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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keep Nassau Beautiful: Watch Where You Toss Used Wipes and Gloves!

Failing to properly dispose of personal protective equipment (PPE) will hurt the environment and could spread COVID-19

Nassau County, FL (May 8, 2020) – Keep Nassau Beautiful issued an urgent call today for all Nassau County residents to properly dispose of cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE), including used sanitizing wipes, masks, and disposable gloves. These belong in the trash, not on the ground.

“We have been hearing from more and more people who are seeing wipes, gloves, and other related items on streets and walking trails, or being left behind near supermarkets and pharmacies,” said Lynda Bell, Executive Director, KNB. “The basic rules for proper trash disposal are taking on greater importance, given the COVID-19 virus. If these items are not disposed of properly, we are risking the spread of this life-threatening virus.”

If a store provides wipes to clean off a cart, it likely has a trash receptacle nearby. If consumers are carrying their own wipes, masks or gloves, make sure to properly dispose of used gloves, wipes, and masks in a trash receptacle at the store or have a bag inside your vehicle to place the items in to dispose of at home.

Keep Nassau Beautiful discourages people from picking up wipes, masks or gloves they see littered at this time, because they could be contaminated. “If you used the PPE, it’s your responsibility to dispose of it,” Bell said.

National nonprofit Keep America Beautiful sent an urgent alert to its more than 650 nationwide affiliates, including Keep Nassau Beautiful, asking them to spread the word among their millions of volunteers. Keep America Beautiful President and CEO Helen Lowman also noted that recycling regulations may be shifting in communities due to CDC guidelines. If you or someone in your home has tested positive for the coronavirus, do not recycle your recyclables; place them in a bag that is securely closed and discard them in your trash container. This also applies to any used cleaning supplies, paper towels, tissues, or PPE generated within a home or business with someone who has tested positive. For tips on recycling during this crisis, please visit: <https://kab.org/recycling-tips-during-covid-19/>.

About Keep Nassau Beautiful

Keep Nassau Beautiful, Inc. is working to inspire, educate, and equip individuals, groups, businesses and governments to take action to make Nassau County a place where residents, visitors and wildlife can thrive and experience the beauty of Nassau County. Established in 1991, the mission of Keep Nassau Beautiful is to reduce litter and waste, improve recycling and beautify spaces. www.keepnassaubeautiful.org

About Keep America Beautiful

Keep America Beautiful, the nation's leading community improvement nonprofit organization, inspires and educates people to take action every day to improve and beautify their community environment. Established in 1953, Keep America Beautiful strives to End Littering, Improve Recycling and Beautify America's Communities. We believe everyone has a right to live in a clean, green and beautiful community, and shares a responsibility to contribute to that vision. The organization is driven by the work and passion of more than 650 Keep America Beautiful affiliates, millions of volunteers, and the collaborative support of corporate partners, social and civic service organizations, academia, municipalities, elected officials, and individuals. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#). Donate and take action at kab.org.

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