



WASTE FOR USE

Advocating a Healthy Natural Environment for All

ONe by ONe CLeAN Communities

April 15, 2017

Event Highlights



Empowerment Through Engagement

Chinelo Arinze

Community empowerment thrives in an environment of engagement. At the Waste for Use One by One Clean Communities cleanup event Spring 2017, civic contributors used support from Waste for Use, Keep Atlanta Beautiful, the City of Atlanta, and the Lauren's Valley Community to conduct empowerment through engagement.

Participants at the One by One Clean Communities clean up event exercised engagement through discovery, collective work, and cooperation.



Photo: Minh Vo



Photo: Minh Vo

The cleanup event brought some participants to a new community and introduced some to civic contributors who were determined to improve the sanitation condition of public space in the City of Atlanta. Participants included residents of Atlanta – Georgia, Gainesville-Georgia, Canton-Georgia, students of Fort Valley State University, and members of Gamma Sigma Sigma sorority. The cleanup event connected civic members in ways that

ONE by ONE CLeAN Communities Event Highlights

might not have developed outside the scope of a community cleanup. This discovery was possible through a coming together for a common mission.

At approximately 9:00 am, April 15 2017, participants gathered for the start of the community cleanup at three locations: Therrell High School, Cascade United Methodist Church, and Mount Carmel Baptist Church. Each location provided a unique cleanup route that ranged anywhere from one to two miles covering surrounding area streets in Southwest Atlanta. While walking along cleanup routes, participants engaged with one another by working together to collect litter from City of Atlanta streets.



Photo: Minh Vo

Working together consisted of teams coordinating the holding and opening of trash bags and clutching trash with litter grabbers. The spirit of cooperation was notable among participants. Even one of the youngest event participants, Jaden Knight at age 10, contributed a significant amount of support for removing litter from City of Atlanta streets. The cleanup successfully removed relevant amounts of litter including bottles, containers, and tires among other waste items.

The One by One Clean Communities cleanup event illustrated that participants used engagement to empower their right to clean public space. Such engagement allows communities the power to frame clean and healthy community conditions and a great template for future progress.



Stay tuned for announcement of the next ONE by ONE CLeAN Communities cleanup event
www.wasteforuse.org