



America Recycles Day in Rhode Island

As part of an on-going effort to promote recycling right in the Ocean State, Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (Resource Recovery) and Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful (KBVB), Rhode Island's affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, are teaming up to test recycling knowledge in our state.

The two organizations are joining thousands of groups across the country that are doing something special to celebrate America Recycles Day (ARD), a national initiative of Keep America Beautiful. ARD is the only nationally-recognized day, celebrated on November 15th for the past twenty years, to bring community awareness to promote and celebrate recycling in the United States.

Rhode Island residents are invited to take a brief 15-question online survey. Residents' recycling habits, motivations and general knowledge, will be covered. Respondents are encouraged to leave comments, ask questions or share stories about their recycling experiences in Rhode Island. The results, which will be released on America Recycles Day (November 15), will help guide public outreach strategies and educational programs.

Thanks to generous donations from local businesses, those who complete the survey will be entered into a random drawing for a chance to win one of six prizes, including:

1. \$50 Visa gift card, compliments of MTG Disposal. This will be randomly drawn from participants ages 19 and older.
2. \$50 TEEN PRIZE Visa gift card, compliments of MTG Disposal. This will be randomly drawn from participants ages 13-18.
3. Two tickets to the Blackstone Valley Polar Express Train Ride on November 18, 2017 @ 1 pm, compliments of Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.
4. Four tickets on the Blackstone Explorer River Boat Tours for the 2018 season, compliments of Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.
5. Four tickets to The Museum of Work & Culture, located in Woonsocket, RI, compliments of The Rhode Island Historical Society.
6. One Free Garden EARTH compost bin, compliments of Rhode Island Resource Recovery.

Surveys will be accepted until Monday November 13, 2017 until 5 pm, so winners can be notified by America Recycles Day – November 15th.

TAKE SURVEY



Blackstone Valley Tourism Council's 200 person Annual Celebration Almost Trash Free!

On September 28th, the 32nd Annual Dinner at Blackstone Valley Tourism Council was a celebration to "Our Blackstone Valley Story". The Council awarded many individuals and businesses that continue to make Blackstone Valley a tourist destination.

Our area, being birth of the Industrial Revolution, has experienced many environmental offenses through the years. KBVB and BVTC encourage clean, green and beautiful living in our valley, and this year made sure our event was "green" to support our goals.

Over 200 guests came to a wonderful dinner, including appetizers, a main course, beverages and dessert. With that amount of celebrating, you would think we would

generated a lot of trash after the event. But the opposite happened!

Only two 30 gallon bags of trash were produced. That is less than many families of four generate in a week. How was the possible? Using china, cloth napkins and silverware kept disposal waste out of our trash. All beverage containers were recycled and all food scraps were taken to a local pig farmer. Flower centerpieces containers were reused and the flowers were party favors. The only trash that ended up in the “trash can” was some paper cocktail napkins, saran wrappings, and odd & ends plastic like drink stirrers.

We are happy to share our “almost” trash free event and hope many might also use some of these ideas as the holidays approach. Celebrating does not have to mean lots of trash — it should just mean lots of fun!!!

For suggestions on how to make your event trash free contact Donna Kaehler @ 401-724-2200.



Free Movie Showing; "Lea To The Rescue"

Nov. 4th @ 10 AM
Blackstone Valley Visitor Center
175 Main St., Pawtucket, RI

Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful, invites you to attend a movie showing for The American Girl Movie “Lea to the Rescue”.

Join us as this American Girl shares an environmental message of being good to animals and the rainforest ecosystem.

All children will receive an American Girl goodie bag and leave with better knowledge about how we all can be good to our environment right here in Blackstone Valley.

About the movie:

Born for adventure, Lea Clark heads deep into the Brazilian rainforest, where her most exciting story awaits. When Lea's brother, Zac, goes missing while studying the ecology in South America—and she suspects he's fallen prey to a band of ruthless animal poachers— Lea convinces her mom to spring into action. From the minute their plane touches down, Lea's mom wants her to stay safe in the city, but Lea is determined to save both her brother and the endangered exotic animals she loves.

MOVIE REGISTRATION



**Do Beautiful Things
in Blackstone Valley**



Bank of America Volunteers Beautify Chocolate Mill Overlook in Central Falls

Volunteers, from a variety of Bank of America branches, came to Central Falls to assist KBVB in beautifying Chocolate Mill Overlook Park, located at Roosevelt Ave, aka Cherry Tree Lane and Charles Street.

Seven volunteers took time out of a busy workday to come out and trim cherry trees. Their efforts now allow unobstructed views of the historic Blackstone River. The lawn was raked, perennials winterized, and litter and debris removed to showcase our community park.

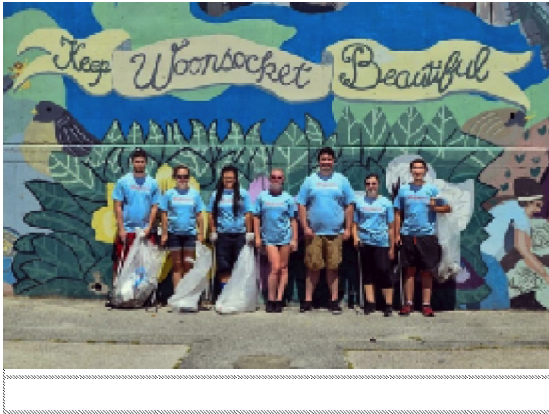
Bank of America, is a corporation that encourages their employees to volunteer in their communities. This month they were welcomed by KBVB, the only RI affiliate of Keep America Beautiful.

Chocolate Mill Overlook, located on the banks of the Blackstone River celebrates one of North America's earliest water-powered chocolate mills and is a

delightful overlook stop along the Blackstone River Bikeway.

The bikeway, which permits bikers, walkers and history seekers, the opportunity to experience the Blackstone River all the way from North Smithfield into Providence RI. "Bikers can follow the bike path sharrow markings and signage to explore this beautiful historic area of our state."

A pollinator garden was added, with winter blooming plants donated by Dickinson's Witch Hazel Skincare & Keep America Beautiful. These plants will help feed baby bees before our spring flowers blooms.



Walgreen's Employees Clean Litter from a 3-Mile Stretch

Sara Gilkenson, a student at Bryant University and a cashier at North Smithfield's Park Square Walgreen's store, decided to help a neighboring Walgreen site with their litter problem. The Woonsocket store, located on the corner of Social and Cumberland Streets, noticed it was difficult keeping this intersection litter free. The problem had gotten so bad that the litter overflowed into the street. Someone noticed and actually added this as a post on social media.

Sara, gather her co-workers and decided to help out their sister store. Eight employees from four different stores, volunteered their time and spent 3 ½ hours to pick up litter. The volunteers started at the Woonsocket location, but didn't stop there. The continued all the way to the North Smithfield location which ended up being a 3 1/2mile route.

What a difference this crew made. They collected many cigarette butts, the #1 littered item in our country, cigarette packaging, candy wrappers, along with many small nip bottles, to name a few of the items found.

Starting with a clean slate makes all the difference. KBVB explains the first step to ending litter is to remove litter already there. Research shows littered areas tend to attract more litter and might even give the impression it is okay to litter. With volunteers like this, we stand a chance to end litter in RI.



Earth Day Doesn't End in April

A North Smithfield resident, Bob Lepage, picks up litter, and a lot of it, all year long.

Pictured is what Bob collected after our town annual Clean & Green Day. Bob goes out every week and removes litter from a very busy town road, Victory Highway. His usual collection route, a 2 – 3 mile loop, Bob manages this large area all by himself. He also adopts other areas, and when bringing his son to driver's education class, picked up litter in that area for the 45 minutes while he waited for class to end.

We very lucky to have Bob help not only organize our town litter clean-up day, assist and pick up that day, but then keep up the awesome work. Our streets are much cleaner thanks to him.



Donate Your Unwanted Vehicles To Keep America Beautiful

...and **HELP** our Local Affiliate **Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful** Raise Funds, Too!

The Keep America Beautiful Vehicle Donation Program, through Insurance Auto Auctions' Donation Division, provides an opportunity to help us do clean, green and beautiful things nationally and locally.

It offers a tax-deductible way to dispose of unwanted vehicles, including cars, trucks, boats, tractors, motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, jet skis, RVs as well as construction, farm and other heavy equipment. The program is available in all 50 states. **When you donate a vehicle, your local affiliate will receive 50% of the revenue earned from the donation!**

This program is on-going, but Fall cleaning is a great time to get started.

DONATION INFO

KEEP BLACKSTONE VALLEY BEAUTIFUL
A program of Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
175 MAIN STREET, PAWTUCKET, RI
401-724-2200
KeepBlackstoneValleyBeautiful.com

KBVB mission is to inspire & empower individuals to improve our communities through ending litter, reducing waste and beautify the Blackstone Valley.

