



# TRASH TALK WITH THE LITTER HERO

A HILLSBOROUGH CLEAN COMMUNITIES PUBLICATION

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**IN A WORLD WHERE YOU CAN BE ANYTHING**

*Be A* **litter hero**

[ lit-er + heer-oh ]  
a person who has special qualities and is regarded as a role model for picking up rubbish from places it does not belong.

**KAPTAIN CLEANUP**

## Do you want to be a Litter Hero?

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What steps can you take to decrease the amount of litter in the environment?

What programs are in place to address litter issues in our community?

How can one person make a difference?

These are all great questions to ask when you are thinking about litter and its impact on the environment. It all starts with people who care about the effects of litter on the environment and who want to be a part of the solution. Hillsborough Township Clean Communities wants to encourage you to get involved in your community and join the movement to combat litter.

A few ways you can help are...



1. Be a Litter Hero! What is a litter hero? It is a person who has special qualities and is regarded as a role model for picking up trash from places it does not belong.
2. Encourage others to be a litter hero. Spread information about cleanup events, educational materials and links about the damaging effects of litter on the environment. Organize events of your own where people can get involved in cleaning up their yard, street, neighborhood and community.
3. Create challenges with family, friends and neighbors to see who can find and pick up the most litter in a given day, week, month, etc. Create a challenge that will fit into everyone's schedule. Picking up one piece of litter a day, it still has an impact.
4. Try to identify where the source of the litter is coming from and generate ideas on how you can prevent it from occurring in the first place.
5. Post infographics on your social media on how long it takes litter to biodegrade and ask people to comment on what items they have found when doing a clean up.
6. Remind everyone to do their part in reducing the amount of trash created. By reducing trash that can potentially become litter, you can have a win-win for the environment.
7. Education and re-education around “why” litter is a problem, along with stopping the “not my problem” mentality, and promoting litter reduction solutions are key elements in controlling litter and making programs sustainable.



*Hillsborough Clean Communities encourages creative and out of the box thinking to tackle these important issues. Help us stop litter in its tracks and register to volunteer for a Hillsborough Township Clean Communities litter event. It all starts at home. Be a litter hero.*



# Littercon is Coming! Are you Ready?

**There is still time to register for Littercon 2020!!**

What? Littercon?? What is Littercon???

Littercon is a festive community event where people come together (socially distanced) to pick up litter in preparation for the Holidays.



This fun community event, where volunteers can dress in Santa, Elf, Grinch or other holiday attire costumes and pick up litter around the community is sure to get you in the holiday spirit. Sing carols, spread joy and just throw some litter (in the trash). Get ready to take on litter, one wrapper at a time and be a #litterhero!!

As a thank you for your valuable time, Hillsborough Clean Communities is rewarding each volunteer with a \$10 gift card to use at participating local eateries. The card is valid through 11/21/20. By volunteering for this event you are not only helping clean up Hillsborough for the holidays, you are helping support local businesses. We will also have a few surprise giveaways and a special appearance by our own Kaptain Cleanup.

Registration is on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/92210631481>

Waivers can be downloaded off the site, completed and sent to [dpw@hillsborough-nj.org](mailto:dpw@hillsborough-nj.org)

For more information on Hillsborough Clean Communities, visit [hillsborough-nj.org/cleancommunities](https://hillsborough-nj.org/cleancommunities) For more information on New Jersey Clean Communities, visit [njclean.org](https://njclean.org)

Thank you for making a difference!!



# The fall virtual litter cleanup is going on through November 13th

Have you registered for the Fall 2020 Virtual Litter Cleanup Event? It's not too late.

Registration is going on now through November 13th on Eventbrite. You can find the link on the Clean Communities webpage at <https://www.hillsborough-nj.org/cleancommunities>.



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Cleanup kits are still available for pickup, just note the type of kit (child or adult) when you email DPW to reserve your time slot. Waivers must be completed and can be emailed to [dpw@hillsborough-nj.org](mailto:dpw@hillsborough-nj.org) or dropped off when picking up your kit.

Whether you can commit to 10 min, an hour or time on several different days, each piece of litter picked up is important and has an impact on our environment.



## upcoming APPEARANCES

Kaptain Cleanup will be making several appearances at upcoming Township Events:  
 October 31st Trunk or Treat  
 November 14th Littercon



# Hillsborough Clean Communities Litter Hero, Kaptin Cleanup, wants you to join her in the fight to battle litter and illegal dumping

## Did you know?

Why is litter bad for the environment? Simply put, it wastes our natural resources, harms wildlife and the environment. When cans and bottles are discarded on the roadside instead of being recycled, more resources must be used to create cans and bottles from new materials. If items are reduced or recycled their energy is not lost and creates new raw materials. Here are a few examples of how litter affects our wildlife.

Litter is dangerous to animals and wildlife for many reasons. Animals are attracted to items that smell like food, which leads them to get their heads stuck in jars, cups or other kinds of containers. When they are unable to get the litter off their head or body they either suffocate or starve to death.

**"What are you waiting for?  
Join the movement.  
#bealitterhero"**

Kaptin Cleanup

