

Let's Do Our Part to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Rep. Rosemary M. Brown (R-Monroe/Pike)

We are fortunate to live in a state that is filled with landscapes of true natural beauty, especially here at home in the Pocono region. All of us want to live, work, play and raise our families in a beautiful state that is clean and free of excess trash and debris. That is the goal of the **2017 Great American Cleanup of Pennsylvania**, which is a statewide initiative running through May 31, sponsored by Keep America Beautiful.

Have you noticed that the wildflowers growing along the roadways in which you live, or one you travel on regularly have become littered with trash or debris? If so, I am encouraging groups of friends, families and organizations in our communities to form a team to participate in the Great American Cleanup of PA.

Registration is now open to groups that wish to organize a wide range of beautification projects, from litter cleanups, to illegal dump sites, beautification projects, and special collections and educational events. Registered cleanup events can get free trash bags, gloves and safety vests from PennDOT district offices, while supplies last. To register, visit www.gacofpa.org/.

In addition to the Great American Cleanup of PA, there will also be "**Pick It Up PA Days**," from April 18-May 8, which are sponsored by the Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association and participating landfills. During these days, events registered for the Great American Cleanup of PA will have access to reduced or free disposals.

As the weather gets nicer in the coming weeks and months, let's join together and give spring cleaning a new meaning here in NEPA and keep our region of Pennsylvania beautiful. Visit www.gacofpa.org for more tools and information, if you are interested in organizing a team of your own. Contact my district office in East Stroudsburg by calling 570-420-8301 for assistance with any state-related issue, as my staff and I always are happy to help.