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Pocono Litter Cleanup Yields Record Results
Nearly 300 volunteers. 26 locations. 894 bags collected.

October 1, 2021 – The Pocono Mountains region looks a lot cleaner this week after hundreds of volunteers spent this past Saturday, September 25, removing trash from roads throughout all four counties. The 4th annual Pick Up the Poconos Day, organized by the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, was expanded to include more areas than ever before and yielded a record amount of trash collected.

Nearly 300 volunteers removed at least 894 bags of litter from designated roads, parks and trails across 26 townships/boroughs in Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties. Volunteers were given supply bags containing trash bags, gloves, and safety vests.

The overall Pick Up the Poconos campaign has resulted in 17,448 bags of litter being removed and properly disposed of, with nearly 3,400 of those bags being collected on Pick Up the Poconos days.

Community groups and businesses held cleanups in conjunction with Pick Up the Poconos Day. Participants included students/staff of East Stroudsburg University, Jack Frost Big Boulder, Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Network, Tobyhanna Army Depot, Middle Smithfield Township's "1,000 Feet of Street" program, Friends of Cherry Valley, Milford Garden Club, Honesdale Rotary, Newfoundland Rotary, Keep Hawley-Honesdale Beautiful, and Lackawaxen River Trails.

"In addition to local roads, our highways are also looking cleaner and greener," said Chris Barrett, President/CEO of the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau. "As part of our overall Pick Up the Poconos campaign, the PMVB contracts with a company to clean Interstates 80 and 380 several times a year. Pocono 3C, which employs those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, also operates year-round on Monroe County roads and highway ramps."

Pick Up the Poconos Day is supported by various partners including Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority, PennDOT, and the 26 participating municipalities.

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