



The Clean Sheet

www.keepickensbeautiful.org

Spring 2010 Newsletter



Keep Pickens Beautiful
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Green Starts Here

Spring is in the air and for KPB that means only one thing, the “Great American Cleanup.” April is being proclaimed as the “GAC” by: Robert Jones, Pickens County Sole Commissioner; John Weaver, Mayor of Jasper; Peter Q. Cagle, Jr., Mayor of Talking Rock; and David Leister, Mayor of Nelson.

Each community has events planned for the Great American Cleanup.

Pickens County will have many of the same cleanup programs for the whole month.

City of Jasper has planned a city-wide cleanup for the whole month, including picking up trash and brushing out areas around town.

The **Town of Talking Rock** has their Boy Scout Troop 1883, scheduled for a town cleanup and planting Saturday, April 10th.

City of Nelson has designated two Saturdays, April 10th and 17th, for their cleanup.

Many of the same yearly activities will be taking place throughout the month:

- Adopt-A-Road Volunteers will be out picking up their assigned roads;
- The recycle centers will be accepting four scrap tires per family, off the rims **free** of charge, unused paint, old batteries as well as all of the other every day recycle items; glass, aluminum, papers, cardboard/paste board, metal and e-waste.



Something New This Year

KPB is sponsoring a paper shredder for our County residents to recycle and dispose of their important documents. This event is planned for April 24th in the KPB parking lot from 2:30-5:00pm. Right after income tax time, the cost is \$3.00 per banker’s box. •••

KPB Annual Dinner

At our annual KPB dinner, the new officers for 2010 were recognized, Mary Ann Manzel, outgoing President passed the gavel to incoming President Kevin Osborne.

Susan Wright was honored for her volunteer service of three years as a board director.

Pickens County Sheriff Donnie Craig and Corporal Billy Lingerfelt accepted the Elaine Thomason Award for re-instating the inmate work detail from Ron Jager, Chairman of our Adopt-A-Road Program. The work detail, which started at the beginning of 2009, has picked up 2,200 bags (66,000 pounds) of trash and 139 tires along 200 miles of state and county roadways. •••

Business Recycling Partners Efforts Continue to Grow!

Last year was the beginning of a program to engage local businesses to place recycle containers in their work place and collect recyclables like aluminum cans, plastic bottles, cardboard and paper.

The program has grown from one to 38, and 1,047, 30-gallon bags of recycle were diverted from our landfills. In 2010 Pickens County Extension, Trinity Evangelical Church, North Georgia Community Action (NGCA) and The UPS Store have joined in the recycling program. •••



North Georgia Community Action (NGCA)



The UPS Store



Upcoming Calendar of Events

April — Great American Cleanup

April 10 – Boy Scout Cleanup in Talking Rock

April 10 – Recycle Your Trash - 10am-12 noon
KPB Parking Lot

April 10 & 17 – Nelson Cleanup

April 24 – Booth at the Farmers Market

April 24 – Paper Shredder 2:30-5:00pm
KPB Parking Lot

TBA – Long Swamp Creek Cleanup



Pickens Animal Rescue



Marble Valley Friends

Green Ribbon Awards

Each month individuals or companies are recognized by KPB for their efforts to improve our community, either by recycling, property clean up or beautifications.

In October, Hometown Home Health Care received the Green Ribbon Award for their beautiful landscaping featuring Ever Straw, made from recycled plastics. In January, the award was given to the Marble Valley Friends and Old Tate Gym for the beautiful job done in preserving the old gym.

February's award went to the Pickens County Animal Rescue Furniture, for remodeling and adding a non-profit animal clinic.

In October, Pam and Doug Stancil received a Green Thumb Award for turning their dull grassy yard to a beautiful garden area with many varieties of flowering bushes and flowers. •••

Adopt-A-Road Continues to Grow!

The new year has seen two more Adopt-A-Road volunteers join our program: The McDowell family, Rocky, Miranda and their children Whitney, Colby and Ashton; and the Dragons Are Green Club has adopted Dragon Drive at Pickens County High School. Teachers Lisa Duckett and Ann Wall head up this group of about 30 students who are becoming actively involved in keeping our community clean and beautiful. •••



What's Working at Big Canoe?

Folks might look at Big Canoe as an experimental neighborhood because they are relatively self-contained. About 14 months ago they embarked on a single-stream recycling program. Almost from the beginning the savings went as estimated: nearly \$5,900 per month in lower hauling fees on refuse generated by the 2,500 residences. The estimates were based on the national assumption that about 25% to 30% of the people participate.

Based on this early encouragement Big Canoe's Bill Bates, Public Service Director has decided to install a second recycling compactor. That makes two for landfill trash and two for single-stream recycling. Recycled cardboard is now selling at \$69 per ton and that's incentive enough to devote that new compactor to just cardboard. We'll see how that works out—another experiment. •••