



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Soil and Water Conservation District
[Sheila Jones](#), Environmental Educator, 919-250-1065
[Jennifer Heiss](#), Communications Specialist, 919-856-7539
[Communications Office After Hours](#)
wakegov.com/news
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Volunteers Needed to Sweep Wake County Waterways Clean

Wake County Fall Big Sweep runs through November 5

With the busy summer recreational season coming to an end, the [Wake County Soil and Water Conservation District](#) needs your help to keep rivers, lakes and streams litter-free.

The Fall 2016 Wake County Big Sweep is underway and runs through Saturday, Nov. 5. During the Big Sweep volunteers are needed to help pick up trash at 12 cleanup events around the county. For a complete list of events, details and preregistration information, visit the [Wake County Big Sweep website](#).

Wake County Big Sweeps take place in the spring and fall and focus on cleaning tributaries such as creeks, lakes, streams and wetlands that flow into the Neuse or Cape Fear rivers.

Volunteers remove garbage that can be harmful to the water and local wildlife. During the two Wake County Big Sweeps in 2015, 1,248 volunteers collected 13,225 pounds of trash and diverted 3,720 pounds of recyclables from going to the landfill.

The Wake County Big Sweep is coordinated by the Wake County Soil and Water Conservation District and plays an important role in watershed protection by keeping local waterways litter-free, ecologically viable and safe for drinking or other designated water uses. Events are planned in partnership with city and county parks, civic groups, schools, businesses and other community organizations. For more information, visit the [Wake County Big Sweep website](#), call 919-250-1065 or email Wake County Environmental Educator Sheila Jones at sbjones@wakegov.com.

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