

News Release

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Volunteers Improve Water Quality Collecting Trash

Hillsdale Water Quality Project volunteers, staff and partners complete many litter clean ups throughout the year. This past weekend, volunteers collected truckloads of trash around Spring Hill and Hillsdale Lake. Participating volunteers included: Spring Hill 4-H Rustlers, an Olathe Naturalist Class, Spring Hill FFA, Johnson County Community College (JCCC) students and Americorps volunteers.

The Spring Hill 4-H Rustlers and JCCC students collected litter around the city park and along Washington Street in Spring Hill on Sept. 26.

An Olathe Naturalist Class, Spring Hill FFA, JCCC students and AmeriCorps volunteers gathered trash from Hillsdale Lake's campsites, along the dam and around the shelters on Sept. 27.

Hillsdale Water Quality Project's Information Specialist, Jennie Fyock, was pleased with the results of the event.

"More than 50 bags of trash were collected over the weekend," Fyock said. "The volunteers did a wonderful job and worked for several hours to enhance their community and improve water quality."

The litter clean up events educate participants about the importance of not polluting and how much damage littering causes. Volunteer clean up efforts create a better environment and water quality for the community, wildlife and plants

The clean ups were hosted by Hillsdale Water Quality Project, in partnership with the City of Spring Hill, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Clean up supplies and t-shirts were provided by the Missouri Stream Team. Both events were sponsored by a Johnson County Stormwater Management Advisory Council Education and Outreach Grant funded through a Johnson County Stormwater Tax.

Hillsdale Water Quality Project is a non-profit volunteer-based organization working to improve water quality within the Hillsdale Lake Watershed, or drainage area to Hillsdale Lake. The watershed includes all or portions of the cities of Spring Hill, Edgerton, Gardner and Wellsville.

For more information about litter clean ups or other volunteer opportunities, contact Jennie Fyock, Hillsdale Water Quality Project Information Specialist at (913) 829-9414 or jfyock@hwqp.org.

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