

# THE PALS PRINTS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA PALS AND THE ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PROGRAM

SUMMER QUARTER 2021 • VOLUME 43

## DIRECTORS NOTES: "KEEPING OUR EYES ON THE GOAL"

As we look back at the many changes that occurred during 2020 and early 2021, we have many ways that we can look at this time period. I feel certain that my perspective is similar to most, and that is that it is now time to focus on all of the things that are most important to ALL of us, and I am thankful that a true sense of normalcy has returned to each of our lives, communities, families, churches, businesses, neighborhoods, cities and our great state. Each of these important entities hold a dear and important place in each of our lives and are deserving of the phrase of "Keep your Eyes On The Goal". In each case, time, effort and the belief that each of us are part of a greater mission is the key to achieving the goals that benefit so many. Thank you for your support and dedication to Alabama PALS and our many statewide programs, and for your commitment to "Keeping Our Eyes On The Goal", as we continue to strive for a cleaner, safer and more beautiful Alabama for all of us, as well as the many that visit our beautiful Alabama each year.

It is hard to believe that we will be celebrating the 34th annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup on September 18th, 2021. This valuable partnership with ADCNR, Coastal Cleanup Corporate Sponsors and PALS has proven to be a benchmark for other states that are involved with the International Coastal Cleanup each year. Over the past 33 years, 102,495 volunteers have participated in picking up 1,705,349 pounds of litter from our beautiful Gulf Coast region, and over 6,285 miles of shoreline have been cleaned. This is made possible through this valuable partnership and the commitment of each volunteer and Zone Captain that we have honor of serving each year. I want to thank The Poarch Creek Band of Creek Indians, our Title Sponsor for the 7th straight year, and each of our Coastal Cleanup Sponsors for affording us the opportunity to make the Alabama Coastal Cleanup one of the most successful coastal cleanup efforts in the country. Mark your calendars for September 18th!

The Alabama Adopt A Mile Program, a long running partnership between PALS and ALDOT continues to experience continued high interest and growth. Over 850 miles of Alabama's roads and highways are adopted by volunteer groups

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## 2021 ALABAMA PALS MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Form/Application can be submitted online at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Sustaining Partner: \$500       Sustaining Steward: \$ 250       Litter Free Leader: \$100  
 PALS Advocate: \$50       PALS Partner: \$25

(Membership Dues are paid Annually)

Alabama PALS is a 501C3 non-profit organization.

Your contribution to Alabama PALS is tax deductible

Please Make Checks Payable to:

Alabama PALS, 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36106



*"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"*

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In-State Watts 800-ALA-PALS  
Fax # 334-832-9400  
NEW WEBSITE: [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)  
340 North Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

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### ALABAMA PALS MISSION STATEMENT

*"Alabama Communities Working  
Together for A Cleaner and  
More Beautiful Alabama"*

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

BY JEFF HELMS, CHAIRMAN, ALABAMA PALS

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When my son was younger, we practically lived at the baseball park. Never an All-Star, Benjamin just loved the game. We endured scorching heat and exhausting nights for the blessings of fun and friendship.

Years later, I can still smell the sweaty leather, hear the ding of aluminum bats and feel the grit of red dust in my teeth. Seeing kids shag fly balls through a blurry lens of chainlink fence brings back a flood of memories.

One ballpark sight, however, was always discouraging. Despite there being 55-gallon trash cans at every field, the bleachers (and ground under them) were littered with cups, cardboard trays, plastic bags and sticky condiment packets.

Is it really that difficult to carry a hotdog wrapper 10 feet?

Looking back, the tragedy of this thoughtless littering wasn't just that maintenance people had to work harder, or that some debris was swept by the wind into nearby woods. Rather, it was the lesson it taught impressionable young people.

At a time when adults should have been teaching sportsmanship, teamwork, dedication and resilience, some were modeling a lazy, careless and self-centered attitude.

What a lost opportunity!

One afternoon at the ballpark, I began climbing bleachers and crawling underneath to collect discarded trash. I did this not only to clean the grounds, but also to teach Benjamin about stewardship and responsibility.

That's not to say I always remember to pick up after myself or than my son consistently applies this lesson. But it does remind us of the importance of education.

Imagine how much more beautiful Alabama could be if we just cleaned up on our own messes?

While we love to celebrate the hard work of Alabama PALS volunteers in surpassing prior year litter collection totals, our ultimate goal should be to work ourselves out of a job.

Just like I couldn't keep up with the number of soft drink cups, candy wrappers and food containers being tossed under the bleachers, Alabama PALS will never be able to eradicate litter through cleanups alone.

We must continue to teach the next generation the shared responsibility we have for our environment. Stewardship must become a habit — like wearing a seatbelt.

Our Clean Campus program is reaching thousands of schoolchildren with these lessons, but we can all do our part.

As you maintain your adopted miles or conduct cleanups, make sure it's not just an activity. Take a few moments to talk about WHY we do the things we do. Most importantly, let's continue to set the example for litter prevention, not just at organized events, but also in personal lives — on vacation, in parking lots, during our cookouts, even at the ballpark.

—Jeff

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*Continued from page 1*

in every county in our great state. This is something that Alabamians should be proud of, as volunteers clean and maintain miles that are used daily by each of us and are sometimes the first things that visitors notice as they travel through our state. Thank you to each of you and your groups that give of your time and efforts to keep these adopted miles clean and litter free. In this edition of the newsletter you will see pictures of Adopt A Mile signs that are in good condition. PLEASE let us know if you know of a sign that is in bad condition, or that is not readable. If your group has a sign that needs replacing due to age, damage or other reasons, please let us know and we will work to have your signs replaced or removed.

The 2021 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Statewide Spring Cleanup was a huge success. To date, over 378 tons of litter and debris has been removed from highways, roads, cities and counties. Many cleanups are ongoing and with approximately 50% of Report Forms received, we are striving to have reports and data in house in the very near future. If you and your cities and counties have NOT returned your most valuable Report Forms in, PLEASE take time to send those in as soon as you can, so we can complete the totals for 2021. I also want to thank to the Alabama Community College Association for their commitment, dedication and participation during the 2021 cleanup efforts.

Within this newsletter you will find the Nomination Forms for the 2021 Alabama PALS Governors Awards and the 2020-21 Alabama Clean Campus Program Scholarship and awards program. Please take time to nominate those in your respective locations that deserve to be recognized at the 2021 Governors Awards luncheon on November 17th in Montgomery. This is such a special day for Alabama PALS as we recognize the winners in each category and have the opportunity to thank each person personally for their many contributions in making Alabama truly Alabama the Beautiful. Make your plans now to join us for this special day!

As we enter the last half of 2021 and look beyond, let's remember all of the blessings that we have, and take time to nurture those things that add to our daily lives by always remembering to "Keep Your Eyes On The Goal".



Spencer

## PALS SUSTAINING CORPORATE SPONSORS



**HONDA**

**Vulcan**  
Materials Company



**The "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup**

**The Alabama Clean Campus Program**

**Adopt-A-Mile**

**Adopt-A-Stream**

**Alabama Coastal Cleanup**

**Adopt-An-Area**

**Adopt-A-Beach**

**Litter Education Curriculum**

**Annual Governor's Awards**

**Statewide Chapter Network**

# ALDOT REGIONAL ENGINEERS AND AREA OFFICES

## CURTIS W. VINCENT

North Regional Engineer  
256-505-4956

## DEJARVIS LEONARD

East Central  
Regional Engineer  
256-234-8401

## STEVEN GRABEN

SE Regional Engineer  
334-353-6851

## MATTHEW J. ERICKSEN

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251-470-8204

## JAMES D. BROWN

West Central  
Regional Engineer  
205-562-3100



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"

## MESSAGE FROM:

JAMIE MITCHELL – Clean Campus State Coordinator

We hope you are as excited as we are about the 2021-2022 school year! The Clean Campus Program is ready to work with you this school year in whatever way works best for your school. I was only able to visit one school in person last year, so I am thrilled to get back into the classroom this year! I am available for in-person visits, or you may choose to have a Zoom call or simply watch the Clean Campus video that was a new addition in 2020. We now have 3 ways to get the anti-litter message out to the students of Alabama, so you truly now may choose what works best for you!!

Also, the Clean Campus Scrapbook Contest is in full swing with entries due on October 13th. Even if your scrapbook is not as robust as past years, please send it in anyway! We understand it was a very different year from normal. Please include any cleanups you conducted, any campus beautification projects, recycling projects or anything else that made your campus shine. Remember, first prize is \$1,000, second

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## CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FORM

Either fill out form and mail to Alabama PALS Attn: Jamie Mitchell

340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 or apply online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)

Current Member? \_\_\_\_ Y or \_\_\_\_ N      Circle One:    City School    County School    Private School

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Participating School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Our school has reviewed the requirements for the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program and is therefore applying to be a participating school in this statewide program.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Contact Person)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRINCIPAL PERMISSION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal), give consent for \_\_\_\_\_ school to participate in the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program for the 2021-2022 school year.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PARTICIPATION FORM

Please Complete and Return to The PALS Office  
340 North Hull Street / Montgomery, AL 36104

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Group or Individual on Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address of Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
 State Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Highway # \_\_\_\_\_ County Highway or Road # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Sign: Mile Marker# \_\_\_\_\_ to Mile Marker # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Currently Participating  
 Not Participating at This time and want sign taken down  
 Participating But Sign Needs Replacing or Repaired

## Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for Highway Adoption - State/Federal

City \_\_\_\_\_  
 County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Highway section(s) you propose to adopt:  
 (minimum of one mile)  
 State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Signature of Applicant  
 Recommended for Approval:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Form/Application can be submitted  
online at alpals.org

## County Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for County Road Adoption

County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Road section(s) you propose to adopt:  
 (minimum of one mile)  
 County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Signature of Applicant  
 Recommended Approval:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Engineer  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman, County Commission  
 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Form/Application can be submitted  
online at alpals.org

## MESSAGE FROM:

*JOHN COOPER*

*Director, Alabama Department  
of Transportation*

With Alabama and the rest of the country reopening after a long stalemate of vacations, road trips and family gatherings, The Alabama Department of Transportation family is looking forward to serving travelers. One way we do that is by keeping their trips beautiful. Our maintenance crews spend hours cleaning debris from the roadways and, along with help from dedicated volunteers, keep the state highways and interstates as beautiful as possible.

Summer is a particularly exciting time for travelers around the country. The family road trips, weekend excursions to the lake and annual vacations to Alabama's beautiful beaches and state parks bring record number of travelers to our state. We host people visiting from all over the country on our roadways and it is important to make a great lasting impression on these visitors. That is why keeping Alabama's roadways free of litter is of the utmost importance.

The partnership between the Alabama Department of Transportation and Alabama PALS has brought state government, non-profit groups and, especially, dedicated volunteers together for over thirty years together with programs like Adopt-a-Mile. We hope to keep Alabama's roads pristine and beautiful every day of the year. The Adopt-a-Mile program boasts countless of volunteer groups dedicating hours and hours of their time to litter clean up. We have approximately 860 miles of highway adopted but we want 100% of Alabama's highways adopted through our program. With your help, it is possible.

On behalf of ALDOT, thank you for your commitment to our ongoing battle against litter. Together, we're making a difference and welcome back to the roads.

# POSTER AND RECYCLED ART WINNERS 2020-2021

## K-3 Poster Winners

1st- Austin Church, West Blocton Elementary, 1st grade, Bibb Co.

2nd- Alyssa Hann, Bear Exploration Center, 2nd grade, Montgomery Co.

3rd- Junseo Kim, Bear Exploration Center, 3rd grade, Montgomery Co

HM- Allie Renta, Bluff Park El., 3rd Grade, Jefferson Co.

HM- Maddox Junkin, Gordo Elementary, Kindergarten, Pickens Co.

HM- Ella Clay, Cherokee Elementary, 3rd grade, Marshall Co.

HM- Ellie Houser, Crestline Elementary, 1st Grade, Morgan Co.

## Poster Winners 4th-6th

1st- Lara Beth Brasher, Hubbertville School, 6th grade, Fayette Co.

is \$750 and third is \$500 for your school, so it is well worth the effort! All forms can be found in this newsletter and online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org).

Please also remember to enroll or renew your membership in the Clean Campus Program for the 2021-2022 school year. Schools may participate in the Clean Campus Program by simply enrolling online at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org). The program is completely free to all Alabama schools thanks to ALFA, The Alabama Farmer's Cooperative and Coca-Cola. If I can answer any questions or provide any assistance at all, feel free to give me a call or email at (334) 263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org).

Lots of litter was left behind in the wake of the pandemic. . . . Get back on track with litter prevention in our schools by partnering with the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program!

2nd- Sara Katherine Estrada, Crestline El., Morgan Co.

3rd- Addison Simpson, Albertville El., 4th, Marshall Co.

HM- Yuna Cho, Trinity Presbyterian School, 5th grade, Montgomery Co.

HM- Jada West, West Blocton El, 4th grade, Bibb Co.

HM- Zoey Teague, Bear Exploration Center, 4th grade, Montgomery Co.



Poster Winner K-3

HM- Lillie Mathis, Bluff Park Elementary,  
5th grade, Jefferson Co.

HM – Caitlyn Hicks, Trinity Presbyterian School,  
5th grade, Montgomery County

**Recycled Art Winners 7th-12th**

1st- Nathaniel Maier, Valley Head HS,  
8th grade, DeKalb Co.

2nd- Levi Crabtree, Centre Middle School,  
Cherokee Co.

3rd- Ava Tice & Belle Edgil, Hubbertville School,  
8th grade, Fayette Co.

HM- Bearden Ellis, Trinity Presbyterian School,  
8th grade, Montgomery Co.

HM- Pacey Cooper, Valley Head High School,  
Pike Co.

HM- Lizzie Noland & Ava Caroline Duffy,  
Pickens Academy, Pickens Co.



**Recycled Art Winner**

**Poster Winner 4th-6th**





## Helena Library Partners with PALS

In addition to awareness through schools, Alabama PALS welcomes the opportunity to work with counties, cities, municipalities and any organization interested in decreasing litter in their community! Most recently, the Jane B. Holmes Public Library in Helena featured a local awareness campaign as a fun way to address litter and generate publicity for Alabama PALS's events and programs.

While looking for new ideas to engage patrons, the Programming Department at the Helena Library ran across the newly produced Alabama PALS Clean Campus video. After contacting me at PALS for more info, an idea took shape: getting the word out about litter control by reaching some of Alabama's dedicated citizens, library patrons!

The library featured an event for kids where if they checked out 10 books, they received a prize. This prize was a bag with information about Alabama's lit-

ter problem and how to help. Information about PALS was also available in the library foyer and presented to members of the Library Board.

Finally, the library offered a link on their website so local schools, patrons and the public could view the PALS Clean Campus Video. We asked Helena Public Library Director Daniel Dearing to tell us more, and he added, "PALS was so helpful to the library when we requested information. They have sent a representative for a program at The Helena Kiwanis Club in the past and seem to work tirelessly to curtail litter. The library was honored to partner with them, and we hope to keep working on this problem in the future. Remember: 'Don't drop it on Alabama!'"

If your community would like for PALS to partner with your local library or school for a similar program, please have them contact Jamie Mitchell at (334) 263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). 🍁



# Litter is DONE in 2021!



Spring is one of our favorite times of the year at Alabama PALS! Many schools focus on environmental science and Earth Day activities, and most Clean Campus Program member schools participate in our annual Poster and Recycled Art Contests. The PALS organization also holds one of our largest events in spring, the “Don’t Drop It On Alabama Spring Cleanup.” It is a busy and exciting season for our organization!

The 2021 Clean Campus Poster and Recycled Art Contest entries will be due April 23. The theme of the Poster Contest is “Litter is DONE in 2021!” The Recycled Art Contest has no specific theme, but all entries must be creative, original and made entirely out of materials that are eligible for recycling or would be considered trash (except for a small amount of fastening materials.) All details for the contests can be found in the PALS Spring Newsletter on our website at [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org). And remember, the winners of our contests can win up to \$200 in prizes!

Spring is also a great time for schools to plant flowers and gardens, install birdhouses and plan campus cleanup activities. Your local school may also schedule a Zoom meeting with me to learn more about how they can help keep their community and the state of Alabama litter-free!

The “Don’t Drop It On Alabama Spring Cleanup” will also be held over the entire month of April. If you would like to join a larger cleanup near you or if you would like to plan a cleanup yourself, please contact us as we also provide bags and other materials to aid your efforts. You may call us at 334-263-7737 or email [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org) for more information on the school contests or how to get involved with the cleanup. Happy spring!! We look forward to hearing from you! 🌻



## Hidden Lake Elementary Learns About the PALS Program

**A**labama PALS welcomes Hidden Lake Elementary School in Dothan, Alabama to the Clean Campus Program!

I recently conducted an anti-litter Zoom session with the first-graders at Hidden Lake with a combination of their in-person students and virtual learners. We are so thankful that Zoom gives us a chance to reach everyone! During the Zoom session, students saw the same presentation that I would normally deliver in person, complete with learning about littering, landfills and recycling!

Hidden Lake students will be reading articles and books on the environment as they gear up to Earth Day on ways to be litter-free, as well as on how to recycle. The boys and girls also recently created posters on community helpers which will be good practice for them as they prepare their posters for the Alabama

PALS Poster Contest! First-grade teacher Kristia Poland is planning to have the students incorporate their posters for our contest into their social studies lessons, as well as their art studies. The poster contest is always a great opportunity for cross-curriculum learning!

After our discussion, I sent Hidden Lake students pencils and stickers as a thank you for taking the time to learn with me! These are also great ways for them to remember the anti-litter message all spring! If a school near you would like to set up a Zoom presentation, please have them give me a call or email at 334-263-7737 or [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). The Clean Campus Program is free to all Alabama public and private schools and is a terrific way to teach litter prevention in your community! We look forward to hearing from you! 🌻



## Bessemer City Middle School Joins Clean Campus Program

Alabama PALS is pleased to welcome Bessemer City Middle School to the Clean Campus Program. The seventh-grade students at Bessemer City Middle recently had the opportunity to meet with me for a virtual lesson on the environment. The presentation included information about the negative effects of pollution, and the students also learned about how much time it takes for items that we normally throw away in the trash to biodegrade. Many students do not realize that once the “garbage truck” picks up their trash, it goes to a landfill to be buried.

After our Zoom call, the students brainstormed using all the information they had been given. Some of the ideas the students decided to pursue were as follows: starting a Clean Campus Group at the school with the supplies provided by Alabama PALS and starting a recycling program on campus. In fact, they have already contacted their local waste vendor about starting the recycling program! As soon as they get the necessary approval from their school district, they

will begin by collecting aluminum cans and plastic drink containers.

The students also discussed the long-term goal of applying for the Adopt-a-Mile program so they can have more outreach in the community. The Adopt-a-Mile signs are a great way for local residents to be reminded of the importance of good environmental stewardship and that people of all ages can make a difference. The students at BCMS also plan to reach out to local businesses to help make some of their ideas come to fruition systemwide! These students are reimagining Bessemer to become a truly litter-free community!

Litter prevention is key, and it is so important to instill good habits at a young age. If a school near you would like to learn more about the Clean Campus Program, please have them give me a call at 334-263-7737 or email at [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). We would love to work with your local schools to create an even more beautiful Alabama!! 🌻



## East Elementary Joins the Clean Campus Program

**E**ast Elementary is a beautiful school with a rich history, located in the historical area of Cullman, Alabama. The teachers and staff, led by Principal David Wiggins, understand the importance of teaching East Elementary's second- through sixth-grade students how to take care of their campus. For years, East Elementary has participated in Alabama PALS's Clean Campus Program. This year they claimed third place in the statewide clean campus scrapbook contest and were awarded a \$500 scholarship for their efforts. Clean Campus sponsor Mrs. April Dean, nicknamed "Clean Dean," attributes their success to the entire East Elementary community comprised of school administration, teachers, students and parents, who enthusiastically pitch in with the Clean Campus effort.

This year, Mrs. Dean organized a Halloween Recycled Cardboard Challenge in which students created haunted houses, costume props and even socially distant candy distributors – all from recycled cardboard. At Thanksgiving, East Elementary fourth-graders stud-

ied the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, created their own floats from recycled materials, and held a parade for students and parents to come and watch.

East Elementary's Clean Campus Program encourages students to not only recycle plastic bottles, aluminum and paper but also more unusual items like crayons, markers and grocery sacks. This year, they are holding a Clean Campus fundraiser with recycled crayons that students have melted and molded into new crayons shaped like hearts, pineapples and even Legos. These new and improved crayons will be sold for 50 cents each, and funds will be contributed to furthering East Elementary's Clean Campus Program.

Great job, East Elementary, on your work with the Clean Campus Program! If a school near you would like to learn more about the Clean Campus Program, please have them give me a call at 334-263-7737 or email at [jamie@alpals.org](mailto:jamie@alpals.org). We would love to work with your local schools to create an even more beautiful Alabama! 🍁

# ALABAMA PALS/ALFA/AFC/COCA-COLA CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM STATEWIDE COMPETITION

## 2020-2021 AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

***NOTE: Scrapbooks are Encouraged***

Name of Participating School \_\_\_\_\_

Address of School \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address for Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Did Clean Campus Committee meet at least once each month to evaluate the progress of the program? \_\_\_\_\_

How many campus clean-up events did school have? \_\_\_\_\_

Did school participate in monthly campus litter pick up? \_\_\_\_\_

Did school hold campus cleanup in April to coincide with Alabama PALS Annual Spring Cleanup? \_\_\_\_\_ N/A for this school year \_\_\_\_\_

Does school participate in some form of environmental education program? \_\_\_\_\_

Does school participate in an ongoing recycling program? \_\_\_\_\_

**First Place School – \$ 1,000.00 • Second Place School – \$750.00 • Third Place School – \$500.00  
Nominate Your School Today!!!!!!**

When answering the following questions, please attach additional sheets if necessary. Also, please attach any documentation (photos, etc.).

What was the single most important reason that your school made the decision to enroll in the Clean Campus Program? \_\_\_\_\_

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What goals did you set for your school to achieve in the Clean Campus Program? \_\_\_\_\_

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List all events held to promote the Clean Campus Program, include the date of each one. \_\_\_\_\_

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How has participation in the Clean Campus Program influenced the student body and/or faculty? \_\_\_\_\_

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What influence, if any, do you think that the school has had on the surrounding community since becoming a member of the Clean Campus Program. \_\_\_\_\_

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Please give a brief (no more than 2 page) narrative explaining why your school should be selected to receive one of the scholarships.

**All Nomination Forms and Attachments Are Due In The PALS Office by October 13, 2021!**

## GADSDEN



## GUNTERSVILLE



Saturday, June 5, the Guntersville's Lions Club assisted by MCPALS picked up their Adopt-A-Mile on Hwy 431. 12 volunteers picked up 29 bags of litter, insulation, wood and tire rubber in 2 1/2 hours.



## JEFFERSON COUNTY



# MACON COUNTY



# MIDFIELD





## GULF SHORES

Coca-Cola UNITED hosted a reception/break during the 2021 meeting of the Alabama Community College Presidents Association. Representing UNITED was Andy Britton, Central Region Director of Public Affairs and Communication, who shared with the 25 community college presidents the impact of the College Campus Clean-up program which includes the Alabama People Against A Littered State (PALS), the Alabama Community College System and Coca-Cola UNITED. The 2021 Spring event resulted in the largest number of participants and the greatest number of pounds of litter and recyclables in the history of the event. Later this Fall, two scholarships will be presented to participating community colleges, one for the



campus collecting the most litter and another for the institution collecting the most recyclables. The scholarships will

be awarded as part of the Governor's Awards ceremony during the annual PALS meeting in Montgomery.

## ADOPT-A-MILE SIGNS





# 2021 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” REPORTING FORM

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Cleanup \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People Involved \_\_\_\_\_

Hours Spent on Cleanup \_\_\_\_\_

Tons Collected \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds \_\_\_\_\_ Bags \_\_\_\_\_ Dumpsters \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bags Used \_\_\_\_\_

Pounds of Recycled Plastic Bottles and Aluminum Cans \_\_\_\_\_

State/Federal/County Roads Cleaned (Highway#) \_\_\_\_\_

If Landfill Opened for Cleanup/Tons Taken to Landfill \_\_\_\_\_

Were ALL bags used? \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE Mail ALL Forms to  
Alabama PALS, 340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104  
or [spencer@alpals.org](mailto:spencer@alpals.org)

## THE 2021 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 • 12 Noon  
Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery, Alabama



Make Plans Now to Join Us On This Special PALS Day!  
Bring Your Chapter Leaders, Volunteers and Others That  
Share A Vision Of A Cleaner and More Beautiful Alabama.

*We Look Forward to Having You And Your  
Guests Join Us For This Special Awards Day.*

## 2021 GOVERNORS AWARDS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

1. Competition is open to ALL Alabama City and Counties
2. Nominations for outstanding anti-litter projects by individuals, organizations, Businesses, civic groups, PALS Chapters and Affiliates, schools, etc. will be accepted in following categories.
  - Vulcan Volunteer of the Year • County • City • Special Media**
  - Coca Cola “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Award • Education • Judicial**
  - Law Enforcement • Business and Industry • Adopt A Mile • Adopt A Stream**
  - Don Hines Memorial Award • Jean McRady Service Award • Coastal Cleanup Award**
3. Nominations should include name of nominee, name of person nominating, description and classification of nominee, location of nominee’s anti litter activity, size of area affected, number of individuals involved, length of time of project, and a narrative of work accomplishments.
4. Final judging for the statewide awards will be determined only from nominations forwarded to the PALS Office.
5. Nominations MUST be submitted to the PALS office at 340 North Hull St., Montgomery, AL 36104 by October 13, 2021.
6. Statewide winners will be recognized with a handsome plaque to be presented at the PALS Governors Awards Program on **November 17, 2021**.

***We wish you and your Groups the Best and  
Look Forward to Recognizing Each of Your Winners!!!!***

## **2021 ALABAMA PALS GOVERNOR'S AWARDS NOMINATION FORM (Scrapbooks, Articles and Pictures are Encouraged)**

Nominees Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominators Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_

Description, Classification, or Type of Nominee (Private Citizen, Volunteer, Chapter Chairman, Government Agency, School, Church, etc.)

Location of Activity \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Area Affected \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Involved \_\_\_\_\_ How Long Has Project or Activity Been Going On? \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative for Award \_\_\_\_\_

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# Alabama's Coastal Cleanup

Get the Trash out of the Splash!

On Saturday, September 19, 2020, thousands of volunteers will descend on beaches, lakes, and streams of Alabama to remove trash and debris — on land and under the water. Volunteers of all ages will form the largest one-day volunteer event in the state on behalf of clean oceans and waterways — Alabama's Coastal Cleanup.

Over the past 32 years...

- 102,495 volunteers have participated in the Alabama Coastal Cleanup.
- 6,285 miles of coastline have been cleaned.
- 1,705,349 pounds of debris have been removed.

## Pollution prevention is the key

Alabama's Coastal Cleanup isn't just about pollution cleanup — it's also about pollution prevention. The event focuses on educating and empowering people to become a part of the marine debris solution.

What makes the Alabama Coastal Cleanup unique is its data collection component. Volunteers record specific types of marine debris being found, allowing Ocean Conservancy, sponsor of the International Coastal Cleanup, to compile, analyze and track this data year-by-year and make discoveries about the behaviors that cause the debris.

The final information is used to educate the public, business, industry, and government officials about the problem. We believe understanding the problem is the key to finding long-lasting solutions.



The Alabama Coastal Cleanup is coordinated by



## ADOPT-A-STREAM APPLICATION FORM

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Proposed Stream Crossing: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Location for Adopt-A-Stream Signs (Hwy #'s, Mile Markers, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send Applications to Alabama PALS, 340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

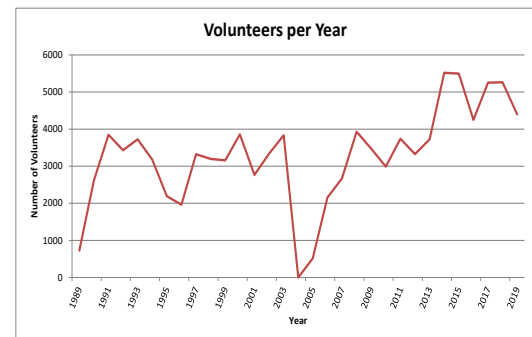
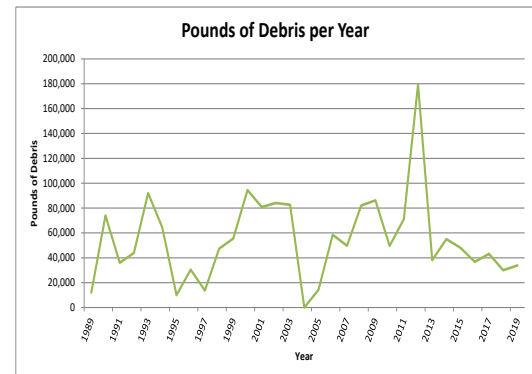
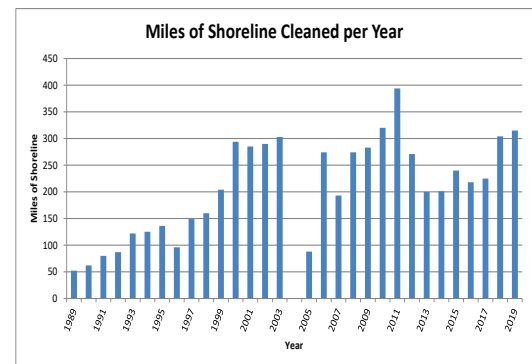
Application can be submitted online at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org)

## Marine debris is dangerous

Animals are harmed and killed by marine debris. They get tangled in discarded fishing gear, and they ingest debris that can kill them. For example, a plastic sandwich bag floating in the ocean may look like a jellyfish, a favorite food of sea turtles. If a sea turtle tries to eat the bag it could block its throat or remain in the stomach making the turtle feel full, leading to starvation and death. Ending marine debris will help us all protect marine-life.

## Ten things you can do to help prevent marine debris

1. Join Alabama's 33rd Annual Coastal Cleanup on September 19th.
2. Clean up your trash, even when not near the water. It's amazing that a vast majority of trash in our waterways comes from land-based activities. Even trash discarded miles inland can make it to the ocean, carried by the rain and the winds.
3. Retrieve your monofilament fishing line. Don't leave fishing line in the water and remove others' when you find it...being careful not to tug on snagged lines that could be caught on important habitat below the surface. Also be aware of hooks that may be left on the line.
4. Contain and properly clean spills when boating. Use oil-absorbent rags or even diapers to clean spills. Ocean Conservancy's Good Mate program can provide you with plenty of tips for reducing impact when on the water.
5. Recycle used motor oil and oil filters. Your local gas station should have facilities for recycling these materials. Never pour oil, paint, antifreeze, or other household chemicals into an open sewer.
6. Better yet, find alternatives to household chemicals. Don't use fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides that can wash into open waters. Use lemon juice, vinegar, and baking soda for household cleaning.
7. Become a storm drain sentry. Stencil your local drains to remind people where the things they dump there end up...and of the potential consequences.
8. Use cloth bags for groceries. Take them with you when you shop to reduce the number of plastic bags you use. In addition to being ugly, plastic bags can choke marine wildlife when mistaken for food.
9. Properly dispose of used batteries and electronics. Use your local recycling center. Electronics leach harmful chemicals into the environment. Once there, these toxic pollutants can affect the environment for decades.
10. Contact your elected representatives. Let them know you care about the effects of marine debris and that you are watching what they do to stop it. Then, vote for candidates who support marine debris prevention and are good stewards of our ocean.



[www.AlabamaCoastalCleanup.com](http://www.AlabamaCoastalCleanup.com)

## 2021 Dates to Remember

### July 14

Alabama PALS Board of Directors Meeting

### September 16

Materials Distribution Day Alabama Coastal Cleanup

(Five Rivers Delta Center)

Zone Captain and Corporate Sponsors Party  
(6pm The Bluegill/ Causeway)

### September 18

34th Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup

### October 13


2021 Governors Awards Nominations Due in PALS Office

2020-21 Alabama Clean Campus Nomination Forms Due in PALS Office

### November 17

Alabama PALS Board of Directors Meeting

Alabama PALS Governors Awards Luncheon  
(Renaissance Hotel/Montgomery)

A large, stylized illustration of a whale in shades of blue and white, swimming upwards. Inside the whale's body, there are three small fish at the top and some coral-like plants at the bottom. A circular icon with two footprints is on the whale's tail.

# 34TH ANNUAL ALABAMA COASTAL CLEANUP

*Get the Trash Out of the Splash*

**Saturday, September 18, 2021 | 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**

**visit [www.alabamacoastalcleanup.com](http://www.alabamacoastalcleanup.com) or call 251-621-1216**



*"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"*

**Alabama PALS Newsletter**  
*People Against A Littered State*

340 North Hull St.  
Montgomery AL 36104

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*Alabama Power Company • City of Orange Beach • LuLu's Homeport*

*City of Gulf Shores • Riviera Utilities • Baldwin EMC • Gulf Shores Utility Board*

*Flora-Bama • Evonik • Coastal Conservation Association-Alabama • Compass Media*

*Coast 360 • ALDOT • ALFA • Coca-Cola • Vulcan Materials Company*

*Honda Mfg. of Alabama • Alabama Farmers' Cooperative*

*Association of County Commissions of Alabama*

*Thank You  
To Our Valued Sponsors and Partners!*

