

## Preventing Water Pollution

Preventing water pollution is everyone's responsibility. You can do your part at home by being careful to properly use and store fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, detergents, solvents, paints, and other chemicals so that they cannot be washed by rain into the storm drain system and directly enter our waterways. And please don't litter! Every positive effort adds up to make a significant difference to our local water quality!

**Tip: To help prevent litter, always secure items being carried in a truck, trailer, or other vehicle.**

## You Can STOP Litter!



### Trash thrown out of vehicles becomes litter!

Litter on the ground gets washed by rain water into the storm drainage system and carried untreated to local creeks, rivers, lakes and streams. Litter pollutes our local waterways. Please do not toss anything out of vehicle windows.

**Report Suspected Water Pollution  
Call 205.325.5792**

## Complaint Hotline

Being aware of what happens in your community and taking responsibility to report any suspicious substance or activity that might harm the environment is critical to keeping your family and neighbors safe and healthy.

### Unincorporated Jefferson County

- **Illegal Dumping  
Call 582.6555**
- **Water Pollution  
Call 325.5792**

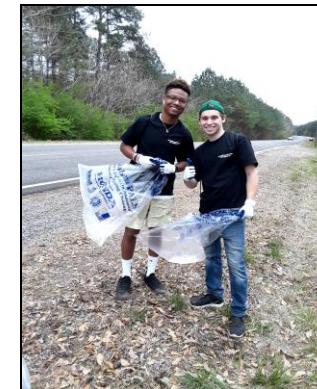
**Immediately call 911 to report chemical spills or potentially hazardous incidents.**



### Make the call!

*Reporting what you see in your community can help protect your health, safety and water quality!*

## Jefferson County Volunteer Litter Cleanup Program



## Jefferson County Stormwater Program

Department of Development Services  
Room B-200  
Jefferson County Courthouse  
716 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd North  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
205.325.8741

## Roadway Litter is a Problem

There's no doubt that litter is unsightly, but it also has other consequences. Litter on the road, and animals that are attracted by discarded food, can cause traffic accidents. Wind, rain, traffic, and animals can transport litter to gutters, ditches and storm drains where it is carried untreated to waterways.



*According to Keep America Beautiful, 80% of US waterways are littered with trash that was first dropped on land.*

**The Jefferson County Commission makes resources available to help volunteers tackle this problem along County maintained roadways through the Jefferson County Volunteer Litter Cleanup Program.**



*Not all litter is intentional - 20% of roadway litter blows out of vehicles or trailers.*

## Community Pride!

Jefferson County has partnered with Alabama People Against a Littered State (AL PALS) to join in the statewide effort to keep our communities clean. You can show how much you care about your community by becoming involved and organizing a roadside litter cleanup. A cleanup is a great way to get to know your neighbors by asking them to pitch in.

There are many good reasons to do your part to keep your community clean. Research has shown that a littered area attracts crime and reduces property values. A clean environment improves health, safety and quality of life for residents.



Jefferson County assists unincorporated communities with cleanup resources through its year-round Volunteer Litter Cleanup Program:

- Trash bags (from AL PALS)
- Safety t-shirts or vests
- Safety backpacks
- Gloves
- Traffic control (Sheriff's Office)
- Event promotional flyers
- Trash bag pick up and disposal
- Community service hours certificate

**Call 325-8741 as soon as possible to schedule a cleanup! Jefferson County schedules support services on a first come, first served basis!**

## Getting Started

Organizing a community cleanup takes a little planning, but with the help of friends, family and neighbors, it can be a fun and rewarding experience.

1. Select a project area  
Be specific – from where to where
2. Choose a registration location for volunteers to sign in and receive materials  
Easy to find  
Available parking  
Access to restroom facilities  
Area for registration and materials distribution
3. Select a date and time for the cleanup  
Choose a rain date just in case
4. Distribute flyers to solicit volunteers  
Post cleanup details on social media  
Contact schools, churches, local organizations, businesses
5. Identify resources available from members of your community  
Trucks/trailers (for transporting volunteers, supplies and trash)  
Coolers for refreshments  
Photographer for action photos  
Snacks and bottled water

