



June 2023

- 1 **HUGE & EXCITING NEWS
& SAVE THE DATE**
- 2 **BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
& A NEW LEADER**
- 3 **IN MEMORY OF GILBERT
SNYDER**
- 4 **SOME OF OUR FAVORITE
ORGANIZATIONS**
- 5 **FUN THINGS TO DO
& HOW TO BE A KMB HERO**
- 6 **HOW TO REACH THE KMB
TEAM**



KMB volunteers with the help of Blue Cross Blue Shield volunteers collected over 3 truckloads of trash! Whitt Cline, Director of Public Works for the Town of Irmo, was a huge help in organizing the cleanup.

Our **Save Our Date** portion provides our volunteers and partners with a list of dates for fun events and plans that the *Keep the Midlands Beautiful* team has coming up!



HUGE & EXCITING NEWS!



MIDLANDS GIVES

Thank you to all who donated during the annual Midlands Gives day. We raised **\$1,127.50** to help support our programs!



ANNUAL SHOE DRIVE

With help from **20 organizations**, we collected **5,325** pairs of reusable shoes for people in developing countries this spring. This program helps us to earn some money for our programs while keeping donated shoes out of local landfills and helps micro-enterprises to support their families.



It might be hard to believe but this is not even half of our shoes in our garage!

SAVE THE DATE!

AAH/AAS QUATERLY CLEANUP

AUGUST

19

All Adopt-a-Highway and Adopt-a-Street groups are encouraged to cleanup on this date. Request supplies AT LEAST one week in advance on our website or by clicking these links:

AAH --> <https://bit.ly/41xWmS6>

AAS --> <https://bit.ly/3oUxw0e>

FIREFLIES COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OF THE GAME

AUGUST

20

Join the KMB team as we celebrate being the "Community Organization of the Game" on August 20th. For more information on how to buy tickets and what to expect, visit our website.



AUGUST

26

LEXINGTON COUNTY SHRED EVENT

If you live in Lexington County, drop off up to five (5) boxes or bags of paper to be shredded at Irmo Community Park, located at 7507 Eastview Dr. in Irmo between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. Driver's license is required as proof of residency.

Next Shred Event: In Lexington in October

ANNUAL LAKESIDE LITTER SWEEP

Join KMB, over 20 event partners and around 250 volunteers as we clean up Lake-Murray's shorelines and islands. Stay on surrounding boat ramps and roads, dive with a team, use your own boat or sign up early for a FREE ride on a pontoon boat to remove litter from islands, all while having a great time. Look out for registration on our website in July.

SEPT.

16

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT!



JAY HENDRIX

Jay is the newest member of the KMB Board and the Assistant Town Manager for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville. He has worked closely with KMB and Lexington County to provide Recycling Drop-off events in Batesburg-Leesville for several years and coordinates town-wide cleanups and beautification events. We are so excited to have him on the KMB Team!

A NEW LEADER...

Ebonee Gadson has accepted a part-time remote position that is better suited to her family's needs. Traude Sander has been appointed KMB's Interim Executive Director. Traude was born and raised in Africa and received her B.S. and M.S. at Kansas State University but has lived in Lexington for 17 years and is proud to call the Midlands home. She and her husband have two boys; one at USC and one at Clemson. She has 28 years of leadership, management, and consulting experience and has worked with KMB for 5 1/2 years. She is excited for the opportunity to lead this important organization along with its dedicated team of staff and volunteers. She welcomes your ideas for improvement and can be reached at tsander@kmb.org.



TRAUDE SANDER

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of our dear friend and volunteer, Gilbert Snyder. He was an exceptionally genuine person who dedicated his time, energy and passion to serving our community. We want to celebrate his remarkable contributions and reflect on the impact that he had on our team.

Gilbert joined our organization two years ago and quickly became a very important part of our team. He was dedicated to cleaning up the community, no matter what the condition.



We are grateful that we were able to work with such a kind hearted, passionate individual. Our deepest condolences go out to Gilbert's family and loved ones. May they find comfort in the knowledge that he will forever be remembered as an inspiration for the community as an extraordinary volunteer.



IN MEMORY OF

Gilbert Snyder

Gilbert adopted a section of Garners Ferry Road with his AAH group, Memory of Mike O'Connell (M.O.M.O). Each quarter, his group would pick up an average of 60 bags for his adopted section. Gilbert made sure to attend all of our monthly 'Spotless Service Saturday' cleanup events with his own litter equipment. In 2022, Gilbert Snyder won our Volunteer of the Year "Golden Grabber" Award at our Gala for his genuine passion in making a difference. Gilbert's infectious enthusiasm and kindness touched many of us who were granted the opportunity to work with him.



SOME OF OUR FAVORITE ORGANIZATIONS



Pictured above are volunteers from our Sandy Beach Cleanup in May with huge help from Riverbanks Zoo & Scuba John's Dive team!



**RIVERBANKS
ZOO & GARDEN**
columbia south carolina

Our Sandy Beach Cleanup in early May was a huge success thanks to the help of Scuba John's dive team and Riverbanks Zoo bringing out amazing volunteers to our cleanup. We would like to give special thanks to Stephen and Tosha Franklin and John and Amanda Baker from Scuba John's as well as Casey Fisher from Riverbanks Zoo for bringing together a truly phenomenal event!



The Town of Irmo was a tremendous help in planning our Rawls Creek cleanup on Saturday, April 29th. We have two annual creek cleanups with the Town of Irmo that turn out to be successful every year with the help of Whitt Cline, the Director of Public Services and his crew as well as the Town Administrator of Irmo, Courtney Dennis. The Town of Irmo also donates annually to our nonprofit to support our programs. Thank you Irmo!



Duke Energy and Palmetto Pride recently have announced a joint litter pickup campaign #PickItPostIt to encourage citizens to pick up litter. Just pick up litter and post a photo of your efforts with the hashtag #PickItPostIt before July 31, The Duke Energy Foundation pledges to donate money to Palmetto Pride to support their cleanup efforts and to help install Environmental Sculptures across South Carolina.

PalmettoPride is our parent, statewide, organization so these funds trickle down and help local affiliates such as ours. Please participate!

Learn more about this project on page 5 in our 'Fun Things to Do' section.



FUN THINGS TO DO!

#PickItPostIt

Duke Energy, Palmetto Pride and South Carolina 7 recently announced a joint litter pickup campaign, #PickItPostIt that would help sponsor the development of Environmental Sculptures across South Carolina.

To get involved, just schedule a cleanup (you can do this easily by just visiting our website or calling us), pick up litter in your designated area, take a picture and post it to social media using the hashtag #PickItPostIt. For each post, the Duke Energy Foundation pledged to donate \$10 towards Palmetto Pride's litter prevention efforts and to help support installations of Environmental Sculptures (like the fox sculpture above).



HOW TO BECOME A KMB HERO!

DONATE



As a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, we rely heavily on donations and **we need your help** to keep the lights on, the heat running and to provide supplies for our 5,500 volunteers who pick up litter each year. Please help us and donate by visiting kmb.org or mailing a check payable to "KMB" to our office location. We will provide a receipt upon request.

We sincerely appreciate all donations and support!

VOLUNTEER



KMB offers **several opportunities** for volunteers. Groups can adopt a road or waterway. Individuals and groups can borrow supplies to remove litter from a variety of areas alone or at events! You can help us collect shoes, help at paper shredding events, and more! Learn more at GET INVOLVED (kmb.org).

HOW TO REACH THE KMB TEAM



(803) 733-1139

Office Hours: Monday- Friday, 9 AM to 4PM



Email us at programs@kmbcsc.org

Visit our Website at <https://kmbcsc.org>



1305 Augusta Rd, West Columbia, SC,
29169



Search for "Keep the Midlands Beautiful
Nonprofit"



@kmbgreen803

