

Minette M. Genuchi

Subject: FW: Volunteers needed for coastal cleanup

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 31, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT: Willa DiCostanzo, Environmental Health Educator, 402-441-8035

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FALL COASTAL CLEANUP

Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful (KLLCB) is seeking volunteers and volunteer groups to help clean up litter and other debris from area lakes and streams this fall. The effort is part of the 2017 International Coastal Cleanup, a world-wide volunteer project to remove trash from ocean beaches, lake shores, riversides and other waterways. KLLCB will schedule numerous projects to be most convenient to volunteer availability. To volunteer, contact KLLCB at 402-441-8035 or kllcb@lincoln.ne.gov.

"It is important that we do our part to keep our lakes and streams clean," said Willa DiCostanzo, KLLCB. "Although the nearest ocean is almost 1,000 miles away, 80 percent of trash found in oceans starts out on land. KLLCB volunteers directly impact the reduction of litter flowing into rivers and oceans downstream."

DiCostanzo said the cleanup is a great opportunity for families, sports teams, scouts, youth groups, churches and other groups. Both shoreline and lakeside litter pickups are needed, so groups with boats, canoes and kayaks are welcome to help reach more inaccessible areas.

Groups will be asked to tally each type of trash collected, as part of an effort to add to the worldwide marine debris database maintained by the Ocean Conservancy. KLLCB is a program of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. The International Coastal Cleanup program receives funding from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

More information on the program is available at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: kllcb) or by contacting Willa DiCostanzo at 402-441-8035 or kllcb@lincoln.ne.gov.

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