



Rapides Parish Police Jury

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2023

**THE RAPIDES PARISH POLICE JURY TO HOLD CLEANUP
EVENT ON April 22, 2023, FOR LOVE THE BOOT WEEK**

Love the Boot Week, April 17-23, 2023, is Louisiana's Largest Litter Cleanup

Organized by Keep Louisiana Beautiful

Louisiana, Parish of Rapides — On April 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., the Rapides Parish Police Jury will host Cleanup event as part of Love the Boot Week, Louisiana's largest litter cleanup effort held in conjunction with Earth Week, April 17-23, 2023. Love the Boot Week is organized by Keep Louisiana Beautiful and supported by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

The Rapides Parish Police Jury in conjunction with the City of Pineville plan to start the cleanup event at 9:00 a.m. by picking up trash along the Pineville Expressway, outside the city limits. The Rapides Parish Police Jury encourages all neighborhood watch groups and the citizens of Rapides Parish to join together and help make Rapides Parish Beautiful.

We look forward to organizing more cleanup events to engage our employees and citizens to work together and improve the quality of life we experience in our community.

Litter is not a new problem for Louisiana's 64 parishes. For decades, litter has become increasingly detrimental to our communities, leading to a multitude of repercussions such as:

- Blight on natural areas, cities, towns, roadways, and waterways
- Death of wildlife due to polluted habitats
- Decline in quality of life in neighborhoods.
- A negative impact on economic development, infrastructure, and tourism
- Flooding caused by storm drains clogged with litter and debris.

Despite spending over \$40 million in litter abatement each year, Louisiana is still experiencing shocking levels of litter statewide.

“Sportsman’s Paradise won’t be litter-free overnight, but by coming together during Love the Boot Week, we can bring awareness to the issue and take steps toward achieving a more beautiful Louisiana,” says Susan Russell, Executive Director of Keep Louisiana Beautiful.

Following the conclusion of Love the Boot Week, Keep Louisiana Beautiful will release an outcomes report summarizing the collective impact of the registered cleanup and beautification events. This report will include the total number of events, volunteers, bags of trash collected, pounds of trash collected, and other relevant statistics.

Volunteers can register for the cleanup event at www.lovetheboot.org. Questions about this specific event should be directed to the event organizer, the Rapides Parish Police Jury at rppj@rppj.com or 318-473-6660.

Love the Boot Week is made possible by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Coca-Cola, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana.

For more information about Love the Boot Week, visit www.lovetheboot.org, or contact info@keeplouisianabeautiful.org.

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About Keep Louisiana Beautiful

Keep Louisiana Beautiful is an anti-litter and community improvement non-profit organization focused on achieving a clean and beautiful Louisiana through education, enforcement, public awareness, and community engagement. Keep Louisiana Beautiful is affiliated with Keep America Beautiful and comprised of a statewide network of 40 Community Affiliates and seven University Affiliates. Learn more at www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org.