



Empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful.

Shannon Reiter

Executive Director

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful



keeppabeautiful.org

About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

We inspire and empower individuals and groups to actively engage in caring for, protecting, and improving their communities, shared spaces and local environments .

Since 1990



2,965,564 invaluable
volunteers



165,859,501 pounds
of trash properly disposed



1,241,807 tires
properly disposed



232,416
miles of road cleaned



22,554,821 pounds
of electronics recycled



1.5 million in community
grants since 2021

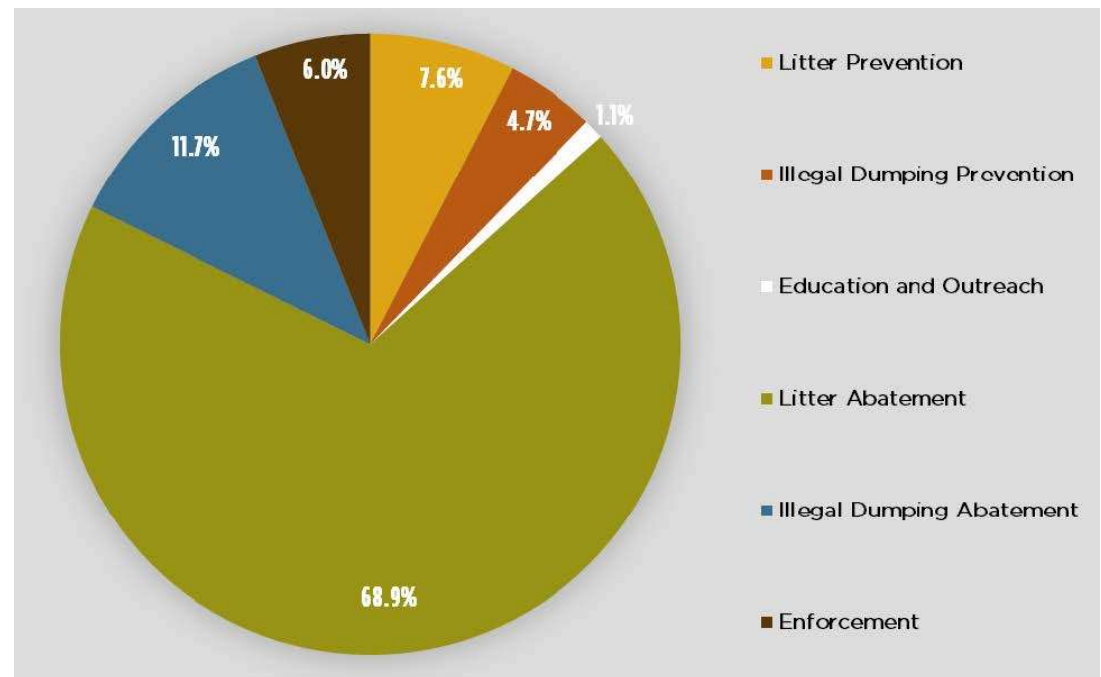


Litter in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's litter problem is both pervasive and costly:

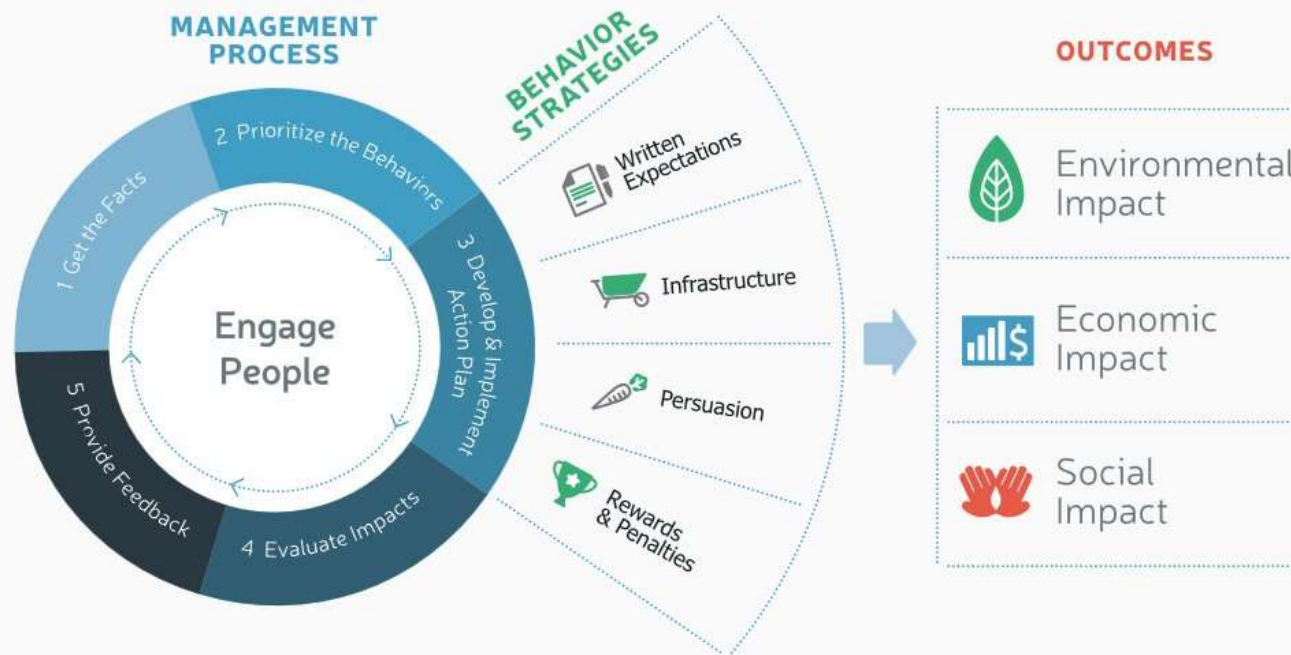
- An estimated 502 million pieces of litter lining the Commonwealth's roadways.
- PennDOT spends approximately \$13 million each year on litter-related activities
- A 2019 study found that just nine Pennsylvania municipalities collectively spent \$68.5 million annually addressing litter and illegal dumping—**80 percent of it on cleanup.**

Total Measured Costs by Activity Category



Keep America Beautiful Model for Change

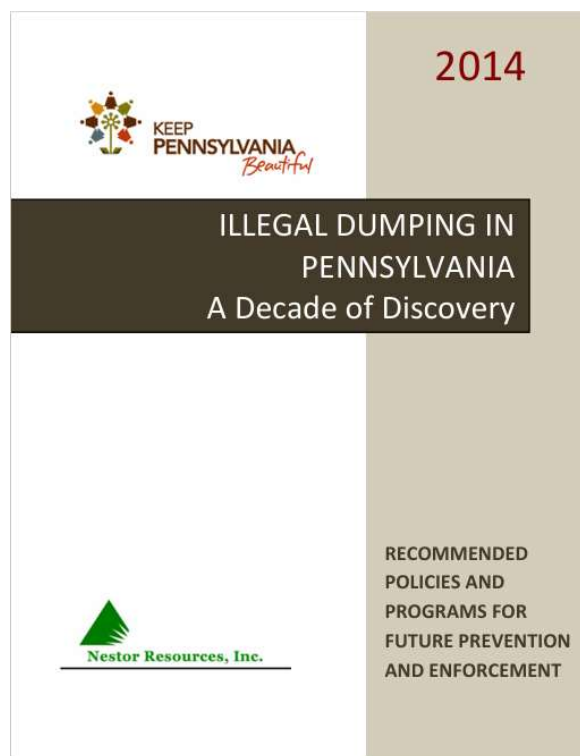
An Integrated Approach to More Beautiful Communities



Academically developed with decades of validation in the field, our behavior change system engages people at every step and results in sustainable change for the greater good.



Step 1. Get the Facts



Step 2. Prioritize the Behavior

Prevent littering in Pennsylvania through development and implementation of a research-based plan of recommended actions that can be used statewide to change littering behavior.



Step 3. Develop and Implement Action Plan

Prevent littering in Pennsylvania through development and implementation of a research-based plan of recommended actions that can be used statewide to change littering behavior.

- **Education & Outreach Workgroup:** Develop recommendations for a statewide litter education campaign with targeted strategies for specific groups
- **Infrastructure Work Group:** Identify ways to ensure that communities have the necessary infrastructure in place to reduce littering and illegal dumping
- **Laws & Enforcement Work Group:** Evaluate the effectiveness of current laws and ordinances related to littering and identify possible regulatory and enforcement updates
- **Partnership Work Group:** Provide feedback on recommendations heard in other workgroups and have business partners commit to reducing litter across the state



Step 3. Develop and Implement Action Plan



Step 4. Evaluate
Step 5. Provide Feedback



PA Fights Dirty Campaign

On August 2, 2022, the Wolf Administration joined Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful to announce the launch of the statewide anti-litter campaign, **“PA Fights Dirty: Every Litter Bit Matters.”**



Pennsylvania
Department of Community
& Economic Development



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation



Pennsylvania
Department of
Environmental Protection



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Young Ambassador Program

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, with funding from Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) launched the Young Ambassadors of Pennsylvania program in the fall of 2022.

The Young Ambassadors of Pennsylvania Program:

- Builds community stewardship by inspiring, engaging, and empowering young Pennsylvanians to keep their communities clean and beautiful.
- Develops civic leaders to champion and advocate for clean and beautiful communities across Pennsylvania.



Now in its fifth year, 113 students have graduated from the program.



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation



Litter Hawk Youth Award

KPB invites Pennsylvania youth to share creative artwork, essays, and videos that highlight their vision for a cleaner Pennsylvania while fostering environmental awareness and stewardship.

- Winners are honored during a special awards ceremony at the Pennsylvania State Capitol.
- Winning artwork was on display at the PA State Capitol Building during the month of April.
- Additionally, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission displayed winning artwork at service plazas along the turnpike and PennDOT shared with the public at 75 drivers license centers and 14 welcome centers and shared with employees thru 180 internal digital screens.



Pennsylvania
**Department of
Environmental Protection**



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation



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Rural Transfer Station Rule - Department of Environmental Protection, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Municipal Waste Rural Transfer Facility Permit-By-Rule final regulation was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on Saturday, October 29, 2022.

This rule, long championed by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, aims **to provide convenient and affordable access to waste disposal and recycling services in rural areas of Pennsylvania.**

While this rule was changed in 2022, it remains an underutilized tool.



Law Enforcement Field Training Days

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

DCNR developed a field training class for new rangers to cover a variety of topics. This training complements the academy and new officer training with a focus on field applications and citation issuance.

DCNR incorporated an overview of littering violations and how to handle them as part of the training.

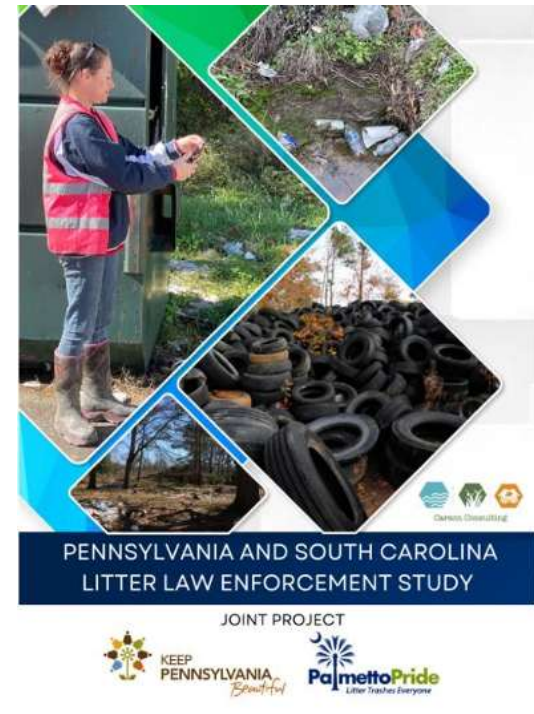


Litter Law Enforcement Study Joint Project

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and Palmetto Pride

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and PalmettoPride announced a comprehensive joint study on the efficacy of state litter statutes and enforcement practices and procedures, Pennsylvania and South Carolina Litter Law Enforcement Study (2023).

This multi-state study is the first of its kind in the country and can serve as a benchmark to measure litter control enforcement efforts across the country.



Litter Enforcement Resolution Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

HR 352 Improving Litter Law Enforcement (Approved March 2026)

*“Both the Litter Research Study and the subsequent state Litter Action Plan called on the Commonwealth and the General Assembly to **review the effectiveness of our litter ordinances, laws, statutes, and regulations, and to take action to improve their enforcement.** In what was described as a “first step in this process,” PalmettoPride and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful completed a joint study on litter law enforcement in 2023, highlighting important issues that were brought up by law enforcement and judicial officers.”*

-Representative Ciresi, House District 146. 8/11/2025

- Joint State Government Commission will conduct a study and issue recommendations on litter law enforcement in Pennsylvania. Findings to be released Spring 2027.



Litter Legislation - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Making the Littering Acknowledgment Easier to Understand

- **House Bill 982** (Representative Ciresi, House District 146) was introduced in April 2023 and amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for acknowledgment of littering provisions; and, in licensing of drivers, further providing for acknowledgment of littering provisions. While this bill passed the House, it did not advance in the Senate. Reintroduced the bill as 2025-2026 Regular Session in March 2025. Referred to Transportation Committee.

Community Service Option for All Littering Violations

- **HB 2742** An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 30 (Fish), 34 (Game) and 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.
- **HB 271** An Act amending the act of November 21, 1990 (P.L.539, No.133), known as the Cave Protection Act, further providing for penalties.



Litter Prevention Remains **Under Resourced** in Pennsylvania

Litter Action Plan: What General Assembly Can Do?

- ☐ *Establish a new legislated funding mechanism to support county and or local litter prevention and abatement strategies.*



States By Funding Mechanism

Funding Mechanism	States
Product-related taxes, fees, or surcharges	Arkansas; Connecticut; New Jersey; Tennessee; Virginia; Washington
Producer responsibility or producer-funded systems	California; Colorado; Maine; Maryland; Minnesota; Oregon
License or court-based allocations	Louisiana; South Carolina
State appropriations	New Mexico
Voluntary tax return contribution	Vermont



States By Funding Mechanism

Product-related taxes, fees, or surcharges

New Jersey

Act: Clean Communities Act 2002 – Amended 2008

Program: Clean Communities Program

Revenue Source: Tax on litter-generating products

Use of Funds: Municipal and county grants supporting litter prevention and abatement, enforcement and public education

Administering Agency: NJ Clean Communities

Source(s): Grant Guidelines

Legislation



States By Funding Mechanism

Producer responsibility or producer-funded systems

Minnesota

Act: Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act (Minn. Stat. § 115A.144-115A.1463)

Program: Producer Responsibility Organization

Revenue Source: Producer responsibility framework

Use of Funds: Education and litter awareness, service provider reimbursements

Administering Agency: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Source(s): Minnesota Packaging Waste Act

Circular Action Alliance, Minnesota



States By Funding Mechanism

License or court-based allocations

South Carolina

Act: SC Code, Title 14 Courts, ch 1, sec 208

Program: PalmettoPride

Revenue Source: Court assessment fees and fines

Use of Funds: Litter control programs and local grants

Administering Agency: PalmettoPride

Source(s): PalmettoPride, About

PalmettoPride established



Next Step: *Establish a legislated funding mechanism to support litter prevention and abatement strategies.*

A dedicated Pennsylvania fund can direct recurring revenue into proven behavior change strategies to support litter prevention

01 LINK

Generate revenue from product-related taxes, surcharges, producer responsibility systems, court assessments, license allocations, appropriations, or voluntary tax return contributions.

02 INVEST

Invest in municipal, county, and competitive local grants. Finance waste and recycling systems and infrastructure, and support public and school-based education, and other litter-related programs

03 DELIVER

State-level administration provides consistency, accountability, and a central mechanism for allocating resources to local litter prevention and abatement priorities.



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