



KTnB Open Line: Nov. 15, 2013 Edition

Greetings,

In an effort to keep you updated on KTnB activities, I would like to share with you the following information. Have a great weekend!

Outreach Efforts

America Recycles Day on University of Memphis Campus

In celebration of America Recycles Day, Keep Tennessee Beautiful teamed up with the University of Memphis Sustainability Department, coordinated by Amelia Mayahi, for a campus wide litter cleanup. Dressed in bright yellow Stop Litter T-shirts and blue jeans, KTnB's Clean and Green Coordinator Stine Moss-Cooperwood and Recycling Programs Coordinator Pamela Willingham served as team leaders, guiding student volunteers across the main campus on Monday, November 11th.

After arming themselves with gloves, plastic bags, brooms, dust pans, litter grabbers and maps, several teams picked up cigarette butts, paper, cups, bottles, boxes, tile pieces, trash, and other litter debris. A wiffle ball, a parking ticket, and a partially eaten meal from Wendy's were three of the oddest items found during the first day of the campus cleanup.

With research showing that the individuals most prone to littering are males between the ages of 18-25, our volunteers, majority male architecture majors, were the perfect group to participate. As we picked up litter, we conversed about their thoughts and perceptions on litter, learning valuable insight. Their experiences varied, but each seemed concerned about sustaining the environment for the future. This made for a great opportunity to educate outside of the classroom. As we continued across the campus, we passed several middle and high schools students touring the campus. Our assembled teams of yellow sparked interest, as we were stopped along the way to ask what was going on. Some even promised to sign up as volunteers to help as the week progressed.

Several other campus employees teamed with more students to continue cleanup in other areas across the main and Park Avenue campus. Since the campus cleanup continues through November 19, varying student and employee volunteers have signed up for each day. The campus wide cleanup culminates on November 20 with a Campus Litter Exhibit, featuring a large mountain of litter picked up during the campus cleanup initiative.

TDOT Litter Grant Program Regional Training

On Thursday, November 14th, I traveled to Clarksville to attend the TDOT Litter Grant Program Regional Training. There were over 20 counties represented at the training. I would like to thank Teresa Culbreath and Mark McAdoo with the TDOT Beautification Program for allowing me time to speak to the attendees. I appreciate the opportunity to share about KTnB and meet others in our state who are working to make Tennessee a greener, cleaner and healthier place to live, work and visit.



Visits With Affiliates

Keep Jonesborough Beautiful Kick-Off Celebration

On Tuesday, November 12th, I had the honor of serving as the guest speaker for the Keep Jonesborough Beautiful (KJB) Kick-Off Celebration. Many thanks to KTnB Advisory Council member, Sherrell Lyon, Jr., for the invitation and to Maria Bledsoe for her hospitality. Congratulations to KJB Executive Director Jeff Thomas and the entire KJB Council on a successful event!



Meet KTnB Advisory Board Member: Ann Johnson

Ann Johnson is Founder and CEO of Waste Tech Services, a national solid-waste consulting firm based in Franklin, TN, that is celebrating 20 years in business in 2013 and is a certified member of the Women's Business Enterprise Council.

Ann is also Innkeeper of Moonshine Hill, a 22-acre country retreat near Historic Leiper's Fork in Williamson County where she has been an active community member through her support of annual events for the Leiper's Fork Merchants Association. She served as Volunteer Coordinator for the Jeff Long For Sheriff Campaign, Chairperson for the DUI Court Foundation inaugural fundraiser, and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County.

Ann has proudly called Middle Tennessee home her entire life as a native of Nashville and she currently resides in Franklin.



Why is keeping Tennessee beautiful important to me?

Keep Tennessee Beautiful provides a tremendous opportunity for all of us to share the problems and successes facing Tennesseans today when it comes to our environment. I love how it creates awareness at all levels, inside our communities, the cities, and counties. The Stop Litter campaign and phone number (1-877-8-LITTER) to report highway littering is such a great program that helps build that awareness.

Contact

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