

What's in OUR water.....

Our **RiversAlive** Cleanup produced:

1,787 Items of Litter

Of this,

35% was Cigarette Litter

17% was Fast Food Wrappers and Cans

10% was plastic bottles and containers

The creeks feeding our city's drinking water produced other items such as exhaust pipes, pots, oil containers, washing machines, tires and a shopping cart.

Keep Barrow Beautiful's sponsorship of RiversAlive was held the month of October and had 60 participants. The focus of this year's event was our school children taking part in the ownership of our waters and educating them as to the importance of where they are in our "watershed". Sets of 13 posters received through Georgia Adopt-A-Stream were given to each school participating to illustrate why taking care of our water is so important to their health. Main cleanup participants were children from Holsenbeck Elementary, Winder-Barrow Middle School and Apalachee High School. The teachers who participated in educational opportunities and hand-on cleanup work, and to which I am very grateful, include:

- Lydia Countryman (Holsenbeck Elementary)
- Suzanne Wallin and Ann Ridgeway (WBMS)
- Angela Peterson (Apalachee High School)
- Debbie Waller (Alternative School)

Thanks are also given to the teachers aiding in this endeavor and parents dedicating their time and resources out of their busy schedule to ensure the safety and corralling of very excited children!

Not only were the following creeks cleaned, but a clear sampling of what kinds of garbage were the most prevalent was established. This data will be used to focus the educational component of Keep Barrow Beautiful's yearly goal on relevant issues facing our growth and habits.

- Cedar Creek
- Marburg Creek
- Williamson Creek
- Tributary to the Apalachee River

A complete list of litter cleaned from the waterways is available with Keep Barrow Beautiful. This event also is a part of the NPDES phase II requirements as listed under our Notice of Intent with the Environmental Protection Division.