



KEEP THE MIDLANDS BEAUTIFUL

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

First Quarter 2022 Newsletter

KMB Welcomes New Executive Director, Ebonee Gadson

The Board of Directors of Keep the Midlands Beautiful is pleased to announce that Ebonee Gadson has assumed the duties of Executive Director. Ebonee's collaborative leadership style, commitment to fostering deep relationships in the community, and proven record of program design will continue to move Keep the Midlands Beautiful forward.

Ebonee has many years of professional experience in the nonprofit sector, to include development, government grants management, membership, and program design and evaluation. Additionally, Ebonee served as an officer in the United States Air Force with assignments throughout the United States and Afghanistan.



"I appreciate the board's confidence in me, and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to lead such a great organization. KMB is resilient and has provided unparalleled support to Richland and Lexington counties in the areas of litter prevention, recycling, and beautification for over three decades. I know we can continue to provide the excellent services and programs that the community deserves. Our strength is in the dedicated staff and volunteers who tirelessly serve in support of building a better Midlands," Ebonee said.

A native of Columbia, Ebonee and her husband Jeremy are the parents of three children: Jeremy Jr., Jace, and Jacleen. Ebonee is passionate about creating a sustainable Midlands and empowering its residents to be more informed and engaged. Ebonee is active in the community and supports causes that foster economic growth and support for socially marginalized populations. She is a former board member of the LRADAC Foundation and is a Richland County Guardian Ad Litem.

We look forward to the next chapter of Keep the Midlands Beautiful's impact and thank the community for its continued support.

Help KMB Break Another Record for the 2022 Shoe Drive!

KEEP THE MIDLANDS BEAUTIFUL

ANNUAL SHOE DRIVE



MARCH 1-
MAY 31

VISIT
KMBSC.ORG
OR CALL
803-733-1139
FOR DROP OFF
LOCATIONS!

HELP US RAISE
FUNDS FOR OUR
ORGANIZATION
AND KEEP SHOES
OUT OF
LANDFILLS BY
HOSTING A
COLLECTION BIN
FOR DONATING
GENTLY WORN,
USED AND NEW
SHOES!



Any
STYLE

Any
SIZE



KMB is holding its **annual shoe drive fundraiser** from March 1st to May 31st to raise funds to support its mission. KMB partners with [Funds2Orgs](#) to collect gently worn, used, and new shoes. So far 20 businesses, schools, churches, and other organizations are hosting public or private collection sites. [Contact](#) KMB if you would like to help us meet our goal of collecting 6500 pairs; or simply drop off shoes at any time in bins located on our office porch. All donated shoes will be redistributed throughout the [Funds2Orgs](#) network of micro-enterprise partners in developing countries. Proceeds from sales are used to feed, clothe, and house their families. Our Annual Shoe Drive also diverts shoes from our local landfills.



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2022

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

March 19th - June 22nd

Want to clean your own
neighborhood? We provide the
supplies for cleanups **FREE** of charge.

Email us at GAC@kmb.org or call
803-733-1139 to get involved!

KMB kicked off the **Great American Cleanup** on Saturday, March 19th by removing litter on Boiling Springs Rd. in Lexington County. The Great American Cleanup (GAC) is an annual nationwide cleanup program initiated by Keep America Beautiful (KAB). KMB, a KAB affiliate, promotes the Great American Cleanup that begins on the first day of Spring and ends June 22, 2022, the first day of Summer. Through this program, KMB is able to provide volunteers with the materials and resources needed to make an immediate, visual change in your community. [Register](#) your event today! Want to volunteer but don't know where to pickup, our helpful staff maintains a list of litter hotspots in need of cleaning.



Join KMB Staff for a Litter Pickup of the Washington Heights
Neighborhood in the City of Columbia



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! KMB's next 'Spotless Service Saturday' event will take place on April 23rd in celebration of Earth Day. Volunteers will remove litter from the Booker T. Washington Heights neighborhood. All supplies provided. Each volunteer will receive lunch, and a small thank you gift. The person who removes the most litter will receive a gift bag filled with KMB goodies. Sign up today to help keep our environment clean and healthy this Earth Day! To register: bit.ly/kmbapril

Spotless Service Saturday Litter Pickups



Don't have a group, join us for one of our KMB-led litter pickups. On January 15th, 30 KMB staff and volunteers removed 78 bags of litter from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Neighborhood, City of Columbia and in February volunteers removed 40 bags of trash along Farrow Rd. in Richland County.

In 2021 Adopt-A-Highway, Adopt-A-Street, Adopt-A-Waterway and One-time Cleanups Break Records!



Thank you Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, CNW Lions Club, and the North Columbia Civic Club as well as the hundreds of other groups who regularly clean our state-maintained roads, City of Columbia streets, and area waterways.

Here are the updated numbers for 2022

Total pounds of trash removed: 199,110

Total number of volunteers: 6,227

Total volunteer hours: 19,746

of new groups added: 48



Despite all of the progress, there's much more work to be done and lots of available roads that need adoption. Help rid our roads and waterways of the litter that plagues our area and negatively impacts property values, economic development, and quality of life.

The two signs installed along the adopting group's route are great advertising for a business, church, school, or civic association. Visit our [website](#) to learn how you can get involved in keeping the Midlands beautiful!

KMB Supports Recycling in the Community

3 EVENTS

EARTH DAY 2022

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

@Summit Collection & Recycling Center:

419 Sandpit Road, Leesville

-Friday, April 22nd 9am-3pm

-Saturday, April 23rd 9am-3pm

Recycling Event Saturday, April 23rd

8am-12pm @ Batesburg-Leesville High School

600 Summerland Avenue

Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29006

- Electronics (Limit 8)
- Personal Information Shred
 - (Limit 5 copy boxes)
- Tires (Limit 8)
- Scrap Metal
- Gently Used/New Shoes

*LEXINGTON COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY



Batesburg-Leesville
High School



Visit our [website](#) to learn more about other recycling events going on in the community.

Commit to Recycling More in 2022



With the world getting back to normal, people are gathering in groups once again. Communities, churches and schools are hosting meetings and festivals, and with that comes waste. The [Waste Wise Events](#) (WWE) program promotes recycling, waste reduction, and the elimination of litter at events throughout the Midlands. Any organization may borrow trash and recycling containers (with bags), and ash receptacles for cigarette butts from KMB to use at public and private events free of charge.

[Contact](#) us to reserve your bins.

Thank You Alpine Tree Care for Sponsoring Grinding of the



Thanks to our partners: Alpine Tree Care, Irmo-Chapin Recreation Commission, and the SC State Farmers Market, 1400 Christmas Trees were recycled into free mulch. KMB staff also gave away tarps provided by PalmettoPride and educated residents on the legal requirement to tarp your load to prevent litter.

Join KMB at a Fireflies Baseball Game

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COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OF THE GAME

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH
MARVEL DEFENDER OF THE DIAMOND
GAME START - 6:05PM
FIREFLIES vs SALEM RED SOX

POST-GAME FIREWORKS!

\$10 RESERVED TICKET
SECTION 111

TICKET INCLUDES FIREFLIES HAT!

Join KMB staff, supporters, and fellow volunteers for a very special summer evening of fun at Columbia's Segra Park, home of the Columbia Fireflies. Don't wait, get your tickets now before they run out! Every ticket holder gets a free ball cap too! Order [here!](#)

Help KMB to Extend its Reach in the Community- PLEASE DONATE TODAY!

Please consider helping us expand our mission to engage, inspire and educate the Midlands to invest in our community through litter prevention, recycling, and beautification. Your gift to support our core programs will help supply materials to the thousands of volunteers who pickup litter and fund our recycling programs.

There are numerous ways to give. Simply make a [tax-deductible donation through our secure website](#) or write us a check and put it in the mail.

[AmazonSmile](#) is a program that will give the charity of your choice a percent of all your purchases! Did you know you can now activate AmazonSmile on your phone app and support KMB? Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device.
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'.
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.

Thank you for Keeping the Midlands Beautiful for 33 Years!



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @kmbgreen!



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You can [unsubscribe](#) at any time.



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