

Help Keep North Augusta

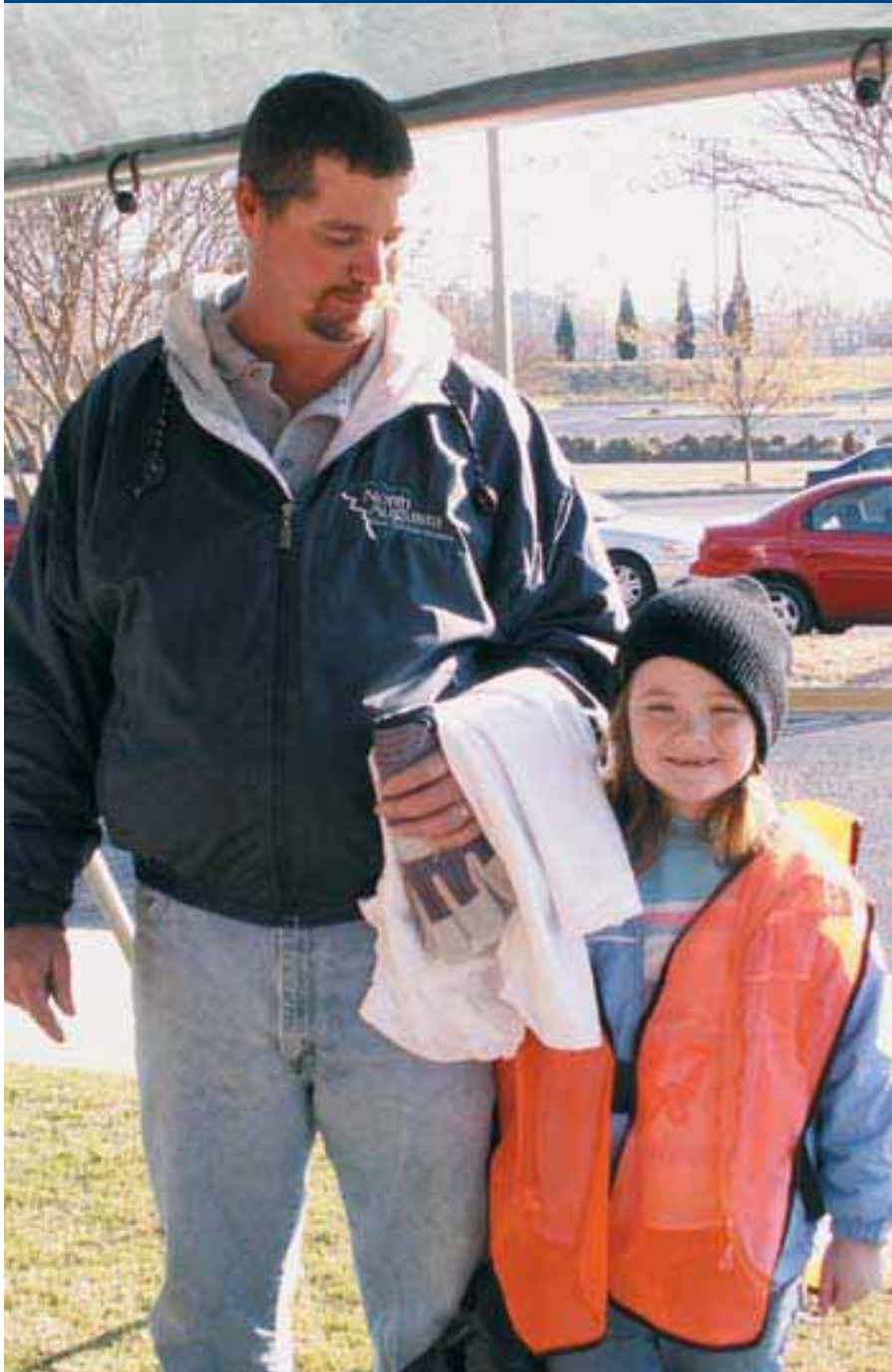
clean and
green

**Working for a clean
and green community.**

**North
Augusta** 
South Carolina's Riverfront



Be a Litter Buster!



Litter Facts

The single most common litter item is the cigarette butt. Other common litter includes paper, fast-food packaging, chip and candy wrappers, bottle caps, glass bottles, plastic straws, and plastic and aluminum soft drink bottles.

The items most often collected during litter cleanups are fast-food wrappers. The second-most often found items are aluminum beer cans, followed very closely by soda cans.

Where does litter come from?

Motorists and pedestrians are responsible for creating between 30 and 50 percent of all litter. The rest comes from household or commercial garbage, construction sites, loading and delivery areas and uncovered trucks. Garbage that is not properly disposed of is easily blown by the wind, spreading litter to neighboring areas.

Litter Causes Litter!

It is a well-known fact that people are more likely to litter in an area that has already been spoiled by litter than in a litter-free area.

What Happens to Litter?

Litter doesn't go away by itself. If not picked up, some litter can last for millions of years.

Rates of Biodegradability

Paper	2-5 months
Cigarette butts	1-12 years
Plastic coated paper cartons	5 years
Plastic bags	10-20 years
Aluminum cans	80-100 years
Plastic 6-pack holder rings	450 years
Glass bottles	1 million years
Plastic bottles	Never

Litter Causes:

- Harm to animals and fish and their habitats. Each year thousands of animals strangle or choke from litter.
- Safety hazards to motorists, bikers, pedestrians, picnickers and swimmers.
- Blockages of the storm drainage system and flooding.
- Fire hazards. Lit cigarettes thrown from moving vehicles can ignite roadside brush.

Litter Costs:

- Huge sums of money are spent every year to clean up public areas.
- Business and tourism are negatively impacted by litter. Many businesses will not locate in a community that lacks the pride to control litter.
- Litter may also reduce property values and tax revenue, impacting property owners and taxpayer funded services.

Littering is Against the Law!

- The minimum fine for littering in South Carolina is \$200 plus court assessments.
- Guilty convictions for littering can lead to jail time between 30 days to one year.





What can **YOU** do to support a litter-free community?

- When out walking, pick up pieces of litter and dispose of them properly.
- Use a litter bag in your vehicle.
- Reduce, reuse and RECYCLE.
- Use returnable, reusable or refillable drink containers or bring your own cup.
- Put your garbage out for collection as close to pickup time as possible.
- Organize a community cleanup.
- Set a good example! Don't be a litterbug.

Be a Litter Buster!



Report litterbugs to the Litter Busters hotline, a 24-hour statewide litter reporting program sponsored by PalmettoPride, the state's anti-litter organization. Simply call 1-877-7LITTER (754-8837) or dial

#LB or #52 on your Cingular or Alltel phone toll free and report the location, time and the litterbug's license number.

The litterbug will get a letter from the Department of Public Safety explaining that if a law enforcement officer had witnessed the littering, it could have resulted in a serious fine or even jail time.



For more information, contact:



City of North Augusta

Department of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services

P.O. Box 6400

North Augusta, SC 29861-6400

803-441-4300

parks@northaugusta.net

www.northaugusta.net



P.O. Box 50217

Columbia, South Carolina 29250

Toll Free: 1-877-725-7733

info@palmettopride.org

www.palmettopride.org

