



KMB'S

NEWS YOU CAN USE

OCTOBER 2023

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LAKESIDE LITTER SWEEP

Take a look at our Huge & Exciting News portion to view pictures and see the results from our **largest event of the year!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our **Save The 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!

OCTOBER

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						7
						28

NOVEMBER

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						4
						18

HUGE & EXCITING NEWS!

KMB'S FY23 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Fiscal Year 23 (i.e. July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) Annual Report is now available. View it on our website at <https://kmb.org>.

LAKESIDE LITTER SWEEP WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



A total of 470 volunteers and support personnel removed litter and recyclables from Lake Murray's shorelines, boat ramps, parks, islands, and even from underwater, as well as roadways.

These hard-working volunteers removed a total of 9,278 pounds of litter from the shores and below the surface of dozens of islands and boat landings, parks, roadways, and shoreline neighborhoods. The event was held in conjunction with South Carolina's "Beach Sweep, River Sweep" day.

Want to look at the awesome photos from this event?
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ar66cghLDx3HVIrHULCK0pvQ4eCf_da1?usp=sharing

Note: This link may be sensitive so you may have to click multiple times to access

VOLUNTEER & PARTNER APPRECIATION EVENT



Thank you to the 85 volunteers, partners, and Board Members who came out to the Lake Murray Beach on Saturday, September 23 to celebrate our combined efforts and successes. Despite a cloudy sky, it was a wonderful day! Mark your calendars for October 5, 2024 for a similar celebration of YOU and our Green Awards ceremony next year.

2023 KMB Green Award Winners



- **Outstanding Educator-** Angie Kruger, Beechwood Middle School
- **Large Business-** Mark Fredrickson, CMC Recycling
- **AAH Group of the Year Richland County-** Litter Warriors
- **AAH Group of the Year Lexington County-** Governor's Grant
- **AAS Group of the Year-** Alpha Phi Alpha
- **AAW Group of the Year-** Friends of Congaree Swamp
- **Non-profit Organization-** Sierra Club
- **Outstanding Media Partner-** Annette Briggs with Natural Awakenings
- **Municipality of the Year -** Town of Irmo



Featured Above: Eric Sickinger and Mayor Barry Walker, Town of Irmo, with Traude Sander, KMB Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 7

Richland County Paper Shred Event

Richland County residents are invited to bring paper to be shredded on site as well as scrap metal, tires, and household hazardous waste (including paint) to Columbia Place Mall from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Click here for more details. keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org.

NOVEMBER 4

Spotless Service Saturday-Kinley Creek

Join our staff, students from USC and the Town of Irmo as we remove litter from Kinley Creek. Meet at the Irmo Town Hall at 9 a.m. to pick up supplies. Register here. <https://forms.gle/LQF1mwKfftGxwBYC8>

OCTOBER 28

Lexington County Paper Shred Event

Lexington County residents are invited to bring up to five boxes or bags of paper to be shredded on site to Saxe Gotha Presbyterian church in Lexington from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Click here for more details. (keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org)

Spotless Service Saturday-MLK Neighborhood

Join our staff and students from USC for another Spotless Service Saturday. This month we're cleaning up Columbia's Martin Luther King neighborhood. Learn more and register here. <https://forms.gle/Et5XusnkKdR4mbuv6>

NOVEMBER 18

AAH/AAS Quarterly Cleanup

Make sure you request your supplies through our supply request form for the upcoming quarterly cleanup! Please fill out your report card form once your group finishes your cleanup! Click here for the supply request form:

<https://keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org/what-we-do/nonprofit2019/about-aah/aah-supply-request-form/>



FUN THINGS TO DO!



MLK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Eleven homes in Columbia's Martin Luther King neighborhood have completed 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' training and have qualified to receive assistance for exterior home improvement projects. We need your help! If you are available to help with projects such as fence repair, painting and landscaping on one or more weekends in November.



BE A PART OF KMB'S NEW VIDEO!

Want to be the star of a KMB advertisement? We are searching for volunteers that have been a part of our organization to provide insight on what it is like to be one of our volunteers. Contact mdimaria@kmb.org for more details!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Jaren Paguio

Jaren started working for KMB as a Program Intern in September. He is a sophomore at USC majoring in Public Health and in his spare time, he's learning how to be a professional DJ.



Toni Moreno

Toni started working for KMB as a Program Assistant in September. She spent many years working as a loan officer and is now helping us to expand and improve our network of volunteers. In her spare time she likes to garden.



Adriana Diotalevi

Adriana started as our new Program Coordinator in October. She lives in Columbia, is a recent graduate of USC Beaufort, has a dog named Pluto and enjoys walking, gardening and spending time at the Congaree National Park.



Dave Hogan

Dave is our new Program Administrator. He lives on the lake in Prosperity and is looking forward to using his many years of experience as a project manager to make a real difference in the community.

THE WONDERFUL WORK OF LAURA BLAKE-ORR



In the heart of every organization lies a dedicated individual who shapes its core values, strengthens its foundation, and leaves an indelible mark on its history. We would like to pay tribute to the remarkable journey of our former Core Program Administrator, Laura Blake-Orr whose unwavering dedication and impactful leadership have left an enduring legacy within our organization.

Laura Blake-Orr was with Keep the Midlands Beautiful for several years. She began her journey at KMB serving as one of the board members and in October, 2019 she officially joined the team. As our Core Program Administrator, she diligently worked with our AAH/AAS/AAW groups and planned our annual Lakeside Litter Sweep. Under her guidance, our core programs flourished. Her commitment to nurturing excellence within our team and empowering individuals to reach their full potential was truly remarkable.



One of Laura's most enduring qualities was her ability to form genuine connections with our volunteers. The connections she formed with members of our community helped us build what we have today, and we thank her for providing so much time, effort and dedication to our organization.



Laura's impact as our Core Program Administrator extended far beyond the programs she oversaw. Her leadership and dedication elevated our organization as a whole, setting a standard of excellence that continues to guide us today. The influence Laura had on our team and our mission is immeasurable. As we bid farewell to Laura Blake-Orr, we do so with deep gratitude for her contributions to our organization. While her departure leaves a void, we also recognize that her legacy lives on in the lasting impact she had on our programs and people.



Laura, we wish you well in your next stage of life. May the path ahead be filled with success, happiness, and fulfillment. We will always remember your contributions to Keep the Midlands Beautiful and to our community. Thank you.

SOME OF OUR FAVORITE ORGANIZATIONS

We would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support and donations to our organization!



HOW TO BECOME A KMB HERO!



DONATE

Our friends in **Columbia's Martin Luther King neighborhood** are collecting bicycles so that they can give one to every child in their neighborhood for Christmas. Help us help them! Spread the word and bring your bikes to our office for this wonderful cause.



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](https://www.kmb.org) ([kmb.org](https://www.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>



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Search for "Keep the Midlands Beautiful
Nonprofit"



@kmbgreen803

