

May 19, 2006

Young people clean over 5,200 kilometres of highway

Participants fill over 29,000 bags with roadside garbage

Edmonton... The province's highways are much cleaner thanks to the efforts of 4,831 young Albertans and 3,273 adult supervisors.

"This year's annual cleanup was a great success," said Ty Lund, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation. "I thank all the young people and their supervisors for their efforts to make Alberta's highways look more presentable."

Volunteers from 329 clubs and non-profit community groups took part in the 30th annual highway cleanup day on May 6. Participants collected 29,661 bags of garbage from highway rights-of-way. If placed in single file, the bags would stretch the length of 144 football fields. Volunteers cleaned 5,266 kilometres of highway and collectively earned \$198,000 for their organizations.

Last year, over 5,000 young people from 347 clubs and organizations collected over 29,000 bags of garbage from over 5,900 kilometres of highway rights-of-way. Volunteers earned \$183,000 for their community groups.

Groups from all areas of the province were able to participate on May 6 and none were required to delay a week due to bad weather.

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