



5 May 2017

Media Statement

Call for volunteers to keep WA litter-free

Volunteers across the State are being urged to become 'litter warriors' during National Volunteer Week (8-14 May) and sign up to Keep Australia Beautiful WA's Adopt-a-Spot program.

The program encourages community-focused businesses, schools, organisations and people to keep the environment clean by adopting a site in their local area to look after and keep litter-free.

Those who sign up to Adopt-a-Spot receive free bags, gloves and tongs—as well as ongoing support.

Keep Australia Beautiful WA Chairman Michael Aspinall said he commended the many Adopt-a-Spot participants who carry out regular litter pick up activities across the State.

“This work is important, as research suggests that littered areas are more likely to attract litter and antisocial behaviours like graffiti and vandalism,” he said.

“Conversely, areas that are kept clean are more likely to stay clean.”

Roleystone Adopt-a-Spot group, Wednesday Warriors, cleans up in the local neighbourhood every fortnight.

Wednesday Warriors' leader June Copley said she was motivated to keep entry sites into her neighbourhood clean and litter-free.

“Our average rubbish bag pick up has reduced from 20 bags to less than 10,” she said.

“We do just one hour's work at each clean up— but that's all it takes to make a difference.”

In the State's South-West, anti-litter champion Michael Filby agrees that the regularity of clean-ups is the factor that makes the difference in litter reduction.

“When I started removing litter on a 100 kilometre stretch of the South West Highway 12 years ago, I was removing more than 2500 bags of litter per year,” he said.

“Now, on my regular patrol and maintenance as a Keep Australia Beautiful volunteer, I pick up around 250 bags per year.”

Participation in the Adopt-a-Spot program is free and those interested can register through the Keep Australia Beautiful website at www.kabc.wa.gov.au.

For more information call 6467 5339 or email adoptaspot@kabc.wa.gov.au.



Roleystone's Wednesday Warriors have adopted a spot and are helping keep their neighbourhood litter-free.

DER Media

0437 228 870

media@der.wa.gov.au