaugh Township, Pocono Township, Stroud Township, Pocono Township, Middle Smithfield Township, Smithfield Township, Milford Borough, Honesdale Borough, Palmyra Township (Pike), Newfoundland (Dreher Township), Hawley Borough\*, Texas Township\*, White Mills\*, Clinton Township (Steene)\*, Paupack Township\*, Cherry Ridge Township\*, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Jim Thorpe Borough

\*KHHB volunteers

###



With 2,400 square miles encompassing Pennsylvania's Wayne, Pike, Monroe, and Carbon counties, the Pocono Mountains region is home to rolling mountain terrain, breathtakingly beautiful waterfalls, thriving woodlands, and 170 miles of winding rivers. Winters offer guests the opportunity to ski, snowboard, snow tube, and even snowshoe their way through snowy wonderlands encompassing over 163 ski trails, while summers also cater to the active traveler allowing exploration of 261 miles of hiking and biking trails, over 30 golf courses, whitewater rafting, boating, fishing, and open access to nine state and two national parks.