10 Ways to be part of the Solution

1. If you see litter, pick it up and put it in a trash can or recycle bin.
2. Keep a trash bag in your vehicle and use it. Never throw anything, even a cigarette butt, from your car.
3. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!
4. Volunteer! Whether it is for a city-wide cleanup or a beautification project, volunteering is a great way to improve your community.
5. Get to know your law enforcement officers and council members. They’re a great asset in reducing litter in your community.
6. Work closely with your schools and local educators to incorporate the free K-12 PalmettoPride curriculum.
7. Adopt your neighborhood. Get together with your neighbors once a month to clean up trash from your neighborhood.
8. Secure your load. If you drive a truck, all items in the truck bed must be properly secured.
9. Write letters to the editors of newspapers, council members and legislators with anti-litter messages. Let these representatives know that litter is an important issue to you.
10. Don’t litter!

Litter Won’t Just Go Away on Its Own

The following are the approximate decomposition rates of commonly littered items:

- Cigarette Butt: 5 years
- Plastic Bag: 20 years
- Tin Can: 50 years
- Styrofoam Cup: 50 years
- Aluminum Can: 200 years
- Plastic Bottle: 450 years
- Fishing Line: 500+ years
- Glass Bottle: 1,000,000 years

Making a Difference in South Carolina

www.palmettopride.org
1-877-PAL-PRDE
Education

Recognizing the central role that education plays in changing behavior, PalmettoPride works to instill awareness and a personal interest in the impact of litter on our environment.

The “Litter Trashes Everyone” puppet show, a free show to all elementary schools, features marionettes and hand puppets conveying the message that every citizen has a responsibility to help keep South Carolina beautiful.

Visit PalmettoPride.org for more information on all of our Education programs.

Enforcement

PalmettoPride and law enforcement agencies statewide continue to fight litter across the state by combining resources and making enforcement of the litter laws an important issue in South Carolina. From the “Zero Tolerance for Litter” campaign to equipment grants, we encourage all law enforcement agencies to target littering, uncovered loads and illegal dumping.

PalmettoPride, in conjunction with South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Department of Public Safety, provides a 24 hour statewide litter reporting program that gives everyday people a way to catch those who insist on littering.

Visit PalmettoPride.org to learn more about all of our Enforcement programs.

Awareness

From grassroots community projects to educational programs, PalmettoPride aims to change the behavior of those who choose to litter by raising awareness of the issue.

Keep South Carolina Beautiful is the state affiliate for Keep America Beautiful. We currently have 25 affiliates across the state. Every spring, Keep South Carolina Beautiful and local Keep America Beautiful affiliates from around the state participate in The Great American Cleanup.

Please visit our website for more information on our Awareness programs.

Pickup

Litter must be removed, and we often rely on volunteer efforts. Adopt-A-Highway, Keep South Carolina Beautiful Affiliates, community improvement state groups and other environmental groups have active volunteer pickup programs that complement governmental services.

Since 1988, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers have been cleaning up litter along South Carolina highways. PalmettoPride is excited to partner with SCDOT on the management of the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

PalmettoPride has supplies available for community cleanups throughout the year. Visit our website for more pickup programs or to request free cleanup supplies.

You may not litter. You may not know anyone who does. The fact remains that millions of pounds of misplaced trash are tossed out every year, and that’s a problem. Litter is an eyesore that reflects poorly on our state, hurting business, tourism, and the quality of life of all South Carolinians.

For a full list of all our programs, please visit www.palmettopride.org or call 877-PAL-PRDE.