



BLACKSTONE VALLEY

TOURISM COUNCIL

Build Stronger Communities - Even During COVID.

This past year, 2020 has brought us many unforeseen challenges. While it is easy to feel unsure how we can help this overwhelming situation, as we move into 2021 Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful (KBVB) has a way you can. KBVB, the only Rhode Island affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, hosts a variety of Great America Cleanup events locally. To build on this national program, KBVB is reaching out to your business to invite you to get involved.

Unfortunately, many Earth Day cleanups were cancelled, leaving our streets littered with not only everyday litter, but lots of PPE litter too. I am working with local businesses to contribute for approximately 2 hours by conducting a litter clean up close to your business. Participating is a great opportunity for your business to:

- Have a corporate team building event that is a fun, meaningful way to help our community.
- Clean an area around your business. Your surroundings will be cleaner, greener, and more beautiful for all to see.
- Be recognized by KBVB as a *Business Making a Green Difference*. All businesses will be highlighted on our webpage and listed in all Great American Cleanup Wrap-up press releases.
- Get involved and become part of the solution. Ending litter in Rhode Island is going to take us all doing a small piece. If we all take part, we can reach significant results.

Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful can help identify a location as a potential spot for your company to volunteer and clean, or you can directly choose a spot that you would like to beautify.

To assist, KBVB has two programs to aid in your effort.

- Have your business organize and host the cleanup with minimal support from KBVB. I would be happy to work with a company individual to plan the event, then your company would take it from there.
- Have KBVB take part in your cleanup. KBVB will bring supplies (litter grabbers, disposable face masks, trash bags, gloves, safety vests, etc.), follow all safety protocol and attend your cleanup. (KBVB would ask for donation to our program for a 2-hour event for expenses for this option).

Even last year, our Blackstone Valley *Great America Cleanups* had a huge impact beautifying our communities. KBVB was able to host 10 cleanups with just 74 volunteers, but still removed over 3,700 pounds of litter during these one-day events. Even now, I hope businesses and individuals will continue to volunteer to tackle our on-going litter problem, and show we take pride in the areas we see and travel every day.

Thank you for considering helping. Together we can Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful.

Sincerely,

Donna Kaehler

Donna Kaehler
KBVB Director