

A stylized globe with green continents and blue oceans. The Americas are prominently displayed in the center. Overlaid on the globe is the title 'Community Project' in red and the authors' names in yellow.

# Community Project

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# Getting the Idea

Our Community Project Goal is to clean up trash in Dogwood Park. We decided on this Goal because Dogwood Park is a cherished and somewhat historical landmark to Cookeville. It is most well known for being one of the few quiet and peaceful places where you can walk your dog(s) downtown, have a picnic with your family, or even have a get together with your friends. Where a lot of people are, there is going to be trash everywhere. We thought of this idea a very long time ago. It was around the time when weather was nice and if you went to Dogwood Park you would probably see people you knew. When we went to Dogwood Park we saw that in the creek and around the trash cans there was random food lying around and rotting.

# Cleaning Process

1st- Check laws Check the local laws regarding recycling in your town.

2nd- Rinse glass bottles, plastic containers, and aluminum and tin cans. Labels do not have to be removed. Recycle the plastic caps of water and soda bottles, but toss the ones from laundry detergent and food containers.

3rd- Separate In general, containers that held food, beverages, household cleaners, or personal care products like shampoo and mouthwash are all recyclable. Separate plastic; glass; aluminum, tin, and aerosol cans; and aluminum foil.

4th- Handle with caution Contact your local sanitation department for instructions on how to dispose of anything that held potentially hazardous material such as motor oil, pesticides, paint, solvents, and batteries

5th- Bundle paper Place together all newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, letters, envelopes, and promotional advertisements. Be sure to keep all paper dry.

6th- Gather cardboard Remove any tape from cardboard boxes and brown paper bags before flattening them. Check if items like pizza and cereal boxes are recycled in your area. If they are, include them, too.

7th- Dispose Find out when your city picks up recycling – sometimes on a different day from when garbage is collected – so you know when to leave those bins and boxes



# Trial and Error

A scenic view of a park path leading to a fountain, with a black trash can in the foreground. The path is paved and leads towards a large, ornate fountain in the distance. There are green benches on either side of the path, and a black trash can is visible on the right. The background is filled with lush green trees under a cloudy sky.

When we first came upon the idea to pick up trash in Dogwood Park we thought it would be easy. After we thawed out the details several issues popped up which staggered our progression. For example, we had issues getting an appointment at Dogwood Park in which all of our schedules fit. We also had issues with recycling legally and how we could put away our trash. This also sparked the interest to put recycling bins in Dogwood Park, little did we know that would require an act of Congress to be approved. When we pondered more about how the trash was picked up we realized there are people assigned to clean around downtown. For example, somebody has to come and pick up and replace the trash bags in Dogwood Park everyday. Sadly we couldn't figure out at what time we could directly help these people in doing their jobs since we didn't want to overflow the trash cans.



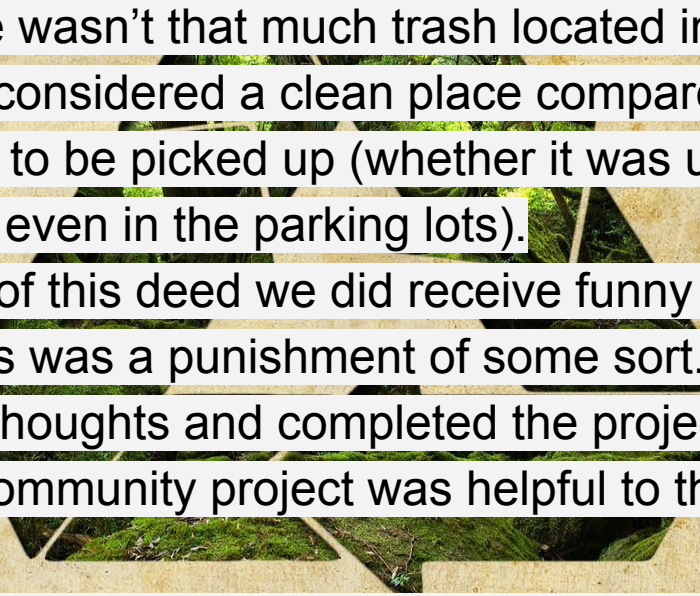
Animals can be harmed too by our litter/pollution!!!

# Harmful Effects of Trash

- Trash doesn't only make our Earth filthy, but consequently harms innocent animals
- Animals (like in the picture in Slide 6) can be seriously injured, poisoned, suffocation from floating or flying items, and in worst cases killed.
- When you litter there is a high chance an animal could eat it or be hurt by it.
- Trash also causes pollution and clutters the air with a stagnant and smelly smog.
- The same thing can be said about the environment being polluted and causing animals to migrate without its natural cause.
- This has been known to break ecosystems and jumble the food chain because of a lack of predators and/or prey.



# Conclusion

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- To be realistic, there wasn't that much trash located in Dogwood Park. The city of Cookeville is considered a clean place compared to the inner cities.
  - But, there was trash to be picked up (whether it was under the trash cans, along the creeks, or even in the parking lots).
  - Yes, while in action of this deed we did receive funny looks because they probably thought this was a punishment of some sort.
  - We ignored other's thoughts and completed the project
  - In conclusion, this community project was helpful to the community and needed.
  - There is always appreciation for good deeds in this world

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# Images



# Evidential Proof

