

THE HIGH COST OF LITTER

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Pennsylvania Resources Council

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From left: James F. Hillman, Mayor David L. Lawrence, an unidentified aide and Adolph Schmidt
Pittsburgh Magazine, December 2013

WHO IS CHASING LITTER?

- Penn DOT
- City of Pittsburgh
- Allegheny County
- Other municipalities
- Sports and Exhibition Authority
- ALCO Parking
- Clean Pittsburgh Commission
- University's / Student Groups
- Allegheny Cleanways
- Paddle Without Pollution
- Keep PA Beautiful
- Citizens Against Litter
- Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
- Friends of the Riverfront
- PRC
- Countless other community groups and civic organizations



WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT LITTER?

- Prevention
 - Education
 - Provision of alternatives (public space receptacles)
 - Advertising and Marketing
- Cleanup
 - Volunteer
 - Paid Staff
 - Routine (weekly, monthly, annually)
 - Episodic (when the mess becomes too much)

Beautify Our Burgh
Redd Up
Tireless Project
Pitt Make a Difference Day
Crying Steeler Fan
Dump Busters
PitCleanUp
Super Clean Program
Love Your Block
Community Cleanup's
Just Can It
Great American Cleanup



WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?

- Intentional Litter
 - Illegal dump sites
- Unintentional Litter
 - Blown out of passenger vehicles
 - Blown from waste collection trucks
 - Blown from other commercial vehicles
 - Uncovered trash cans / collection setouts
- Events / Public Spaces
 - Overflowing public space containers
 - No accessible receptacle



PENN DOT

- **\$568,264** spent on litter cleanup to date in 2015
- Road side clean up with
 - Staff
 - Corrections crews
 - Volunteers
 - Mechanical tools



WEEK OF JUNE 15, 2015



CITY OF PITTSBURGH

- Recently GPS inventoried all City managed public trash receptacles
- +/- 2,000 in right of way (along roadways)
- Piloting “monitoring” system in support of on-demand service
- 24 FTE’s dedicated to servicing containers (4 FTE’s per PW Division)
- Planning to include budget request for incremental replacement (200 / 2 yr cycle)



A NEW FUNDING OPTION

- Waste collection is a **UTILITY**...users should pay for the **SERVICE**
- City collections currently funded indirectly through tax base
- 2014 Budget for Bureau of Environmental Services (ES) of **\$11.7 million**
 - **\$8.50 per household per month**
- Audit of ES states;
The Refuse Division collects regular mixed and bulk refuse from approximately **115,000** residential properties...
- If each household in the City pays **\$1** per month the City would generate **\$1.4 million**
- Regionally residents pay an average of **\$20.00** per month for the same services, equivalent to **\$27.6 million**



