



Scouts are Cleaning Up the World

Author: Vanessa Von der Muhll

Saved From : www.scout.org



Since the beginning of the Clean Up the World campaign 15 years ago, Scouts have been actively getting out in their local communities and cleaning up their environment. This has included collecting many bags of litter, conducting educational campaigns, tree planting and other environmental projects. The 3rd weekend in September is celebrated as the Clean Up the World Weekend during which a wide variety of environmental activities are undertaken by millions of volunteers around the globe, though activities are conducted year round, depending on the local needs.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are the Primary Partner of Clean Up the World. For more information on how to get involved in Clean Up the World, go to their [website at: www.cleanuptheworld.org](http://www.cleanuptheworld.org)

Some examples of how Scouts were involved in the Clean Up the World campaign in 2007 are below:

AFRICA & ARAB REGION

Scouts Musulmans Algeriens (Algeria)

Approximately 100 Scouts and Scout Leaders from 7 groups: Ettawassol, El Faleh, El Manar, El Amana, El Amel, El Mansourah and Elliwa participated in Clean Up the World activities on the 5th and 6th of September. In the clean-ups conducted, over 350 bags of waste were collected. The second day of activities included an educational workshop for Beavers (aged 6-10 years) where they were given the opportunity to express their environmental visions through drawings. This activity aimed to raise the awareness of environmental protection for the local community and to teach the students about the effects of the climate change.



There was also an earlier series of activities with the theme of "For a Clean Environment?" on the 14th of June 2007. As part of this more than 200 Scouts from many parts of Annaba department (East of Algeria) took part in clean up activities in Ain Aachir Forest in Annaba. About 500 bags of waste were collected. The main objective of this activity was to encourage young Scouts to acquire good habits in participating in preserving the environment and nature. The clean up campaign has helped participants see the importance of disposing of their waste in an environmentally responsible manner. Furthermore,

an environmental education workshop was held to raise awareness about the impact of humans working to preserving nature.

These activities were supported by the SMA Headquarters, the Mansourah Municipality, the Forest Services, schools and the GTZ foundation.

Other Scout groups in Africa: Ivory Coast - Scoutisme marin Cote d'Ivoire.

ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Hope Christian High School Boy and Girl Scout Group (Philippines)

On a rainy September day in Manila, the group managed to have 111 volunteer students and 8 adult leaders participate in a clean-up of the city.

Sus Dev Champions (Philippines)

Sus Dev Champions combined a historical bike ride with a clean up of Aguilando highway in March. At four points along the route, volunteers stopped and heard short lectures about the environmental significance of their activity as well as the history of the route.

Other Scout Groups in the Asia-Pacific: Scouts in Australia engage in Clean Up Australia weekend clean ups during March.

EUROPE REGION

Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey (Turkey)

The Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey was involved in two clean ups during the CUW Weekend with Scouts from the Kırklareli province. The 1st clean up was a beach clean up held on the shores of the Black Sea. Scout volunteers and supporting Club members participated in this activity. The 2nd clean up was held in conjunction with Bulgarian youth on the other side of Turkish Bulgarian border.

Earlier in the year, to celebrate World Environment Day, they ran a festival in cooperation with Etimesgut District Municipality. They invited 700 young people and Scouts from other provinces. Whilst camping the participants were involved in games, painting competitions, songs and workshops that focused on the environment with special emphasis on the past World Environment Day themes.



Other Scout groups in Europe: Croatia - Union of Scouts Trogir, Macedonia - Scout Association of Macedonia, Serbia - Scout group " Kosmajski odred", Spain - Federación de Asociaciones de Scouts de España (ASDE), Turkey - Baris Scouting and Guiding Group Ankara Province, Scouting Group of Fethiye Municipality, Scouts and Guides Antalya Province, Scouts and Guides Province of Polis Spor Kulubu, Seyyah Scouting and Outdoor Sports Club.

INTERAMERICA REGION

Scouts de Honduras (Honduras)

On August 25 the Honduran Scouts Association held an activity called "Clean Up La Ceiba?". Their aim was to raise awareness amongst the community about environmental problems, especially with regards to the need to reduce the quantity of solid waste; recycling and the appropriate treatment of waste. 150 Scouts, 50 community members and 10 volunteers from the environmental unit of the Alcaldía Municipality began cleaning at 8am from the Perpetuo Socorro community.

Asociación de Scouts de Bolivia (Bolivia)

Have postponed their activities until October / November. These activities will include clean ups of educational institutions. Throughout the year they carry out activities focused on Clean Up the World and knowing and valuing their local protected areas. The activities include discussions and expositions regarding the natural disasters Bolivia has been experiencing.

Grupo Scout Potosi (Bolivia)

Local schools and mining companies joined together to participate in a small scale clean up event supported by local municipalities. They are going to rerun the event on a larger scale in late November, early December.

Other Scout groups in the Inter-American Region: Bolivia - Distrito Scout de La Paz - dependiente de la Asociación de Scouts, Colombia - Grupo Scout Yari 25, colegio San Bartolemé la Merced, Costa Rica - Asociación de Guías y Scouts de Costa Rica, Nicaragua - Asociación de Scouts de Nicaragua.

To see [more photos](#) click [here](#) related links' column of this article.