



Clarke County Litter Committee
Berryville/Clarke County Government Center, 2nd Floor
101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia 22611
Main Meeting Room

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 5:30 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Organizational Meeting
 - Select 2022 Chair
 - Meeting Dates and Times
4. Background – past litter committee activities
5. Local Girl Scout Litter Pickup Patch Discussion
6. Front Royal –Warren County Litter initiatives
7. Adjournment

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chris Boies, Board of Supervisors
FROM: Alison Teetor
DATE: June 24, 2021
SUBJECT: History of the Litter Committee

Clarke County has long been involved in litter control and recycling efforts. Beginning in the 1980's an Ad Hoc committee was formed working with Parks and Recreation. Initial efforts were aimed at establishing a recycling center in the County and providing educational programs on litter and recycling to the schools.

In the late 1980's the committee was successful in having a recycling center established at the Park. Two eight-yard bins were located behind the Park office. Funding for the bins was provided through the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality grants. Each community in the Commonwealth is eligible to apply for these non-competitive grants either as a region or individual. The grant amounts are based on population and the County has received from \$4,500 to \$6,500 per year (higher amounts in more recent years). The facility was open to the public and staffed by the Park personnel. Glass, paper, and plastic were accepted. These bins were in use for several years, but problems began when people began dumping trash at the site. Finally the Park could not continue the oversight and clean up of the facility and the bins were removed.

The litter committee worked on Adopt-A-Highway efforts and was low profile for several years until 1999. A renewed interest in the committee was started in 1999 when then Board of Supervisor member, Jack Lillis, agreed to work on and formally appointed committee. Backed by the Board of Supervisors the committee continued with educational programs, supporting the bottle bill, supporting adopt-a-highway efforts, public education within the community, and further attempts at reestablishing the recycling center. In 2018 a convenience center with recycling was opened off of Quarry Road in Clarke County. <https://www.clarkecounty.gov/residents/trash-recycling>

In 2008 the County established a Conservation Committee that was responsible in part for developing an energy management plan, that was ultimately adopted in 2010. The Conservation Committee appears to have replaced the litter committee and once the energy management plan was completed the Conservation Committee disbanded as well. Currently the litter grant is used to pay for recycling bins at the County and Schools and purchasing bags and other materials for Parks and Recreation events. The Natural Resource Planner applies for and administers the grant.

The following page describes in more detail some of the past efforts and activities of the Litter and Recycling Committee.

Activities – Clarke County Litter & Recycling Committee

Road Cleanup

- Work with the Sheriffs Department, VDOT and the Camp 7 Virginia Minimum Security Prison to permit inmates to pick up litter on highways. Coordination involved getting all agencies to the table, setting up a work schedule with the prison, and getting the prison to work with VDOT. The Prison now gives the local VDOT office a copy of which roads are scheduled for pickup on any given day. VDOT agrees to pick up the trash collected by the inmates and take it to the landfill. Records of the number of bags collected on each stretch of road and the weight of each bag are maintained by VDOT and provided to the Litter Committee. The program has been extremely successful in cleaning up Clarke County roads.
- Arranged with the Frederick County Court Services Coordinator of the Old Dominion Community Corrections Program to have persons sentenced to community service work doing litter cleanup whenever possible.

Regulatory

- The committee reviewed the County and State anti littering ordinances to determine if illegally placed signs could be considered litter. If it is determined to be litter then people or companies placing the signs could be prosecuted.
- Established petitions promoting a Bottle Bill for Virginia. Went to Richmond to discuss the bottle bill with legislatures.
- Effectively prosecuted a repeat litterer. Continued to encourage the prosecution of litterers. Encouraged local adopt a highway contacts to attend court hearings to show public interest in the prevention of littering.
- Worked eliminating temporary roadside advertisement signs located within the VDOT right-of-way. Contacted companies using signs to discuss eliminating their use in Clarke County.

Education – General Population

- Generated a flyer that was describing littering as a crime and encouraging people to turn in offenders and receive a \$500 reward if criminal is successfully prosecuted. The flyer was distributed to persons attending the County Fair and Steam Show.
- Prepared a 10 minute presentation discussing litter and recycling to be presented to area civic organizations.
- Authored series of articles in local paper on recycling issues

- Funded and posted “Do Not Litter” signs in various locations around county
- Sponsored Litter Prevention Month in April which included public awareness programs and display in local storefront

Education - Schools

- Worked with the County Parks and Recreation Department to invite the Wildlife Center of Virginia to present the “Critters Don’t Litter Program” to the public and private schools in the community. Arranged with the Frederick County Recycling Coordinator to present talks to the middle school. Also the Park coordinated the presentation of “Kids for Parks” in the County Schools. In addition, The Timothy Wink Magic Show (on recycling/anti-littering subjects) was presented to the Elementary schools.
- Continued to operate recycling program in all public county schools, funding recycling roll-off containers at middle and high schools
- Assisted in the making of video for middle school on environmental issues
- Participated in United Way “Day of Caring” leading students in roadside litter pickup
- Acted as advisor for high school environmental club

Events

- Operated recycling program for Clarke County Fair
- Gave “Citizen of the Year” award to local resident for litter pickup activities
- Provided recycling containers for Virginia Arboretum events
- Working with Barns Festival to make festival a Zero Waste Festival for 2nd year (first in Virginia)

Earth Day 2021 Clean Up Patch Challenge



Let's make the Earth a cleaner place for everyone
and make every day Earth Day!

If each Girl Scout from Girl Scouts of Nassau Count picks up just TWO pieces of trash, we could pick up 21,000 pieces of trash for 2021! This challenge will run from April 22 until December 31, 2021. Let's educate others and make our environment a safer and cleaner place for plants, animals, and humans

Studies show that about 51 billion pieces of litter are released on American roadways each year—that's 6,729 items per mile of roadway annually. That is not including litter found in parks, schools, or anywhere in nature! As Girl Scouts, it's our responsibility to take action and make the world a better place.

This activity is divided into three sections: Know Before You Go, Make The World A Better Place, Reuse Repurpose Restore. Once you have completed the challenge, submit your trash count using [this Wufoo link](#). We'd love to hear from you too! Send pictures and a short description with your full name and troop number or Juliette status to GSNC at marketing@gsnc.org.

Patches are available for \$1 from the GSNC shop for pick up by appointment. Shipping is available for an additional cost. The GSNC shop will contact you once you complete the link. Patch design may change due to availability.

This patch challenge can be done as a troop following current Girl Scout of Nassau County COVID-19 guidelines or as an individual girl.

Badge Connections: Daisy Eco Learner, Brownie Eco Friend, Brownie Outdoor Adventurer, Brownie Girl Scout Way, Junior Eco Camper, Junior Girl Scout Way, Cadette Eco-Trekker, and Senior Eco Explorer. This challenge also qualifies for the Create it, Find it, and Do it! requirement of the Girl Scouting at Home Patch.

girl scouts
of nassau county



Know Before You Go

Before we go out and pick up litter it is important to know why trash pollution is a problem and what we can do to prevent it in our everyday lives!

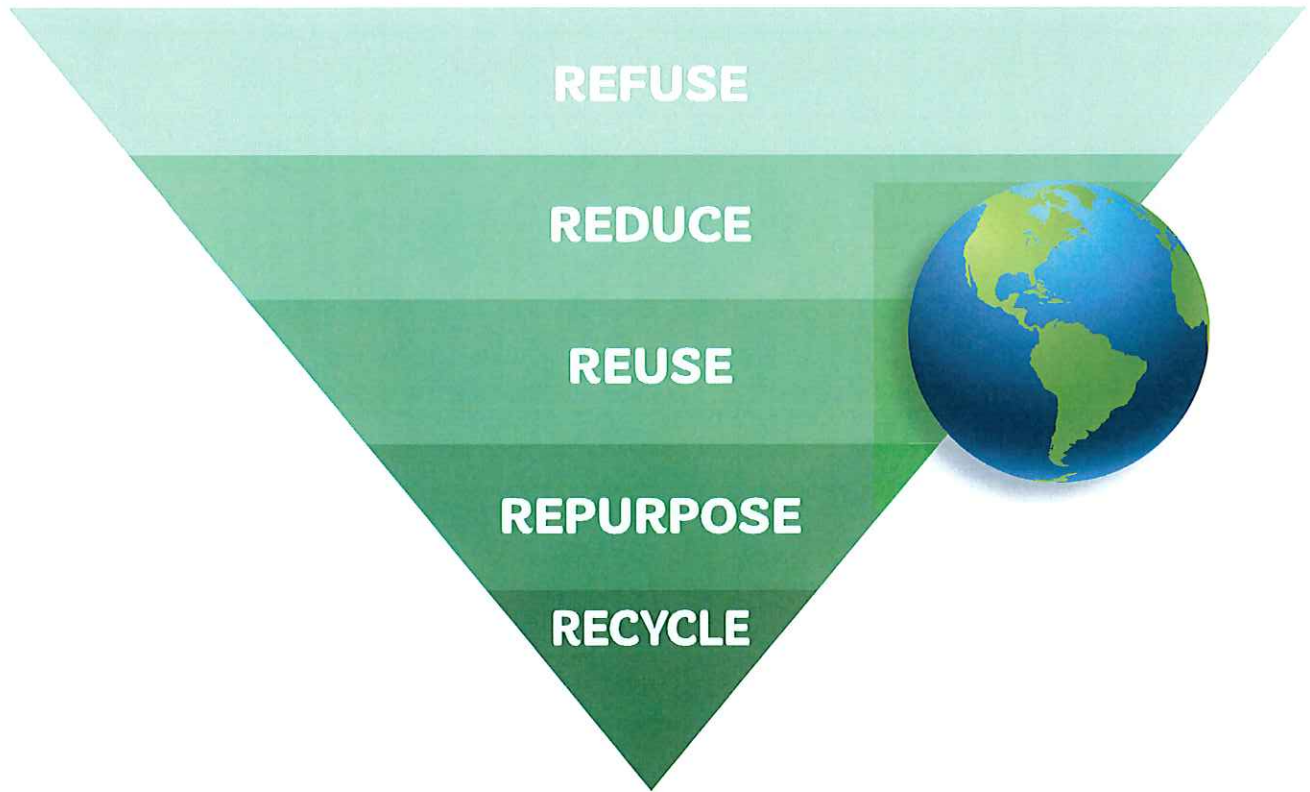
Why is trash pollution a problem?

Trash pollution is an immediate problem because it can affect plants and animals. Trash takes up space and can block light both of which plants need to grow. Animals can be affected by trash because they eat it and can become very sick. Both plants and animals can be seriously harmed by trash.

Trash pollution can become a long-term problem when it is not cleaned up. Our garbage breaks down and sometimes has chemicals that are not healthy for the soil. If these chemicals get into the soil it can be absorbed by the plants and then become a part of the food chain.

How can we make sure that we are not contributing to trash pollution?

Always throwing our trash out properly, being careful with items like snack wrappers and water bottles when we're outdoors and by following the 5 R's will all help protect our environment.



THE FIVE R'S INSTRUCTIONS: Below is a list of the five R's and their definitions mixed up. Draw a line from the word to its definition on the right.

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Refuse ○ | <input type="checkbox"/> | When you take an item and change what it is used for. |
| Reduce ○ | <input type="checkbox"/> | The process of collecting and processing materials and turning them into new products. |
| Reuse ○ | <input type="checkbox"/> | When you say no to an item that you don't necessarily need. |
| Repurpose ○ | <input type="checkbox"/> | When you use an item that might have been thrown out more than once. |
| Recycle ○ | <input type="checkbox"/> | Minimizing the amount of waste we create |

When it comes to waste and trash try and see if you can follow the 5 R's in order!
Below are the correct definitions for the five R's.

Refuse: Say "no" to an item that you don't necessarily need. Next time, skip the plastic straw and instead bring a reusable straw with you.

Reduce: Minimize the amount of waste you create. This could mean cutting down on single-use plastic by using a reusable water bottle.

Reuse: Use an item more than once that might have been thoughtlessly thrown out. If you go to a store and get a plastic bag, try using it a few more times.

Repurpose: Take an item and change what it is used for. If you keep going with this patch challenge, you'll learn how to repurpose water bottles and bottle caps into art!

Recycle: The process of collecting and processing materials and turning them into new products. If you can't do any of the other R's with your waste, check with your local county departments to see what type of recycling they offer before putting it in the trash!



Reuse, Repurpose, Restore

INSTRUCTIONS: Take a look at some of the trash you have at home, is there a way to REUSE, REPURPOSE, or RESTORE some of these items? Use a piece of trash to create a craft.

Choose one of the crafts below or one of your own.

Bottle Cap Fish

Supplies: Bottle caps, googly eyes, construction paper, permanent marker, glue

1. Start by cutting a triangle of construction paper for the tail of your fish.
2. Add glue to the rim of your bottle cap and then press down overlapping the bottle cap with the top of your triangle.
3. Next glue a googly eye onto your fish.
4. Using a permanent marker add some squiggly lines to make gills and add a smile to your fish.
5. If you have a few bottle caps, repeat this step and glue the fish to a piece of construction paper to make a whole school of fish!

Plastic Bottle Flower

Supplies: Clean empty 16.9 oz. plastic bottle with bottle top, scissors, paint, paintbrush, recycled straw

1. Start by painting the cap of the bottle yellow and place it to the side to dry.
2. Then paint your straw green and place it to the side to dry.
3. Next, cut off the top quarter of the bottle—typically just above the label and toss the bottom part of the bottle in a recycling bin!
4. Make cuts up to the neck of the bottle about an inch apart These are going to be your petals.
5. Now bend the slit sections up all the way around so that they are spread out like petals on a flower.
6. Paint the flower the color of your choice.
7. Once the paint is dry, twist your yellow cap back onto the bottle.
8. The last step is to glue your straw to the back of your flower and now you have a repurposed bottle decoration!

Front Royal/Warren County Anti-Litter Council

The mission of the Front Royal/Warren County Anti-Litter Council is to educate, motivate and participate in the prevention of litter and assist the citizens of Front Royal and Warren County to become better stewards of our environment.

The Front Royal/Warren County Anti-Litter Council meets at 4:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of the month at the Warren County Government Center: Planning Department (220 North Commerce Avenue, Suite 400, Front Royal, Virginia). For more information contact Joe Petty or Matt Wendling at the Office of Planning and Zoning in the Warren County Government Center at (540) 636-3354, or follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/FRWCAntiLitter/>

By contributing at a local level you can:

- Help maintain the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley
- Improve property values in your neighborhood
- Contribute to cleaner roadsides and waterways
- Meet others who share your support of anti-litter initiatives

Your participation helps promote anti-litter education in our community.

Clean-Up Days

The Council regularly hosts weekday clean-up events in an effort to address some of our local litter problem areas. These events are scheduled during the monthly meetings.

Cargo Nets for Pick-up Trucks and Trailers

In order to assist residents to meet Warren County Code §102-2 "Covering of Vehicles Transporting Garbage or Trash" which requires that no vehicle shall be operated or moved on any highway unless it is constructed, maintained and loaded as to prevent its contents from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping. The Anti-Litter Council provides Town and County residents cargo nets at no cost that can be picked up at the Warren County Government Center in the Planning Department, Suite 400. Each household is limited to one cargo net.

Community Clean-Up Supplies to Loan

To support local organizations or citizens who want to make a difference in their community. The Council loan out supplies such as bags, gloves, grabbers, safety vests and signage to make clean-up programs a successful and safe event. Contact the ALC if you would like to reserves some supplies for your next clean-up.

Youth Education Materials

The Anti-Litter Council gives out backpacks, coloring books, and stickers to school age children during various events throughout the year. These promote recycling, keeping the earth litter free, and clean water habits.

Annual Awards Program for Community and Youth Groups and School Projects

The Council has held this event for a number of years to recognize Community & Youth Service Organizations and classroom projects for Elementary, Middle and High School Students. The award winners may receive cash awards and prizes.

Parks and Recreation Trash Bins, Recycle Bins and Dog Waste Receptacles

In order to assist in keeping our local parks litter free, the Council approves grant funding towards the purchase of new receptacles. These items meet the design criteria that are required for uniformity throughout the park system.

Educational Outreach

Members of our organization are available for giving talks and presentations on recycling and litter control in the Town and County, and giving ideas on just what you can do to be a good steward of the places you live, work and play.

Additional Resources:

Warren County Solid Waste

<https://www.warrencountyva.net/solid-waste-department>

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

<https://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/LandProtectionRevitalization/RecyclingandLitterPreventionPrograms/LitterPreventionandRecyclingGrantPrograms.aspx>

Town of Front Royal - Adopt a Street

<https://frontroyalva.com/DocumentCenter/View/82/Adopt-A-Street-PDF?bidId=>

Virginia Department of Transportation - Adopt a Highway

[https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/adopt-a-](https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/adopt-a-highway/?utm_source=Keep+Virginia+Beautiful&utm_campaign=cdd28ff98d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9585a81e72-cdd28ff98d-399067705)

[highway/?utm_source=Keep+Virginia+Beautiful&utm_campaign=cdd28ff98d-](https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/adopt-a-highway/?utm_source=Keep+Virginia+Beautiful&utm_campaign=cdd28ff98d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9585a81e72-cdd28ff98d-399067705)

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9585a81e72-](https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/adopt-a-highway/?utm_source=Keep+Virginia+Beautiful&utm_campaign=cdd28ff98d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9585a81e72-cdd28ff98d-399067705)

[cdd28ff98d-399067705](https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/adopt-a-highway/?utm_source=Keep+Virginia+Beautiful&utm_campaign=cdd28ff98d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_09_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9585a81e72-cdd28ff98d-399067705)

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

<https://www.epa.gov/recycle>

Keep Virginia Beautiful

<https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/>