



Review of US Litter Abatement

Publication #98-501
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Prepared by: Steve Bremer

Washington State Department of Ecology
Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program

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Purpose and Goals

The purpose of this survey was to compare Washington's state-run litter abatement programs with those of other state-run programs.

The primary goals of the survey were to identify methods of operation that would improve the quality and efficiency of Washington's program, and to check our level of service against other programs.

Methodology

The survey was conducted over a three month period. An initial list of agencies was generated by contacting each state's directory assistance telephone number, conducting Internet searches, and public library research. While every attempt was made to contact appropriate programs, a directory of litter abatement agencies was not available. Over time it became apparent that not all states led litter abatement programs, nor was every agency involved with litter abatement contacted. Many programs were discovered through conversations with personnel of varying degrees of expertise. Thus, it is probable that some state litter abatement programs were not contacted because they were not identified.

Definitions

Definitions used in this report read as follows:

AAH - Adopt-a-Highway
DCA - Department of Community Affairs
DEM - Department of Environmental Management
DEP - Department of Environmental Protection
DEQ - Department of Environmental Quality
DNR - Department of Natural Resources
DOC - Department of Conservation
DOE - Department of Ecology
DOH - Department of Highways
DOT - Department of Transportation
HTD - Highway and Transportation Department
KAB - Keep America Beautiful

SUMMARY:

- Transportation departments played the primary role in litter management in 52% of the states. Remaining activities were coordinated by volunteer organizations and various state agencies.
- Of the 26 states that did have a state-run litter program, 7 limited their involvement to grant management.
- 74% participated in the Keep America Beautiful (KAB) program. KAB provides public education and sponsors community involvement programs.
- 94% used correctional work crews for litter pick-up.
- 48 states had “Adopt-a-Highway” programs. Maine and Vermont are the two exceptions.
- Only 3 states had state-sponsored youth litter programs.
- 10 states had a bottle bill.

Alabama

AAH (1988)
AL DOT
P.O. Box 8008
Montgomery, AL 36110
(334) 241-8570

Highlights

- Volunteer litter pickup program referred to as the Adopt-A-Mile program.
- Program is funded through the DOT general operating budget.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup.

Alabama PALS
340 North Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
Spencer Ryan
(334) 263-7737

- PALS (People Against a Littered State) has received some funding from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

PALS coordinates several programs throughout the state:

- Adopt-A-Mile in conjunction with AL DOT.
- Adopt-A-Stream.
- Clean Campus Program (K-12 and college/university).
- Distributes the Litter Education Activity Guide for grades K-12.

Alaska

ALPAR
(Alaskans for Litter
Prevention & Recycling)
P.O. Box 200393
Anchorage, AK 99520
Terry Crawley
(907) 274-3266

Highlights

- ALPAR runs public education ads, radio ads and PSA's, coordinates the ALPAR Youth Litter Patrol, the Butt Patrol, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Bike Path, Park, and Stream.
- ALPAR is privately funded by Alaska's major litter producing industries: grocery, beverage, newspaper.

AAH (1992)
Alaska DOT
6860 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801
Jennifer Cheeseman
(907) 465-1779

- Eight of eleven DOT stations participate in an AAH program.
- Currently there 71 volunteer groups.
- Pickup is required three times per year.
- Volunteers clean 1-2 mile sections for a total of 230 miles.
- DOT supplies vests, bags, signs to volunteers.

AAH (1988)
Arizona Dept. of
Transportation (ADOT)
206 South 17th Avenue
Room 102A
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 255-8276

Highlights

- A private firm known as the Maintenance Provider Program (800-358-2031) provides a portion of litter pickup services.
- Adopt-A-Highway volunteers are restricted to lower volume roadways, while the Maintenance Provider cleans higher volume roads.
- Correctional work crews assist ADOT crews with litter pickup.
- School programs in waste reduction, recycling, and/or litter control provided by Arizona Clean and Beautiful (ACB).
- In partnership with ACB, ADOT seeks to target tourists and natural resource consumers for its litter campaign.
- ADOT contracts with the ACB for AAH promotion and with Arizona State University for litter research.
- Litter prevention programs are organized through the Arizona Affiliate Network at public events.
- ACB works with Arizona grassroots organizations on litter prevention, beautification, and other environmental issues.

Arizona Clean and
Beautiful, Inc.
1645 E. Missouri
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Leandra Lewis
(602) 274-0494

Arkansas

Keep Arkansas Beautiful
(KAB)
1 Capitol Mall
Suite 4A-900
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-3507

Highlights

- KAB (Keep Arkansas Beautiful) distributes grants to counties agreeing to participate in the Pick Up Arkansas campaign.
- Works in cooperation with other Keep America Beautiful affiliates.
- Coordinates education/anti-litter campaigns.
- Manages 230 volunteer groups during the annual Great Arkansas Cleanup event.

AAH (1987)
Arkansas Highway and
Transportation Dept.
(AHTD)
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203
Randy Ort
Public Affairs Officer
(501) 569-2000

- Over 3,000 miles are maintained by AAH volunteers.
 - Two mile sections are cleaned four times per year.
 - Provides vests, bags, AAH signs.
 - Median maintained by AHTD crews.
 - Correctional work crews assist Highway and Transportation crews with litter pickup.
-

AAH (1989)
Cal Trans Highway
Maintenance
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274
Keith Robinson
(916) 654-2926

Highlights

- State litter prevention efforts include an AAH program, ad campaigns, and CalTrans coordination with print media.
- Department of Conservation distributes grants to KCB (Keep California Beautiful).
- Billboards recognize volunteers and provide an 800 number for volunteer information. Printing fees and billboard space are donated.
- Public service announcements (video, audio) provided by Governor Wilson's wife.
- CA Coastal Commission organizes the Coastal Cleanup Day.
- The CA Department of Conservation Division of Recycling administers grants for a public information campaign.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup. Other litter pickup occurs through court mandated service.
- Public outreach through KAB chapters.
- KAB coordinates Keep California Beautiful month in April.

Colorado

AAH (1987)
CO DOT
1325 S. Colorado Blvd.
Building B
Denver, CO 80222
Diane Jacoby
(303) 757-9716

Highlights

- State litter abatement efforts are coordinated by the CO DOT through AAH volunteers.
- 1,300 AAH chapters statewide.
- DOT produces a newsletter to distribute information to AAH volunteers.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup.
- DOT removes litter from state roads through AAH, while counties maintain their roads with Adopt-A-Road programs.
- KAB leads an anti-litter education effort in schools.

AAH (1993)
CT DOT
P.O. Box 317456
Newington, CT 06131
Tom Daily
(860) 594-2610

Highlights

- Volunteers are required to clean two mile sections four times per year.
- Volunteers are not permitted on limited access highways, nor on medians.
- DOT supplies bags, safety signs, cones, and collects bagged litter.
- Work furlow/workfare programs maintain dangerous areas off limits to AAH volunteers.
- **Workfare program** -- DOT and Department of Income Maintenance (1990) -- This program utilizes public assistance recipients for litter pickup in urban areas.
- **Work furlow program** via DOC (1990) DOC pays a nominal fee to work furlow inmates.
- DOT maintenance personnel also perform litter pickup activities.

Delaware

Delaware Dept. of Natural
Resources and
Environmental Control
(DDNREC)
Office of Information
and Education
89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE 19901
David Small
(302) 739-4506

Highlights

- Coordinates a volunteer program through the Office of Information and Education.

A total of 3,000 volunteers participate in two annual litter events:

- **The Christina River Cleanup.** A Spring event started by the DDNREC six years ago to increase citizen involvement with litter issues.
- **The Coastal Cleanup** program occurs in the Fall and centers on marine debris. Started eleven years ago by the Center for Marine Conservation.

AAH (1990)
Delaware Department of
Transportation
Public Relations Office
Elizabeth Short
(302) 739-4313

- Volunteers are required to clean a two mile section two times per year.
- DOT crews maintain areas off limits to AAH volunteers.
- DOT crews collect bagged litter, while some volunteers dispose of their own.
- DOT supplies vests, safety signs, AAH signs, bags.

Florida Department of
Environmental Protection
Solid Waste Section
2600 Blairestone Rd.
Tallahassee, FL
32399-2400
Bobby Adams
(850) 488-0300

Highlights

- DEP has been given regulatory authority to develop a litter control program, but has a hands-off approach to litter control and only issues grants to counties.
- DEP administers the program in conjunction with KAB. Counties are permitted to use 35% of their grant for actual litter pickup. The remainder must go toward education programs.
- Funding comes from a solid waste management trust fund which is 0.2 of 1% of a 5% state sales tax.
- Counties with population 50,000 may qualify for \$20,000. Those under 50,000 may qualify for \$10,000.

AAH (1989)
FL DOT
605 Suwanee Street
MS-61
Tallahassee, FL
32399-0450
Steve Liner
(904) 414-4600

- The program has given litter education top priority.
- As of 1996, 20,460 volunteers participated in the program.
- DOT maintenance crews maintain dangerous roadway sections (medians, construction sites).
- Adopt-A-Road and Adopt-A-Street programs operate on county and city levels, respectively.

Georgia

Georgia Department of
Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South
Atlanta, GA 30329-2231
c/o Keep Georgia Clean
and Beautiful
Lynn Cobb
(404) 679-4940

Highlights

- DOT, DCA, Public Safety, DNR, GA Environmental Facilities Authority, and GA KAB have collaborated to address the litter problem.
- Solid Waste Trust Fund generates revenue from a tire tax, though this source will soon be disallowed for litter prevention funding. Other financial support is generated from corporate donations.
- Community litter pickup is organized and litter campaigns begin during the last full week in April (Peachy Clean Week).
- 2,816 groups cover 3,426 miles. Pickup required four times per year.
- DOT crews maintain prohibited roadways and non adopted sections.
- DOT supplies vests and litter bags.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance staff with litter pickup.
- DOT slogan: “Let’s Keep Georgia Peachy Clean”.

AAH (1989)
GA DOT
2 Capitol Square
Atlanta, GA 30334
Jerry Wall
(404) 656-5314

Governor's Committee
for a Beautiful Hawaii
Alicia Blakeley
(808) 538-3166

Highlights

- A non-profit organization dedicated to ending litter, promoting recycling, and raising public awareness of litter's negative impacts.
- Supports and organizes cleanup projects in parks and on other public grounds.
- Organizes beach cleanup event -- "Get the Drift and Bag It".
- Correctional work crews are used by state parks departments, cities, and counties.

AAH (1991)
Const/Maint Branch
Highway Division
HI Dept. of Transportation
869 Punchbowl St.
Rm. 203
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 587-2183

- Pickup occurs four times per year along two mile sections.
- 400 volunteer groups.
- Supplies bags, vests, safety and AAH signs.
- Interstates and other dangerous roadways are off limits to the AAH program. DOT crews maintain these prohibited areas.

Idaho

AAH (1990)
Idaho DOT
P.O. Box 7129
Boise, ID 83707
(208) 334-8000

Highlights

- Litter pickup occurs along state roadways, other roads are cleaned by local jurisdictions.
- Former ad campaign: “Idaho is Too Great to Litter”. The campaign ended in 1995 when funding was cut.
- Signs, bags, safety video, cone set up, and DOT guidance document are all supplied to AAH volunteers.
- Correctional work crews participate in the AAH program.
- Additional pickup occurs through court mandated service.

Illinois DOT (1992)
2300 S. Dirksen
Springfield, IL 62764
Barbara Welk
Public Information Officer
(217) 782-7820

Highlights

- AAH program cleans municipal, county, and state roads (medians, interstates prohibited).
- Volunteers asked to adopt 1.5-2 mile stretches and clean them four times per year.
- As of May 1997, there were 487 AAH groups statewide.
- Vests, litter bags, and signs are supplied by DOT.
- DOT road crews maintain interstates.
- AAH program is advertised via a publicly distributed brochure.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance staff with litter pickup.

Indiana

Indiana Dept. of
Environmental Mgmt.
100 North Senate Ave.
P.O. Box 6015, OPPTA
Indianapolis, IN
46206-6015
Carla Barret
(317) 233-2392

Highlights

- Department of Environmental Management distributes \$2 million for recycling grants.

Keep Indianapolis
Beautiful
(KIB)
445 N. Pennsylvania St.
Suite 330
Indianapolis, ID 46204
David Forsell
(317) 264-7555

- Litter Programs coordinated by KIB and DOT (AAH).
- 60% of funding comes from corporate donations, endowments, and private individuals; 40% from the city of Indianapolis.
- KIB organizes cleanup efforts, teacher workshops.
- KIB assists City of Indianapolis with recycling program management.

AAH (1990)
Indiana DOH
State Office Bldg.
100 N. Senate Ave.
Rm. 925
Indianapolis, IN 46204
David Lamb
(317) 232-5509

- 1,000 groups have signed a two year agreement to pickup litter four times per year.
- A total of 1,800 miles have been adopted.
- Correctional work crews assist DOH crews with litter pickup.
- Prohibited areas are maintained by DOH crews (interstates and medians).

Iowa Division of Natural
Resources
Wallace State Office Bldg.
502 9th Street
Des Moines, IA
50319-0034
Teresa Hay
(515) 281-8975

Highlights

- DNR views the state bottle bill as an effective means of litter control.
- The last litter survey (1980) completed by the DNR showed a 79% decrease in bottle and can litter, and a 38% reduction in total litter volume.
- 2,400 volunteers adopt 5,500 miles.
- Volunteers agree to clean two mile sections, twice per year for a two year period.
- DOT plans to assign non-adopted roadways to juvenile offenders.
- Prohibited roadways are maintained by DOT crews.

AAH (1989)
Iowa DOT
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
Pat Makovec
(515) 239-1471

Kansas

Kansas Department of
Health and Environment
Bureau of Waste
Management
Forbes Field
Bldg. 740
Topeka, KS 66620
Kent Foerster
(913) 296-1540

Highlights

- Litter campaign slogan: “Kansas Don’t Spoil It”.
- Radio PSAs, newspaper ads, posters, and billboards advertise the litter campaign.
- Coordinates programs such as the Kansas Business Industry and Recycling Program (BIRP); the Shawnee County Litter Control Commission; and Dodge City Litter Control.
- Grant program promotes recycling/composting, source reduction, and waste minimization.
- School programs for waste reduction, recycling, and litter control take place with focus during Earth Day.
- A KAB affiliated state
- Volunteers agree pick up litter three times per year for two years.
- 4,000 of 10,000 available roadway miles have been adopted.

AAH (1989)
KS DOT
Docking State Office Bldg.
Topeka, KS 66612
(913) 296-3576

Kentucky

Kentucky Natural
Resources and Env.
Protection Cabinet
Division of Waste Mgmt.
14 Reilly Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
Sara Evans
(502) 564-6716

Highlights

- Litter abatement is a minor part of this program. The agency's focus is on the illegal dumping problem through enforcement and technical assistance to all 120 counties.
- State provides grant information to counties so that they may begin their own programs.
- KAB is active in Kentucky.

AAH (1988)
Kentucky Transportation
Cabinet
State Office Building
Room 1003
Frankfort, KY 40622
Robin Chaney
(502) 564-4890

- An AAH coordinator is located in each of the twelve district offices throughout the state.
- 2,600 AAH groups adopt a minimum of two miles per group.
- 14,000 miles have been adopted.
- Only lower volume roads are available for adoption.
- Transportation Cabinet crews maintain interstates.
- Bags, safety vests, safety training, and AAH signs supplied.
- Correctional work crews assist Transportation maintenance staff with litter pickup.

Louisiana

Louisiana Dept. of
Environmental Quality
Solid Waste Division
P.O. Box 82178
7920 Bluebonnet
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Gwen Emick
(504) 765-0249

AAH (1987)

Highlights

- Some television PSAs in 1996 using state government officials, actors.
- Litter law was rewritten in 1995 to emphasize enforcement and increase litter citations.
- “Great Louisiana Trash Bash” (April). “Great Louisiana Beach Survey” (September).
- Uses KAB curriculums in schools (K-12).
- KAB provides teacher workshops.
- AAH coordinated by DEQ and DOT.
- DOT supplies signs, safety training, bags, vests, safety signs.
- Volunteers commit to clean four times per year for two years.
- DEQ responsible for AAH promotion. Tracks bag counts and volunteer statistics.
- PSA slogan: “Don’t Trash Louisiana”.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT staff in cleaning interstates and state highways.

Maine Department of
Environmental Protection
State House Station 17
Augusta, ME 04333
James Glasgow
(207) 287-7688

Highlights

- Litter is considered to be a minor problem in Maine.
- Litter pickup limited to DOT maintenance crews.
- One of only two states with no AAH program in place.

Maryland

AAH
Maryland State Highway
Administration (1989)
Wanda Dade
(410) 582-5509

Highlights

- 27 maintenance shops (one per county) maintain supplies for AAH groups
- 1,100 volunteer groups.
- Pickup is required four times per year.
- 1,824 miles of roadway have been adopted.
- Minimum of two mile sections per group, though some adopt more than one section.
- DOT supplies bags, vests, caps, AAH and safety signs.
- Prohibited areas include high volume interstates and those without shoulders.
- DOT crews do not routinely maintain unadopted roadways. Correctional work crews pick up litter and are paid a daily wage.

Massachusetts

AAH (1991)
MA Highway Department
10 Park Plaza, Room 3510
Boston, MA 02116
Scott Brown
(617) 973-7830

Highlights

- Litter pickup is required eight times per year.
- Highway Department supplies bags, safety vests, training video. AAH signs are provided for nonprofit organizations.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance crews.
- Highway Department crews clean roadways deemed too dangerous for volunteers.
- Sponsor Logo Program – some companies adopt a section with the assistance of a hired labor force.

Michigan

Michigan DOT (1990)
Scott Wheeler
(517) 322-3314

Highlights

- 3,100 volunteer groups clean a total of 7,000 miles.
- Litter pickup is required three times per year.
- Radio PSA's warn travelers of AAH pickup activities.
- Prohibited areas include medians, steeply sloped freeways. These areas are maintained by DOT crews.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup.
- DOT has coordinated a summer youth litter pickup program since the early seventies. The program was redirected toward rest area maintenance as the AAH program became established.
- MI DNR coordinates Adopt-A-Park (Monica Terrell: 517-335-3034) and Adopt-A-Forest (Ada Takas: 517-348-6371).

Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency
MPCA-GWSW
520 North Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Bill Dunn
(612) 296-6300

Highlights

- Provides technical assistance as needed.
- Education and litter abatement activities occur at the county level.
- Volunteers clean their respective sections three times per year.
- DOT supplies bags, vests, and a safety brochure. Safety signs to be supplied statewide as of January 1, 1998.
- MN DOT maintains highways and sections thereof that are off limits to AAH volunteers.
- MN DOT has recently hired a centralized coordinator for the AAH program. The program also employs regional coordinators.
- Due to waning interest in the AAH program, district coordinators have requested recognition program designed to maintain volunteer interest. The centralized coordinator will seek to increase program interest.

AAH (1990)
Minnesota DOT
395 John Ireland Blvd.
MS 700
St. Paul, MN 55155
Cheri Viestenz
(612) 296-3920

Mississippi

Keep Mississippi Beautiful
4785 55th North, Suite 103
Jackson, MS 39206
Barbara Dorr
(601) 362-9099

Highlights

- Statewide, there are fifteen affiliates. Programs focus on litter education.
- KAB is funded through MS Dept of Public Safety legislation. Additional funding from the US EPA.
- KAB and MS Department of Public Safety have developed a litter hotline.
- KAB distributes grants to schools
- Famous native Mississippians are asked to do anti-litter PSAs.
- KAB and Glad Bag Co. organize the Annual Trash Bash in April.
- Slogans: “Keep Mississippi Beautiful. Please Don’t Litter”, “Mississippi Litter Free by 2003”.
- 1180 volunteer groups.
- 2,400 miles adopted.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance staff.

AAH (1988)
MS DOT
Shirley Rutland
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39215-1850
(601) 359-7017

AAH (1987)
Missouri Highway and
Transportation Dept.
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Stacey Armstrong
(573) 751-8647

Highlights

- 5,200 volunteer groups are required to clean two mile sections a minimum of four times per year.
- Department crews collect bagged litter.
- The Department provides litter bags for autos.
- Correctional work crews are used for litter pickup as are first time juvenile offenders.
- A bottle bill exists in some cities, but not statewide.

Montana

AAH (1992)
Montana DOT
Maintenance Division
2710 Prospect Avenue
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620
Patrick G. Brannon
(406) 444-6157

Highlights

- MDT promotes AAH program.
- 1,900 groups average ten volunteers per group.
- Volunteers agree to clean their sections for a two year period.
- 90% of volunteers renew their contracts.
- DOT supplies bags, vests, safety signs, and AAH signs

Nebraska DEQ
Litter Reduction
and Recycling
Grant Program Admin.
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922
Todd Davis
402-471-4210

Highlights

- 1979 legislation requires the DEQ to do statewide litter surveys every five years. The 1996 survey by David M. Griffith and Associates showed a 75% reduction in litter since public education efforts began. Recycling programs are also given credit for litter reductions.
- DEQ involvement in litter prevention is in grant distribution through the Litter Reduction and Recycling grant program. This program is funded by a tax on manufacturing, wholesale, and retail sales of litter producing products.
- Grants are distributed to localities for public education, cleanup of public use areas, and recycling programs.
- KAB affiliates receive grant funding for education programs.

Nevada

AAH (1990)
NV DOT
1263 South Stewart Street
Carson City, NV 89712
Ed Wilson
(702) 888-7711
email:
p102@ndot.state.nv.us

Highlights

- Nevada DOT administers the program and monitors its activity.
- DOT records and collects bags filled by AAH volunteers. It also provides volunteers with gloves, safety vests, caps, and litter bags.
- All roadways are available for adoption unless determined to be too dangerous by the DOT.
- Correctional work crews pick up litter in those areas less accessible to AAH volunteers.

New Hampshire

New Hampshire the
Beautiful, Inc. (NHB)
95B Main Street
Littleton, NH 03561
Margaret Seymour
(603) 444-9812

Highlights

- NHB was formed in 1983 by the grocery, soft drink, and beer industries in lieu of a bottle bill. These industries also provide funding to NHB.
- NHB has three primary goals:
 1. Increase litter cleanup and public awareness of the litter problem.
 2. Encourage municipalities and volunteer groups to become involved in recycling.
 3. Increase voluntary recycling.
- NHB distributes grants to local communities for recycling equipment.
- Organizes schools for park and community cleanups.
- Publishes a bulletin listing area buyers of recyclables and monthly market prices.
- 500 AAH groups pick up litter four times per year.
- NHB provides bags to AAH and other volunteers.

AAH (1994)
NHDOT
P.O. Box 483
1 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302
(603) 271-2693

New Jersey

New Jersey DEP
Division of Solid and
Hazardous Waste
401 East State Street
CN 414
Trenton, NJ 08625
Sandy Huber
(609) 984-3438

Highlights

- Funds are currently distributed to counties and local communities as block grants. Communities are required to implement litter cleanup, enforcement, and education programs.
- Community service programs participate in litter pickup on county roads.
- Litter surveys are mandated by law. The last survey was completed under contract in 1989 by Rutgers University.
- There are currently 2,500 AAH volunteers.
- Pickup is required four times per year.
- 800 of 2,200 roadway miles have been adopted.
- Interstate roadways are off limits to volunteers.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup.
- AAH program organizes press releases during Earth Day.

AAH (1991)
NJ DOT
1035 Parkway Avenue
CN 606
Trenton, NJ 08625
Clinton Griggs
(609) 530-3740

New Mexico Clean
and Beautiful
New Mexico Highway and
Transportation Dept.
P.O. Box 1149
Sante Fe, NM 87504-1149
Joe Lobato
(505) 827-6882
AAH (1987)

Highlights

- The state litter control program is coordinated by the DOT. The AAH program is coordinated by New Mexico Clean and Beautiful through the NM Highway and Transportation Department.
- Funds are dispersed by DOT to communities for litter prevention and education.
- A survey completed in 1996 by the agency, Hayduk-King asked various age groups of their perceptions of litter as an issue/problem, their recognition of the slogan, “Toss no mas”, and of their participation in litter pickup events.
- Some communities use correctional work crews to assist with litter pickup.
- Activities coordinated by six highway district offices.
- New Mexico’s communities are affiliated with KAB.

New York

AAH (1990)
NY DOT
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12232
Carol Hendrick
(518) 457-8447
Mike Lashmet
(518) 474-6805 (Region 10)

Highlights

- 2,189 AAH volunteer groups adopt 5,746 miles. in New York State.
- Pickup occurs four times per year in two mile segments.
- DOT supplies bags, vests, hard hats.
- County engineer may prohibit pickup on certain roadways.
- DOT crews maintain those areas off limits to AAH volunteers.
- The program is funded by the DOT general operating budget.
- Adopt-A-Road is at the county level.

New York City AAH
Maintenance Provider
Program
DOT Region 11
Miriam Rodriguez
(212) 788-1234

- A sponsor chooses from a list of 6 maintenance providers and contracts with them to clean a designated section of roadway. (Maintenance Provider Program is also known as the Sponsor Logo Program).
- Sponsor gets credit for maintaining a section via an AAH sign.
- Currently 163 sponsors use maintenance providers under one year contracts.

North Carolina

NC DOT
Governor's Highway
Beautification Program
P.O. Box 25201
Raleigh, NC 27611
Helen E. Landi
(919) 715-3188
AAH (1988)

Highlights

- DOT runs the Governor's Highway Beautification Program. Three approaches:

Adopt A Highway

- Volunteers adopt two mile stretches for two years and are required to clean their sections a minimum of four times per year.
- Two annual statewide cleanups are advertised by mailings, radio, and newspaper.
- Each of the state's 51 minimum security prisons participate in the AAH program.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance staff with cleaning medians and prohibited AAH areas.

North Carolina Keep America Beautiful

- A private, nonprofit organization that develops public/private partnerships for litter abatement programs and improvement of waste handling practices at the local level.
- 25 independent KAB affiliates operate statewide and receive funding from city or county governments.

Swat A Litter Bug Campaign

- A caller program/litter campaign encouraging drivers to report littering. Fine can be up to \$1,000.

North Dakota

North Dakota
Department of Health
(NDDH)
Robert Tubbs-Avalon
State Recycling
Coordinator
P.O. Box 5520
Bismarck, ND 58506-5520
(701) 328-5266

Highlights

- NDDH includes workshops, publications, litter prevention and abatement education as part of their statewide Waste Education and Recycling Promotion efforts.
- Soil conservation districts, NDDH, and NDDOT are sponsors of Keep North Dakota Clean (KNDC).
- KNDC sponsors an annual litter prevention poster contest for grades 1-6. Soil conservation districts donate trees to contest winners.
- NDDH and the Tourism Department are increasing the distribution of waste and recycling bins.
- AAH is the state's major effort toward litter abatement. Eight DOT district offices manage the program throughout the state.
- NDDOT is increasing the number of aluminum can recycling bins at state rest areas.

AAH (1988)
ND Dept. of Transportation
(NDDOT)
608 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700
(701) 328-4443

Ohio DNR
Division of Recycling and
Litter Prevention
Technical Services Section
Fountain Square, F-2
Columbus, OH 43224
Technical Services Section
(614) 265-6333

Highlights

- Primary state participation in litter prevention is currently in the form of grant dispersal to solid waste districts and counties. These entities can sub-grant to townships or municipalities.
- The Recycling and Litter Control Act gives statutory authority to establish and implement a comprehensive litter control and recycling program.
- Grants are divided equally among recycling and litter prevention activities. Another portion goes to promotional activities (education, teacher workshops, litter prevention, recycling, appliance pickup days).
- DNR prints guidance documents to assist educators in presenting an anti-litter message.
- Private firms are under contract to produce PSA's for special events (Earth Day, holidays).
- DOT crews maintain roadways that are off limits to AAH volunteers.
- Volunteers agree to clean two mile sections for a minimum of four times per year.

AAH (1990)
OH DOT
Bureau of Maintenance
25 South Front Street
Room 408
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 644-7151

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Department
of Transportation
Beautification Office
Maintenance Division
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK
73105-3204
Joanne Orr
(405) 521-4037
AAH (1987)

Highlights

- An anti-litter message is conveyed through extensive use of radio and television. Auto litter bags and bumper stickers are also supplied.
- A Litter Hotline is available to report littering citizens.
- Campaign effectiveness is measured by an annual litter survey.
- An annual poster contest creates anti-litter slogans. There were 16,000 entries in 1996.
- Coordinates the Adopt-A-Highway program, and the Annual Trash-Off Day.
- Conducts an annual national AAH survey.
- Correctional work crews assist with litter pickup.
- Distributes grants to fund "Trash Cops" through county sheriff departments. To date, 44 of 77 OK counties employ Trash Cops. Focus is on the illegal dumping problem.

OK Department of
Environmental Quality
1000 10th St.
Oklahoma City, OK
73117-1212
(405) 271-5338

Oregon Department of
Transportation (ODOT)
800 Airport Road SE
Salem, OR 97310
Karen Morrison
(503) 986-3006
(AAH 1991)

Highlights

OR law (366.157) mandates that the DOT administer a program for the prevention of vandalism and litter. Activities include:

- Youth Litter Program involves students in the cleanup and prevention of litter and vandalism through the Youth Litter Patrol. This program employs 350 students to clean along designated roadways during summer months, spring and winter breaks. Some areas schedule year round litter pickup.
- Adopt-A-Highway volunteer activities include litter pickup, graffiti removal, and landscape maintenance. Required permits are issued through district maintenance offices.
- Correctional work crews and ODOT maintenance crews also clean up litter and vandalism.
- SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism), a non-profit organization, is under contract with ODOT to coordinate public information and education campaigns and to facilitate community clean up activities.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Dept. of
Environmental Protection
Bureau of Land Recycling
and Waste Management
Division of Waste
Minimization and Planning
P.O. Box 8472
Harrisburg, PA
17105-8472
Carl Hursh
(717) 787-7382

Highlights

- DEP has implemented a litter hotline in March of 1997 (1-888-LITTERBUG).
- Over 50% of calls have reported cigarette butts and associated packaging.
- A 1996 litter survey by the PA Resources Council found that alcoholic beverage bottles and fast food packaging were the most frequently littered items.

AAH (1990)
Pennsylvania DOT
Office of Communications
& Customer Relations
9th Floor Forum Place
Building
555 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1900
Bob Morash
(717) 783-4669

- 135,000 volunteers clean 16,000 miles statewide.
- Volunteers agree to adopt two mile sections and to clean them four times per year.
- Drunk driving convictions and juvenile offenders can be assigned to litter pickup as restitution.

Rhode Island

Rhode Island
Department of
Environmental Mgmt.
(DEM)
235 Promenade Street,
Suite 330
Providence, RI 02908
Terry Bisson
(401) 277-3434

Highlights

- OSCAR Program (Ocean State Cleanup and Recycling) provides grants to municipalities for litter receptacles.
- DEM sponsors litter cleanups for Earth Day and a shoreline cleanup campaign known as “Get The Drift and Bag It”.
- “Eye on Litter” is an educational campaign that uses radio spots for litter prevention messages and encourages motorists to report littering to DEM.
- Program funding is generated by taxes on beverage container cases, and on litter producing business.
- Youth Litter Corps is a program providing grants to municipalities and non-profits to establish “Clean Teams”. The teams consist of 14-17 year olds performing litter control activities for eight weeks during the summer months.

AAH (1989)
RI DOT
2 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903
Paul Sweet
(401) 277-4899

- Currently there are approximately 800 AAH volunteers.
- Program receives funding from the DEM and is coordinated by the RI DOT.
- Of 1,200 available miles, 310 have been adopted.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT maintenance staff with litter pickup.

South Carolina

South Carolina
Dept. of Health and
Environmental Control
Bureau of Land and
Waste Mgmt.
Diane Marlow
2600 Bull St.
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 896-4158

Highlights

- Provides office space to a KAB representative.
- Has statewide litter and public education efforts with 20 KAB affiliate programs.
- Significant support for these programs comes from the soft drink and beer industries.
- South Carolina Litter Control Association is a membership association of 50 people, comprised of local litter enforcement officers. Primary focus is on compliance enforcement strategies.
- KSCB (Keep South Carolina Beautiful) reports that 2.3 million pounds of litter were picked up along 6,023 roadway miles.
- As of 1996, 2003 groups totaled 30,656 volunteers.
- Interstate pickup is prohibited for safety reasons. DOT crews maintain these off limits areas.
- SCDOT sponsors statewide Spring and Fall cleanups using maintenance staff to pick up litter along the state's roadways.
- Correctional work crews are used year round to clean non-adopted roadways.

AAH (1987)
SC DOT
P.O. Box 191
Columbia, SC 29202
Vivian Patterson
(803) 737-1270

South Dakota

AAH (1989)
SD DOT
700 Broadway Ave. East
Pierre, SD 57501
Ron Merriman
(605) 773-3571

Highlights

- 1,283 groups are required to clean two mile sections, three times per year.
- AAH volunteers clean 2,720 total miles.
- DOT crews maintain prohibited areas.
- Correctional work crews assist DOT crews with litter pickup activities.

Tennessee

Clean Tennessee Program
University of Memphis
Campus Box 526326
Memphis, TN38152-6326
Edith Heller
(901) 678-4101

Highlights

- Clean Tennessee Program (CT) is the state's resource center for litter prevention and solid waste education.
- Primary goal of CT is to market and support KAB affiliates.
- CT joined cigarette manufacturers and KAB in a smoking materials litter campaign.
- Tax on the beer and soft drink industry provides funding for the TDOT Litter Grant Program.
Based on a population/road miles formula, grants are dispersed to counties for litter abatement programs and required public education.

AAH (1990)
Tennessee Department of
Transportation (TDOT)
James K. Polk Building
Suite 400
Nashville, TN 37219
Rod Boehm
(615) 741-2877

- TDOT coordinates the AAH program.
- Correctional work crews participate in litter pickup activities.

Texas Dept. of
Transportation
Linda Levitt
P.O. Box 5000
Austin, TX 78763-5000
(512) 302-2089

Highlights

- The AAH program began at the Texas DOT in 1986 and has since been used as a model for AAH programs in all but two states.
- Primary coordination of AAH volunteers is the responsibility of TxDOT through its 25 district offices.
- To date, 9,043 miles of Texas roadways have been adopted.
- County courts may require litter pickup for community service sentences.

Don't Mess With Texas

- The widely recognized slogan, "Don't Mess With Texas" and the AAH program has reduced statewide litter by 72 percent.
- Television and radio ads appeal to what research has revealed to be the state's habitual litterers -- 18-34 year old males.

Keep Texas Beautiful

- A KAB affiliate, KTB is a nonprofit organization receiving financial support from TxDOT, and individual and corporate donations.
- Sponsors statewide litter pickup events and youth education programs.

Utah

UT DOT
Environmental Division
4501 South 2700 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84119
Craig Christiansen
(801) 975-4900
AAH (1988)

Highlights

- A public relations program uses the slogan, “Don’t Waste Utah.”
- Outreach to schools, PSA campaign, TV ads, public events.
- Each summer UT governor sponsors a Clean Up Utah Day. The event is well promoted among AAH groups.
- AAH program requires pickup a minimum of three times per year.
- DOT supplies volunteers with bags, AAH signs, vests.

Vermont Agency of
Transportation
133 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
Milan Lawson
(802) 828-2587

Highlights

- The Agency maintains state roads. Towns clean their own roads, State Parks Department, and Fish and Game maintain roads in their respective jurisdictions.
- Vermont is one of only two states without an AAH program in place.
- With funding from local taxes, each town is responsible for its own litter maintenance programs.
- A community service program requires some offenders to participate in litter pickup.

Virginia

Virginia Department
of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10009
Richmond, VA
23240-0009
Paddy Katzen
(804) 698-4488

Highlights

- DEQ disperses grants to local governments stipulating that those governments first employ a litter control coordinator.
- The Virginia Litter Control and Recycling Fund generates revenue from a fast food and beer and soft drink container tax.
- 75% of this tax revenue goes to localities based on their population and road mileage. 20% is allocated for statewide or regional education grants. The remaining 5% goes to the VA DEQ for administrative costs.
- DEQ promotes a river cleanup activity: “Fall River Renaissance” and a spring cleanup: “Operation Spruce Up.”
- Each of the 95 counties determines which roads are adoptable.
- 6,000 groups clean 14,000 eligible miles of state roadways.
- Volunteers must clean four times per year for two years.
- Correctional work crews clean roadsides: The Conserve Program.

AAH (1988)
VA DOT
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Donna Purcell Mayes
(804) 786-7539

WA Dept. of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Solid Waste & Financial
Assistance Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
Vicki Colgan
(425) 649-7224

Highlights

- Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Model Litter Control Act enacted in 1972. Authorizes the State Department of Ecology to coordinate a program to control and remove litter, reduce and recycle waste, and increase public awareness of recycling and litter issues.
- The program is funded by a litter tax on industries whose products contribute significantly to the litter stream. This tax was created in lieu of a bottle bill.
- Department of Ecology's Ecology Youth Corps Program employs nearly 400 14 to 17 year olds to clean roadway litter during the summer season. 18 to 21 year olds clean higher risk areas, such as roadway medians, during summer and autumn months.
- The AAH program works in conjunction with the Department of Ecology's litter pickup efforts.
- 6,400 miles of roadway adopted.
- AAH program also includes roadside maintenance and flower planting activities.

AAH (1990)
WA DOT
P.O. Box 47358
Olympia, WA 98504
Gene Bremner
(360) 705-7865

West Virginia

AAH (1988)
WV Division of Natural
Resources
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East
Building 3, Room 732
Charleston, WV 25305
Anna Shahan
(304) 558-0038

Highlights

- The AAH program is supported by a license plate tax and is coordinated by the WV Division of Natural Resources.
- AAH volunteers adopt two mile sections for two years and must clean their sections three times per year.
- 29,000 volunteers have adopted approximately 4,000 miles, and pick up an annual average of 3,093,015 pounds of litter.
- DOT is responsible for bagged litter collection.
- Radio and TV PSA: “No One Trashes WV”.
- Correctional work crews and community service programs clean unadopted sections.
- The Make It Shine Program helps interested groups coordinate cleanup efforts, and recognizes individuals and groups who have been good environmental stewards.
- The program uses a three pronged approach: education, recognition, and community involvement (Clean County contest).
- A committee decides which county has the best program, and awards monetary prizes to winners, stipulating that funds be applied toward future projects.

WV Division of
Natural Resources
Make It Shine Program
Kim Mitchell
(304) 558-3370

Wisconsin Department of
Natural Resources
Bureau of Watershed
Management
101 South Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
Pamela Packer
(608) 264-8948
email:
ppacker@facstaff.wisc.edu

Highlights

- Program focus is on stream and river cleanup.
- Funding comes from US EPA and University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension grants.
- Poster distribution advertises the program.
- Corporate donations supply litter bags.
- Some anti-litter outreach by DNR wardens. Emphasis is on illegal dumping issues.
- Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful (KGMB) organizes the Glad Bag-A-Thon from March-May. (KGMB has no affiliation with the Wisconsin DNR).

AAH (1990)
WI DOT
4802 Sheboygan Ave.
Room 951
Madison, WI 53707
Tom Martinelli
(608) 266-3745

- 1,376 groups are currently under contract -- a total of 39,315 volunteers.
- 25 counties coordinate AAH programs through county highway departments.
- Pickup is required three times per year.
- Median pickup is prohibited. County Highway Departments maintain these portions of the roadways.

Wyoming

AAH (1989)
Wyoming State Highway
Department
P.O. Box 1708
Cheyenne, WY 82003
Joe Gillespie
(307) 777-4013

Highlights

- The state is divided into five Highway Department districts to maintain local control and coordination of the AAH program.
- An annual Spring Fling clean up event is advertised with flyers to AAH groups.
- Volunteers are asked to complete a litter survey for data collection and as a means of generating more participants.

Of the ten states previously listed as not using prison labor to assist with litter pickup, nine responded to the question, **“Does your state provide or use inmate labor for litter pickup?”**

The states of Alaska, Maine and New Hampshire do not use or provide inmate labor for litter pickup. Alaska and Maine cited financial constraints, while Maine did not consider litter pickup a large enough issue to warrant using inmate labor. All other states questioned affirmed the use of inmate labor for litter pickup to a greater or lesser degree. The state of Ohio was unresponsive to information requests.

Alaska last used prison labor for general maintenance and litter pickup in 1996, but has since stopped such activities. Private contractor complaints of job loss and the state’s conclusion that currently high inmate populations will render such a program cost prohibitive.

However, the 20% of Alaska’s inmates who reside in halfway houses are involved with community service work as well as litter pickup. These inmates are misdemeanor offenders and/or inmates nearing release.

Maine DOC provides inmate labor for projects such as bridge maintenance and similar public service projects, but not for litter pickup. Litter is not a large enough issue in Maine to involve inmate labor.

New Hampshire DOC has provided inmate labor for litter pickup in the past, but ended its agreement with the NH DOT approximately five or six years ago. It was determined that the number of supervisory personnel required was a burden on DOC resources. Additionally, DOC’s fees for inmate usage was considered too high. Presently, some inmates are used by state agencies for activities other than litter pickup.

Florida DOT estimates an annual savings of \$15 million per year through the use of prison labor. Inmates provide litter pickup services in addition to other maintenance type tasks.

Medium security inmates are supervised by Corrections officers, while minimum security prisoners are supervised by DOT staff.

Kansas provides minimum custody prison labor for litter pickup and community service work to local jurisdictions. Labor provided only to government agencies or non-profit organizations and only if no displacement of civilian labor occurs. Inmates are paid a nominal sum of \$1.05 per day by the DOC. Upon request, DOC provides a supervisor for a fee.

Texas DOC provides some inmate labor to DOT for litter pickup. Through city and county officials, local agencies contact respective wardens to arrange for inmate services.

Utah DOC provides inmate labor for litter pickup.

Wisconsin DOC provides minimum security inmates for public service work, including litter pickup. Some prisons participate in the AAH program.

Wyoming prisoners provide litter pickup labor. A women's facility participates in the AAH program. Most involved are minimum security prisoners. Medium security men must be accompanied by a guard at an 8:1 ratio.