

A Report – Collective Cleanliness for Oneness Drive 2019 – SNM USA

With the Grace of Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha ji, the Social Welfare Department is delighted to report that our annual SNM Cleanliness Drive reached epic proportions in the USA this year. As a coordinated effort, 13 SNM USA Branches took part during the period from September 29 - October 27th, 2019. Branch Coordinators reached out to their Parks & Recreation Departments to volunteer time serving their communities. A total of 376 SNM Volunteers of all ages worked for a total of 971 hours of Sewa participated at 18 different Locations. Some branches cleaned multiple parks in one day. Countless pounds of trash were collected and hundreds of trees planted. The sites included county parks, animal shelters, highways, and public beaches.

The Saints who participated received both spoken and unspoken thanks for their work.

"The park is home for many animals...When we cleaned the park, it felt as if we cleaned these animals' homes and protected them from the dangers of coming in contact with litter". - Nebraska

"It was a great bonding experience for all to work together for a cleaner and greener world". - Boston

"The cleaning event ended with the city park officers recognizing SNM efforts and saying our park looks great now!" - Los Angeles

"It was an amazing experience; not only did we clean the beach but the bonding among the Saints was awesome, singing prayers. Performing selfless Sewa, gave us so much satisfaction and pleasure." - St Maarten

"Cleanliness promotes the spiritual advancement. It enhances Spiritual health and at the same time keeps the ecological balance. As per the directions of Satguru, the devotees of the Mission consider "Service to Humanity as Service to God". - Raleigh, North Carolina

"It is always pleasure for young saints to do this kind of services. This noble cause Brings the most valuable skills which comprises of compassion, an open mind, Willingness to do whatever is needed, and a positive attitude." - Houston

"Mission received accolades for providing volunteers to do selfless Sewa to the local community. We got an opportunity to share mission's philosophy on doing Dhan Nirankar ji on each other's feet." - Tracy

"We pray to her holiness that we can continue our participation in events That helps to keep our community clean." - Washington DC

"Thank you so much for organizing this cleanup we really appreciate you all helping keep our parks clean and green!" - Chad Angell, Aurora City Parks Volunteer Coordinator - Denver, CO

"We pray to Nirankar that the way we have cleaned portion of this park, we can also do cleaning of our inner self by following footprints of Satguru Mataji" - SNM Seattle

"When we keep our environment clean, we keep our minds and hearts clean!" - Fort Lauderdale, Florida

"Gwinnett County Council were pleased with our efforts and were appreciating How volunteering is important for children". - Atlanta, GA

All agreed that doing this work, in keeping with the core message of our mission to serve humanity, was beneficial to all concerned. Many expressed the desire to continue this Sewa on a regular basis.

Here are the stats for Cleanliness Drive by Individual Branches:

St Maarten, - Sept 29th 2019 – Great Bay Beach

25 volunteers from ages 10 to 70 years old got together and cleaned a large portion of the beach. A small tropical storm brought a lot of weeds and garbage to the Great Bay Beach which is in center of town.

Chicago, Illinois – Sept 29th 2019 – Highway 59

30 volunteers provided total of 90 hours of cleaning Sewa. Highway – 59 is adopted by Chicago Branch for regular cleanings as and when required.

Los Angeles, California – Oct 5th 2019 Location – Multiple Parks

95 Volunteers, (80 SNM volunteers and 15 park-goers and friends) provided total of 190 hours of Cleaning Sewa. They picked up trash and fallen leaves, cleaned playgrounds, wiped tables and more. While out at these parks, the SNM volunteers also made it a point to meet with the park-goers who were not involved in cleaning and talk to them about each joining hands to take care of our communities.

Raleigh, North Carolina – Oct 6th 2019 - Multiple Locations

Community Hall & Harrington Grove Community Park

20 volunteers provided total of 60 hours of cleaning at the community hall and the adjoining park.

Washington, DC – Oct 6th, 2019 – Location – Pleasant Valley Road

15 volunteers provided total of 30 hours of cleaning time.

Atlanta, GA – Oct 6th, 2019 – Hurricane Shoals Rd NE

20 Youth and Bal-Sangat cleaned the road together, provided 40 hours of cleaning time and collected litter that was polluting the environment. The rest of the Atlanta Sangat took this opportunity to do a deep clean of the Satsang Bhawan and beautify the surrounding area of the Bhawan with new plants.

Boston, MA – Oct 06th 2019 – Revere Beach

40 volunteers from SNM-Boston provided total of 80 hours and cleaned the beautiful sands of Revere beach.

Seattle, Washington, Oct 12th 2019, Location Non-profit Organization "Farmer Frog"

30 volunteers provided total of 90 hours of cleaning Sewa. Mulched vegetables, harvested potatoes, broke apart wooden pallets for recycling.

Lincoln, Nebraska – Oct 12th 2019 – Holmes Lake Park

2 volunteers performed total 5 hours of Cleaning, picked up about 10 lbs of litter including plastic bottles, cans, plastic bags, toys, fishing gear, cans of food, etc.

Tracy, California – Oct 12th 2019 – Local Animal Shelter

45 volunteers with total of 200 Sewa hours, cleaned Local Animal Shelter. Weeded grounds, planted & mulched 150 trees and shrubs. Project ran under the supervision of head of Tracy Park and recreation department, Todd Rocha.

Denver, Colorado – Oct 19th 2019 – Multiple Parks

Aurora City Park & Spencer Garrett Park

19 volunteers provided total of 76 hours of cleaning two parks. Saints paired up in teams of two and picked up trash from the green belt including walkways and playgrounds.

Ft Lauderdale, Florida – Oct 19th 2019 – Betti Stradling Park

20 volunteers providing total of 60 hours, cleaned portions of the park and removed all the garbage from the grounds along with vegetative debris and dead palm fronds.

Houston, Texas – Oct 26th 2019 – Baylon Community Park

15 volunteers provided total 60 hours of cleaning time.