

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

The Beauty of Picking Up Roadside Litter

There's a hidden gem waiting to be uncovered along the roadside - the beauty of picking up litter with your friends. While it may not be the first thing that comes to mind when thinking of ways to socialize, the act of cleaning up our environment carries a unique charm that goes beyond the surface. Let's explore how picking up roadside litter can be a rewarding way to make friends and look after your community and your planet.

Here are **four great reasons** to get out there, strap on a safety vest, and make a difference this weekend:

1. **Show pride in your community** by helping to beautify your community. No one likes the eyesore of litter, but your litter-free streets are sure to be a sight for sore eyes.
2. **Prevent our precious waterways from becoming polluted.** Heavy rains, flash floods, winds, and time eventually carry our nasty litter to the very lakes, streams, and oceans we swim in.
3. **Protect wildlife that may mistake our litter for nesting material or, worse, ingest it thinking it is food.** Let's show some love for our wild animal friends and pick up our trash.
4. **Make our streets safe for children by removing hazardous items.** A passerby or careless driver throwing trash out along our streets creates a dangerous environment for our kids.



To learn more about Keep Alachua County Beautiful and The Great American Cleanup, visit kacb.org. Contact the City of Gainesville for information on the [Adopt-A-Street](http://adopt-a-street.org) Litter Prevention Program. Check out gainesvillefl.gov/ZeroWaste for the latest goings on in local waste reduction.

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