



# The Newsletter of Montgomery Clean City Commission

*Educating & Motivating for a Cleaner Montgomery*

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Keep America  
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## DECEMBER SHREDDING EVENT SURPASSES ALL OTHERS!

On Friday, December 2, **Montgomery Clean City Commission**, **MAX Credit Union**, and **AARP Alabama** held our most successful shredding/document destruction event to date. We need to thank **City Councilman Richard Bollinger** and **Walmart Store #938** for their invaluable financial support. It must be stated that without the support of **Gilmore Services** and their superb staff this event would not be possible. Thank you to all who volunteered for this event especially the many remarkable volunteers from MCCC, MAX Credit Union, and AARP Alabama. Thank you, citizens of Montgomery, for coming out and being a part of this significant event. Keep an eye out for information on the next one this spring.



## MCCC LITTER INITIATIVE EQUALS CLEANER CITY

MCCC litter initiative, which began August 8, 2016, has done an impressive job removing litter from the routes assigned to them by Mayor Strange. Working with crews of up to 4 inmates from Red Eagle Work Center, the routes are worked Monday through Thursday except for rain days and holidays. As of December 29, 2016 the total are:

**175.3 MILES OF ROAD CLEANED**

**2560 BAGS OF LITTER REMOVED EQUALING**

**15.36 TONS OF LITTER REMOVED**

MCCC is proud to be a part of this successful endeavor and thrilled to share in its success as it moves forward.

### Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

January 14, 2017—MLK Day Cleanup—Meets at Cleveland Ave. Y—Call MCCC at 334-625-2175 for more information and/or to sign up.

January 16, 2017—MLK Day Cleanup—Meets at Highland Gardens Elem. at 2805 Willena Ave.—Contact Hands On River Region for more information and/or to sign up.



KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

### LAWN CARE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS

Proper lawn care is an essential part of protecting our local water supply. Fertilizer contains nutrients that, when over applied, contribute to algae blooms and fish kills. Fertilizing in an environmentally friendly manner is an easy way to help protect water health in your community.

Plants can only utilize a certain percentage of applied fertilizer; excess fertilizer washes away with the rain into neighborhoods streams. Fertilizers contain nitrogen and phosphorus that end up feeding our streams in addition to our lawns and gardens. When streams have increased nutrient loadings, plants and algae grow above normal population levels, absorbing greater amounts of oxygen and thus decreasing available oxygen for fish and other aquatic life.

The best way to prevent pollution from fertilizer is to become educated about lawn enrichment and proper lawn care. Here are 8 tips to help you make wise decisions for fertilizer use.

- Test your soil (soil test kits can be purchased at Lowe's and they have a video on YouTube demonstrating proper use.)
- Do not fertilize if it isn't necessary
- Select a fertilizer that has little or no phosphorus and approximately 60% of nitrogen in slow-release, water-insoluble form
- Fertilize during the dry season
- Avoid spreading fertilizer onto paved areas
- Read instructions on how to properly apply the product; avoid over fertilizing
- Light watering of fertilizer will facilitate plant root absorption
- Ask your lawn care company to fertilize with care and use environmentally friendly products

Special thanks to the Alexandria Stormwater Management Program for this information.

### AREA HIGH SCHOOLS SPEND COMMUNITY SERVICE DAYS AT REMOUNT CEMETERY



Members of LAMP's Jr. Class spent their morning working in Remount Cemetery on Friday, September 30.



LAMP's Community Service T-shirt

This fall two local schools, LAMP High School and St. James School, aided MCCC in the upkeep of historic Remount Cemetery, found near the intersection of Chestnut and Lincoln, as part of their community service days. On September 30<sup>th</sup> LAMP 11<sup>th</sup> grade students spent from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon raking, weed-eating and clearing debris. On October 7, St James 10<sup>th</sup> grade boys, who have been working at Remount Cemetery annually since 1999 as their community service project, spent their morning putting the finishing touch on putting the cemetery to rest for the winter looking good. We appreciate the hard work and commitment both schools have made to working for the betterment of Montgomery.



10<sup>th</sup> grade young men from St James have been working at Remount Cemetery since 1999.



St James Community Service T-shirt

**CLEANUP IN CAPITOL HEIGHTS**  
A REPORT BY LADONNA PATTON

On Saturday, September 17, 2 Cities Church & a newly formed neighborhood group, Neighbors In Capitol Heights Engaged (NICHE) picked up trash in the Capitol Heights neighborhood. The focus area was the northeast side of the neighborhood, including parts of Winona Ave., Yancey Ave., N. Pennsylvania St., N. Maryland St., & N. California St.

With approximately 50 entrances into the Capitol Heights neighborhood from three very heavily traveled streets to and from Downtown (Madison Avenue, Upper Wetumpka Road, and Mt. Meigs Road), there is no shortage of errant trash which finds its way onto our streets. We thank the Clean City Commission for its support in providing the supplies.



Neighbors In Capitol Heights Engaged (NICHE) volunteers working together for a cleaner, more beautiful neighborhood

**Blue Planet Defenders**  
**At Highland Gardens Elementary**

Fifth graders at Highland Gardens Elementary have been having fun learning about water and what can be done to keep it clean. On the second Thursday of each month MCCC and Alabama Clean Water Partnership meet with these eager learners in the Highland Gardens Community Center. Using hands on learning techniques Blue Planet Defenders club members have been discovering the water cycle, watersheds and how they work, and even what happens to water when humans are careless with litter, chemicals and pet waste. Members of Blue Planet Defenders will be better equipped as adults to be conscientious, environmentally minded citizens. MCCC is proud to be a part of this project.



**BLUE  
PLANET  
DEFENDERS**



1



2



3

1. Proudly displaying their Water Cycle bracelets; first meeting 2. Building a watershed; second meeting 3. Seeing firsthand what happens when rain falls on a littered and polluted watershed.

### LAMP Students Give Back Through Community Service

During the months of September and October LAMP High School students spent some of their Fridays engaged in community service projects. You may have already seen the article about LAMP students at Remount Cemetery on Friday, September 30, but they pitched in and worked at other locations as well. They could be found volunteering at community projects such as the Nixon Times Neighborhood Garden, Old Alabama Town, the Humane Society of Elmore County, the Jubilee Community Center, and the Friendship Mission.

In partnership with MCCC these awesome students worked along the Oak Street portion of the Voting Rights Trail on September 30, at Lagoon Park where they cleared brush and debris on October 7, and along Althea St., near Lee High School to pick up litter, mow and trim weeds on October 14. MCCC appreciates all their efforts on our behalf.

### Woodley Park Youth Keeping it Clean

Belinda Bradley, resident of Woodley Park, holds regular cleanups in her neighborhood with the help of young men from the area. When the job is done for the day, Belinda sends them home to get cleaned up themselves. Then they come back to Belinda's home where pizza or hot dogs are waiting for them. Often they are treated to a movie as well.

Belinda is not only teaching these young men about keeping their neighborhood clean but she also strives to teach them leadership qualities and living in community. MCCC salutes her for her efforts and commitment to her community.



### Nixon Times Neighborhood Garden Grow Community

It's been a busy autumn at the Nixon Times Neighborhood Garden on Emerson Street. Community members, elected officials and LAMP students have been hard at work weeding and preparing the garden for autumn planting. Sally Iyobebe, chairperson for Nigerian American Public Affairs Committee (NAPAC), has been a big part of this, as well as Voncille Gregory, Robert Taylor, District 4 County Commissioner, Isaiah Sankey and other community members. MCCC salutes all their hard work.



1) Voncille Gregory, Sally Iyobebe, Robert Taylor and County Commissioner Isaiah Sankey, working in the Nixon Times Community Garden



2 LAMP Students weeding and prepping the garden for fall planting.

### Announcing Change in Publishing Schedule Of MCCC Newsletter

The MCCC Newsletter will now be published as follows: January, February, March; April, May, June; July, August, September; and October, November, December.