



PickUpThePoconos.com

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Latest Pocono Litter Cleanup Yields Record Results

Overall litter efforts hit & surpass milestone: 20k+ bags of trash collected

April 28, 2022 – Roads, rivers, trails, parks and private communities throughout the Pocono Mountains look much cleaner this week following the “[Pick Up the Poconos](#)” Spring Cleanup held this past Saturday, April 23, in honor of Earth Day.

670 volunteers fanned out across **37** locations and covered **109** miles of roadway in the four-county region, collecting **1,463** bags of trash. This cleanup, organized bi-annually by the [Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau](#) (PMVB), has resulted in a record number of volunteers and bags collected.

In addition to the individuals and families who graciously participate, the event’s continued success is largely credited to the dozens of private groups, businesses, and schools that organize cleanups in conjunction with Pick Up the Poconos (see next page).

The PMVB’s overall Pick Up the Poconos campaign has resulted in at least **20,741** bags of trash being picked up and properly disposed of over the last six years, utilizing Hotel Occupancy Tax funding, which is collected from guests who stay overnight in the Poconos. The campaign includes:

- **Pocono 3C:** Unique partnership that employs individuals who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, to clean roads on a weekly basis throughout Monroe County. Since 2019, the program has helped more than 25 individuals obtain housing, a vehicle, and/or permanent job. Learn more [here](#).
- **Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc:** The PMVB contracts with the company to clean Interstates 80 & 380, Route 33, and highway entrance/exit ramps at least six times a year. Crews were out as recently as last week.
- **Pick Up the Poconos:** Bi-annual, volunteer-led cleanups throughout the four-county region held in the spring and fall. The event began in Monroe County in September 2018 and has since expanded into a region-wide effort that includes a second cleanup in April.

“We know keeping the Poconos clean and green takes more than just one or two litter pickups a year. That’s why we have invested significant funding, time, and resources into a variety of efforts,” said Chris Barrett, President/CEO of the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau. “There are many dedicated individuals, groups, organizations, and associations that pick litter regularly. We want to be an advocate and supporter of those efforts as well.”

Pick Up the Poconos is supported by key partners including Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, Leave No Trace, Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority, PennDOT, Waste Management, and the participating boroughs/townships.

The PMVB will hold its next Pick Up the Poconos Day on Saturday, September 24. Stay tuned for more information on [PickUpThePoconos.com](#).

High-resolution photos from the “Pick Up the Poconos” Spring Cleanup may be requested [here](#), while b-roll from past cleanups is available for download [here](#).

Nearly 20 private groups, businesses, and schools participated in the “Pick Up the Poconos” Spring Cleanup, including:

1,000 Feet of Street (Middle Smithfield Twp)	Newfoundland Rotary & Newfoundland Library
Arrowhead Lake Community Association	Penn Estates - Pick Up Crew (PEPUC)
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate	Tobyhanna Army Depot
Camelback Resort	Chipperfield Elementary
Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor	East Stroudsburg Area School District
The French Manor Inn and Spa	East Stroudsburg University
Friends of Cherry Valley	Pleasant Valley School District
Keep Hawley-Honesdale Beautiful	Pocono Mountain School District
Lackawaxen River Trails	Wallenpaupack Area School District

The PMVB would also like to thank [Pocono Organics](#) for hosting the first-ever Earth Day Celebration following the “Pick Up the Poconos” Spring Cleanup, as well as Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority and Waste Management for sponsoring the event.

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Pocono Mountains visitor information is available online at PoconoMountains.com or by phone at (570) 421-5791. Follow [@PoconoTVNetwork](#) 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.

