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**LITTER CLEAN-UP SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT AT THE ST TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY** The Get Down and Clean Up Program by Keep Louisiana Beautiful Empowers Citizens to Clean Up Litter in Their Communities

**Covington, La.** – St. Tammany Parish Library (STPL) is proud to partner with Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) and the State Library of Louisiana as a <u>Get Down and Clean Up</u> program participant. The Abita Springs, Slidell, and South Slidell branch libraries are three of the 72 public libraries in 31 parishes to help launch this program in Louisiana. Library card holders can now visit participating libraries to check out and return litter clean-up supplies, including litter grabbers, safety vests, and trash bags.

The Get Down and Clean Up program provides citizens an outlet for accessing supplies to improve their communities. People of all ages can participate in this program, but adult supervision (18+ and up) is required. With their supplies, participants will be given instructions with a QR code leading to an online reporting form for tracking hours, trash bags collected, and other pertinent statistics.

"This program provides the perfect opportunity for students to get service hours for school," said Susan Russell, KLB Executive Director. "It's also a great hands-on way for families, small homeschool groups, youth groups, and scouts to care for their neighborhood. We encourage you to have fun with it. Play some music and dance your way to a cleaner Louisiana!"

"St. Tammany Parish residents have a strong stance against litter and are focused on conserving the parish's pristine natural backdrop that makes the Northshore such a serene retreat from most city landscapes. We are happy to be able to provide citizens with the tools they need to keep our parish beautiful," said Tanya DiMaggio, STPL Assistant Director of Support Services.

The program launches on Monday, May 22, 2023. At this time the program is only available at the Abita Springs, Slidell, and South Slidell branches.

Patrons will have the ability to check out supplies for 7 days at the above locations and must return them inside the same branch from which they borrowed them. Supplies will not be accepted inside drop boxes or after hours.

## A list of participating libraries by parish is available <u>here</u>.

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**Keep Louisiana Beautiful** is an anti-litter and community improvement non-profit organization focused on achieving a clean and beautiful Louisiana through education, enforcement, public awareness, and community engagement. Keep Louisiana Beautiful is affiliated with Keep America Beautiful and is comprised of a statewide network of 44 Community Affiliates and 10 University Affiliates. Learn more at www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org.

The St. Tammany Parish Library has been serving the citizens of St. Tammany Parish for nearly seventy years. Our twelve branches offer over 542,000 loanable items including books, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, and magazines. The library's website offers 24/7 access to downloadable audio and e-books, music downloads, research tools, magazines, and newspapers. Our programs and services are designed to meet residents' cultural, informational, educational, and recreational needs.