

CIGARETTE LITTER PREVENTION PROGRAM

Cigarette litter is an emerging problem in the United States.

Research shows that individuals who would never consider littering an aluminum can, a piece of paper, or other items may be littering cigarette butts. They may be surprised to be called litterers. But dropping partially-smoked cigarettes, cigarette butts, matches, lighters, and packaging to the ground is littering. Lack of awareness, lack of ash receptacles, and changes to smoking ordinances that move more and more smokers outdoors, increases cigarette litter. Research also shows that cigarette litter occurs at Transition Points. Transition Points are those places where a person must discontinue smoking before proceeding. A bus stop, a store entrance, loading docks, walkways leading to government buildings, and similar places are the Transition Points in a neighborhood.

The cigarette filter is cellulose acetate, a man-made fiber spun to look like cotton thread. These fibers break down very slowly, sometimes taking years. Cellulose acetate may degrade in time, but it is not biodegradable. One research report states that 18 percent of all litter dropped to the ground is washed into streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean by storm water runoff. Cigarette butts are little and lightweight — easily carried with this runoff into our waterways. As the wind and rain carry it along, it catches in flower gardens, grass and open spaces. That's when children, our pets, and wildlife find it. The fibers in a cigarette filter and the remaining tobacco contain several residual alkaloids, including nicotine, posing a health problem for wildlife when ingested. Did you know that birds may use it for nesting and even think it's food?

Keep America Beautiful has initiated a Cigarette Litter Prevention Program that is scheduled to be released in late 2004 and will be available on their website in early 2005. Here are suggestions from Keep America Beautiful on how you can help with this emerging problem. For more information, visit www.kab.org.



What can you do now?

Are you a smoker?

Please use ashtrays, pocket ashtrays, and ash receptacles when you are outside. Before you begin to smoke outside, look for the receptacle you'll use when you finish smoking.

Do NOT throw butts in storm drains. While you may think it keeps them from causing a fire, there is a problem if cigarette litter enters our waterways! Recent wildfires in our country have been directly attributed to littered cigarette butts. Always carry a pocket ashtray when you are away from traditional ashtrays and outdoor ash receptacles. If you use your car's ashtray for coins and keys, please use a portable ashtray that fits in your car's cup holder and do NOT throw butts out car windows.

Do you own or manage a business with a "no smoking" policy?

Please provide employees and visitors with ash receptacles at all entry points to your business. These Transition Points are the places smokers need to discard their cigarettes before entering your business. Once installed, these ash receptacles need to be monitored and maintained regularly. Smokers will become accustomed to using these receptacles and you may need to add more to control the cigarette litter.

Are you a city manager/mayor, director of public works or a building manager for a city-owned or city-managed facility?

Please consider increasing the number of ash receptacles around the community. Look at the Transition Points (like bus stops, train stations, parking lots, and business or municipal buildings) for residents who smoke. These Transition Points need ash receptacles to encourage adults who smoke to properly dispose of their cigarette litter. For citywide "litter free" events, we strongly encourage the distribution of pocket ashtrays along with an increased number of ash receptacles that are strategically placed at many locations at the event site.

Are you a resident who is interested in addressing this problem?

Identify other stakeholders who care about your neighborhood and your community. These individuals should represent businesses, local government and neighborhood organizations. They will become members of your Cigarette Litter Prevention Team.

Picture and article provided by Keep America Beautiful. To find out more information, visit www.kab.org.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR LITTER ITEMS TO DECOMPOSE?

Object	Decomposition Time
Styrofoam container	More than 1 million years
Plastic jug	1 million years
Aluminum can	200-500 years
Disposable diaper	550 years
Tinned can	90 years
Leather shoe	45 years
Wool sock	1 year
Paper bag	1 month
Banana peel	3-4 weeks

Source: www.mdc.state.mo.us/nomoretrash/facts

IT'S CERTIFIABLE!



Recently, the Broward County Adopt-A-Street Program became a Certifying Organization. We are now qualified to distribute the President's Volunteer Service Award. The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award Program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. This type of recognition is also designed to set a standard for every American — to encourage a sustained commitment to helping others and a lifelong habit of service. The program recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard — measured by the number of hours served over a 12-month period. Award recipients will receive a personalized certificate of achievement, a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States, a letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, and an official President's Award pin. Make sure that your group leader continues to submit the Adopt-A-Street Event Completion Form after each cleanup event to keep your group eligible for an award!

AROUND AND ABOUT



Presenting the Adopt-A-Street Program at a monthly staff meeting at the Juvenile Intervention Facility in Fort Lauderdale is Carrie, who is pictured with the Program Manager, Patricia Snow, of the Psychotherapeutic Services of Florida Intensive Delinquency Diversion Services.



Kenny shaking hands with the Coast Guard's NASCAR driver Justin Labonte at the US Coast Guard Recruiting Center inauguration. They have adopted NW 36 Avenue located in the Unincorporated Area.



Group Leader Don Maines and his group, the South Florida Trail Riders, after their cleanup of Volunteer Road in Southwest Ranches.



BARC Alumni went shopping for litter on NW 15 Street in Fort Lauderdale where they picked up 327 pounds of trash — what a bargain!

Here are the totals of all the litter removed by our volunteers as of July 31, 2004

HOLLYWOOD A.A.S. Leader: Joe Cangialosi

GROUP NAME	SECTION ADOPTED	EVENTS	LBS
Boy Scout Troop 412	N 56 Avenue	1	70
Cretan American Association of Miami	Glenn Parkway	NEW	GROUP
DAVID SCHNEIDER			
Century 21 Dynasty Ocean	N 14 Avenue	NEW	GROUP
Emma Hope Foundation	N Park Road	NEW	GROUP
Media Realty	South Lake Drive - SemiCircle	NEW	GROUP
MOHAWK Industries	S 52 Avenue	1	250
Puccio Plumbing	Johnson Street	6	183
South Florida Appraisal House, Inc.	Moffett Street	NEW	GROUP

Total Events: 8 Total Pounds: 503

WELCOME TO THE PROGRAM!



Hollywood is the newest city to join the program. You can see the new signs (pictured to the left) up all over the city. Thirteen streets were approved for the program and eight have already been adopted. Some of the groups have even gotten a jump start on cleaning their street. Puccio Plumbing has already held six cleanups and MOHAWK Industries and Boy Scout Troop 412 are trying to catch up! With eager groups like these, the City of Hollywood will have

less litter on their streets in no time! Keep up the great work!

LAUDERDALE LAKES A.A.S. Leader: Juan Robby

GROUP NAME	SECTION ADOPTED	EVENTS	LBS
Ambassador Panthers Pathfinders Club	NW 41 Street	1	250
Harmony Development and BSO Dist 4	NW 31 Avenue	5	257
Multiple Choice Realty	NW 50 Avenue	1	30
SunTrust Bank	NW 36 Terrace	7	57
The Pearl of Ft. Lauderdale Lodge 19	NW 49 Avenue	4	410

Total Events: 18 Total Pounds: 1004



Volunteers from the Ambassador Panthers Pathfinders Club.

NORTH LAUDERDALE A.A.S. Leader: Michael DeBock

GROUP NAME	SECTION ADOPTED	EVENTS	LBS
Girl Scouts Troop 188	SW 81 Avenue	0	0
Kreiger Family Vending	Bailey Road	30	2,206
North Lauderdale Teen Center	Kimberly Boulevard	0	0
R. Chas. Brady & James R. Eddy, P.A. 2	Tam O'Shanter Boulevard	0	0
The Brady Family	Boulevard of Champions	7	1,175
William Slaughter Keystone Bulldogs	Forrest Boulevard	15	260

Total Events: 52 Total Pounds: 3,641



The new sign for North Lauderdale.

SOUTHWEST RANCHES A.A.S. Leader: Lee Rickles

GROUP NAME	SECTION ADOPTED	EVENTS	LBS
ABATE of Florida SE Chapter	Griffin Road	5	1,150
Cypress Bay HS ROTC	SW 185/186 Avenue	2	593
Di Pasquale and Associates, PA	Sunset Lane	3	91
Dykes Cattle Company	Dykes Road	3	26
G.W. Henry, Inc.	Griffin Road	0	0
Girl Scout Tequesta Service Unit	Volunteer Road	6	376
Green Meadows HOA	SW 166 Avenue	3	1,060
Her Way Farms	Luray Road	6	306
In Memory of Horst J. Korn	SW 160 Avenue	3	270
Intelligence Associates	Hancock Road	31	887
Kiwanis of Weston	SW 172 Avenue	3	627
Modified Chariots Unlimited	W Palomino Drive	29	569
PAN Nursery	Luray Road	6	96
Pembroke Pines Charter HS	Sheridan Street	5	1,827
Pfeiffer Family	Griffin Road	0	0
Rolling Oaks Civic Association	Mather Boulevard	4	2,250
South Florida Trail Riders	Volunteer Road	6	1,760
Stout Family	Holatee Trail	5	97
Torlone Family	E Palomino Drive	59	475
Vincent Christensen Nursery	Hancock Road	23	435
West Broward Community Church	Griffin Road	46	5,640

Total Events: 248 Total Pounds: 18,535



West Broward Community Church.

Is Your Group, Family, or Association Interested in Adopting a Street?

There are still a few streets available for adoption throughout the county. Check the list below for availability in your city, or call the Broward County Adopt-A-Street Coordinator for a current list of adoptable streets. Get started and become involved in a growing and successful litter prevention program!

Up For Adoption	Section Available	From	To
Cooper City	Sheridan Street (North Side)	Embassy Drive	Flamingo Road
Coral Springs	University Drive	Wiles Road	Westview Drive
Deerfield Beach	Deerfield Avenue	Hillsboro Boulevard	Palm Beach County Line
Fort Lauderdale	SW 2 Avenue	SW 23 Street	SW 24 Street
Fort Lauderdale	NW 64 Street	NW 12 Avenue	NW 21 Avenue
Fort Lauderdale	SW 16 Avenue	SW 5 Place	SW 9 Street
Fort Lauderdale	Miami Road	SE 17 Street	State Road 84
Fort Lauderdale	NW 8 Avenue	NW 13 Street	NW 17 Street
Hollywood	North Lake Drive Semi-Circle	N 12 Avenue	N 12 Avenue
Hollywood	North 23 Avenue	Sheridan Street	Greene Street
Hollywood	Washington Street	S 58 Avenue	Maple Street
Hollywood	Plunkett Street	S 61 Avenue	S 65 Avenue
Hollywood	Fox Road	Briarwood Circle	N 70 Avenue
Unincorporated	SW 18 Street	State Road 7	SW 44 Terrace
Unincorporated	SW 43 Avenue	Davie Boulevard	SW 18 Street
Unincorporated	Prospect Road	NW 10 Avenue	NW 15 Avenue
Unincorporated	SW 16 Court	SW 64 Avenue	SW 70 Avenue
Unincorporated	NW 22 Street	NW 21 Avenue	Dead End
Wilton Manors	N Andrews Avenue	NE 26 Street	Oakland Park Boulevard