

# Hometown News

## Organization, community remove thousands of pounds of trash

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For Hometown News

PALM CITY -- After three months of painting, cleaning and planting, Keep Martin [Beautiful](#) and its community partners were able to remove nearly 11,000 pounds of litter, clean 23 parks and beaches and revitalize four neighborhoods in Martin County.

This effort is part of the nationwide event, The Great American Cleanup, which is organized nationally by Keep America Beautiful and locally by KMB each year from March 1 to May 31. In those 92 days, KAB affiliates like KMB organize events to beautify, revitalize and remove litter from communities.

Each year, local non-profit, Habitat Angel, partners with KMB for their GAC effort, the Extreme Martin Makeover. In 2014 this event focused on Port Salerno's New Monrovia neighborhood. Over 300 volunteers came out to revitalize the neighborhood and beautify 22 homes by painting, landscaping and even replacing a roof.

"We were thrilled to be a part of the Great American Cleanup again this year," said Hank Meira, Coordinator for Habitat Angel. "We love to see the difference we make when working together to revitalize communities"

In total, over 1,000 volunteers participated in over 30 events, 165 of which were Martin County Troops of the Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida. The Girl Scouts participated in 23 different clean up events in 19 different locations throughout Martin County.

"We are so proud for what the young ladies have done for not only KMB, but their communities," said the President of Keep Martin Beautiful, Jim Dragseth. "It is important to teach the importance of the environment to the next generation."

KMB also helped to organize cleanups in the Banner Lake, East Stuart and Golden Gate communities, which focused on litter cleanup.

Martin County's HazMobile was also on hand at several events to help recycle hazardous material.

For more information visit [www.keepmartinbeautiful.org](http://www.keepmartinbeautiful.org) or contact KMB at (772) 781-1222 or [info@keepmartinbeautiful.org](mailto:info@keepmartinbeautiful.org).