RESPECT THE CAN ANTI-LITTER PATCH

WAKE COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

(THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO ALL GIRLS SCOUT TROOPS IN THE GIRL SCOUTS-NC COASTAL PINES COUNCIL.)

PROGRAM INFORMATION

RESPECT THE CAN

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This patch program was designed to complement Wake County's Anti-Litter Outreach Campaign which aims to raise awareness about litter and encourage Wake County citizens to take an active role in making our County litter free.

So, what's the origin of 86it? The term means, "to get rid of something, to throw it out." And, it's a pretty cool way of asking someone to throw something away. To further the sentiment, we want all 86ers to show trash cans some respect, because they have feelings, too. And if the can isn't respected, the ground is disrespected. Let's Respect the Can.

OBTAINING THE PATCH

To earn the **Respect the Can Patch**, Girl Scouts will need to complete five out of ten activities, including one activity that is required. The activities are divided into three categories: "Understand the Issue," "Take Action," and "Educate Others." Girls must select at least one activity from each category to make up the five.

Leaders will need to submit the **Respect the Can** reporting sheet and patch order form to Wake County in order to receive the patch. Patches are provided free of charge while supplies last, courtesy of the Wake County Solid Waste Management Division. *Please review the reporting sheet prior to completing any activities.* Some activities require additional reporting (such as number of bags collected during clean up).

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ACTIVITIES

Complete 5 of the following 10 activities. You must select at least one activity from each category.

UNDERSTAND THE ISSUE

1. **Develop and conduct a survey** to learn what people think about litter in your community. Ask at least 5 questions and survey at least 5 people.

2. **Research the topic of litter** and learn how litter negatively impacts communities and the environment.

3. **Conduct an experiment** to learn how long it takes litter to decompose. One way to do this is to identify 3 types of litter, put them in 3 separate jars with moist soil and air, and observe the changes over a two week period.

TAKE ACTION

*4. Use the materials provided to **coordinate a litter clean-up event** for your troop in a highly littered area. Record information about your clean-up on the patch page. Please review the safety guidelines (included) before conducting the clean-up.

5. **Learn what types of litter are most common** by recording the different types of litter your troop collects during your clean-up event (e.g. fast food wrappers, plastic bags). You can decide on the categories of litter prior to the clean-up and add categories as needed during the clean-up.

6. If any of the litter you collected could be identified to a particular business (e.g. grocery store bag), **write a letter to that business** informing them of what you found and suggest ways they can encourage their customers to stop littering.

EDUCATE OTHERS

7. **Create a 30 second video** to encourage community members not to litter. Show your video to at least one community or peer group.

8. **Create an anti-litter poster** encouraging people not to litter and post it in your meeting area or other public place (with permission).

9. **Decorate and display** a trash can and/or recycling bin to bring awareness to the proper disposal of trash. Make sure the trash can is placed in a public area and that it will be emptied on a regular basis.

10. **Write a letter to a local government official** detailing your recent anti-litter activities and suggest ways to improve the litter situation in your community.

*Required

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REPORTING SHEET

RESPECT THE CAN

Troop # and Program Level:	County:
Troop Leader:	
Our Troop Used Kit # _____	
Were all of the materials listed in the contents found in the kit? Y/N If no, what was missing?	
Are there any items that need to be replaced due to wear and tear?	
Would you recommend this patch program to other troops? Why or why not?	

CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

1	Develop and conduct a survey
2	Research the topic of litter
3	Conduct an experiment
4	Coordinate a litter clean-up event Date: _____ Location:_____ Type of Clean Up (park, roadway ,etc.)_____ # of bags collected: _____ # of Participants: _____
5	Learn what types of litter are most common
6	Write a letter to a business *(Did you receive a response?)*
7	Create a 30 second video
8	Create an anti-litter poster
9	Decorate and display a trash can and/or recycling bin. If possible, include a picture.
10	Write to a local official *(Did you receive a response?)*

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PATCH ORDER FORM

RESPECT THE CAN

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF PATCHES:

_____ Girls + _____ Leaders (Max 2) = _____Total

MAIL PATCHES TO:

Name and Address:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

SHOUT OUTS!

We would like to recognize all of the troops that earn this badge on our website, Facebook page, and through our Twitter account with a post such as "Congratulations to Girl Scout Troop #123 for earning the Respect the Can Badge! Great job!" Or "Girl Scout Troop #456 cleaned up 6 bags in Smith Park to earn the Respect the Can Badge! Great Job!" Please initial below to indicate that we have your permission to recognize your troop (leave the line blank if we do not have your permission):

_____ Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/86itDotCom)

_____ 86it.com Website

_____ Twitter (@86it_DotCom)

Please also feel free to upload any pictures or videos to our Facebook page. Please **do not** identify any girls by first and last name in the caption.

RETURN THE REPORTING FORM AND ORDER SHEET TO:

Wake County Solid Waste
Anti –Litter Programs
7th Floor WCOB
PO Box 550
Raleigh, NC 27602

Fax: 919-743-4772, Attn: Anti-Litter Programs

Patches are available free of charge courtesy of the Wake County Division of Solid Waste Management, while supplies last.

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LITTER CLEAN UP KIT

RESPECT THE CAN

CONTENTS

1 Rolling Duffle Bag
24 Pairs of Gloves
24 Orange Safety Vests
12 Litter Grabbers
Garbage Bags
2 Nylon drawstring bags
Patch Program Booklet
Copies of the Reporting Form and Order Form

All contents must be returned EXCEPT used garbage bags and used forms

LITTER CLEAN-UP SAFETY TIPS

- Conduct litter clean-up during daylight hours
- Roadside Clean-ups: Do not pick up trash on the road or median, stay at least 5 feet from the edge of the roads, face oncoming traffic, look up often, No MP3 players.
- Wear proper clothing: long pants, closed-toe shoes (NO FLIP FLOPS), nothing that could impair vision or movement, appropriate for weather conditions.
- Do not work during inclement weather.
- Be alert for any venomous animals (i.e. snakes) or poisonous plants (i.e. poison ivy). Make sure that each person can identify a fire ant mound.
- Do not remove any hazardous materials or dead animals.
- Be alert for hidden objects in grassy areas that could be dangerous (i.e. broken glass, snakes).
- Do not attempt to crush trash in bags to make more room, this could result in injury.
- Always bring a first aid kit and know the location of the nearest hospital or urgent care facility.
- Provide adequate supervision for youth participants under age 18.
- Review Adopt A Highway Safety video at www.ncdot.org/~beautification
- **Establish safety rules and review with participants prior to clean-up.**

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