## **Local News**

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## No MOre Trash Bash

APRIL 01ST 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

No MOre Trash Bash

Submitted by Beth Farrah, SMT Writer

**Jefferson City, Missouri -** Many signs of spring in Missouri are a welcome sight. Green shoots and flowering trees and bulbs promise warmer weather ahead. Unfortunately, other sights during spring aren't so welcome, such as litter along roads and highways, in our communities and in our outdoor spaces.

Help fight litter in Missouri through the state's annual No MOre Trash! month-long Trash Bash in April.

The Trash Bash is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) as part of their ongoing No MOre Trash! statewide anti-litter campaign. The annual Trash Bash encourage people to clean up litter all across Missouri, from roadsides, parks, neighborhoods, rivers, streams, trails and other places. Trash Bash activities in April also include educational efforts in schools, at highway rest areas, and through community events, Earth Day celebrations, media promotions and more.

"Through the years, hundreds of thousands of volunteers have picked up more than half a million bags of trash during April Trash Bashes," said Stacy Armstrong, MoDOT No MOre Trash! Coordinator. "That's a lot of litter!"

Missourians care about conserving our forests, fish and wildlife. Last year, more than 18,000 volunteers and other Trash-Bash participants collected more than 130,000 bags of trash and many truckloads of debris during the 2012 month-long event. Volunteers included MoDOT and MDC employees, Adopt-A-Highway groups, Stream Teams, Scout troops, schools and community groups, and others.

Littering isn't just ugly, it also hurts wildlife and Missouri outdoors.

"Animals get tangled in litter, such as plastic six-pack holders and discarded fishing line, and it hurts and kills them," said MDC No MOre Trash! Coordinator Joe Jerek. "Litter also poisons fish, birds and other wildlife, along with their habitats, such as rivers and woods."

Show you care about a litter-free Missouri by bashing trash in April. Go online to nomoretrash.org for more information on the Trash Bash, and to report cleanup efforts.

Visit www.nomoretrash.org for more information on statewide litter-cleanup event.

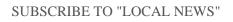
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