# Allegany County Library System Litter Kit Program

# **<u>CSX Community Service Grant</u>** Draft Application

Project Start Date 01/01/2026

Project/Program/Event Title Allegany County Library System Litter Kit Program

Requested Amount \$5,000

Is there a Non Tax Deductible Amount? No

**Total Project Budget** \$6,500

## **Project Budget Description**

Requested funds will be used to purchase litter cleanup supplies (reusable tote bags, gloves, trash grabbers, safety vests, and printed educational materials), as well as branding for kits and promotional signage. Funds will also support outreach efforts to schools and community groups and allow for a small number of kits to be distributed as keepable incentives for sustained litter reduction behavior.

## **Nature of Request**

This request supports a community beautification and civic engagement initiative that encourages individuals and families to actively reduce litter in Allegany County. The goal is to promote environmental responsibility through the distribution and checkout of litter kits at local libraries. This project will address visible litter issues while fostering a culture of shared stewardship. We aim to launch the program by Earth Day 2026 with at least 100 active users in the first year.

## **Program Website**

<u>https://www.alleganycountylibrary.info</u> (more project-specific information to be added prior to launch)

## **CSX Recognition**

CSX will be recognized in all promotional materials, including printed signage on the kits, press releases, our website, and social media posts. We would welcome the use of an official CSX logo and any preferred sponsor language to ensure alignment. Recognition will also be given at any associated cleanup events or launch celebrations.

#### **CSX** Involvement

We invite CSX team members to participate in our Earth Day 2026 launch event or host a volunteer day in collaboration with the library and community groups. We'd also love to collaborate on safety education and outreach around railroad-adjacent litter zones, if applicable.

#### **Additional Information**

Allegany County Library System has been a trusted community hub since 1934. Our locations serve both rural and underserved populations. This program builds on our successful history of loanable tools (Library of Things), safety resources (gun lock kits), and community health initiatives. The litter kits align with our mission to foster civic engagement and support public wellbeing. Early discussions with local partners such as municipal leaders, solid waste management, and environmental groups have been very positive. CSX's commitment to community investment, especially in environmental improvement, makes this an ideal partnership. We see strong potential for the program to grow regionally in future years with measurable impact.

#### Target Age- All

Adults 18–25 Adults over 25 Children

## **Ethnicity- All**

African American Caucasian Hispanic Native American Pacific Asian/Asian Indian/Middle Eastern Minorities in general Other

## **CSX Geographic Region**

CSX Mid-Atlantic Region (Allegany County, Maryland)

## Project Proposal

## Sample Litter Kit

Each Kit Contains:

- Reusable Tote (13 in) Value Grocery Tote 13" x 12" 106836-1312 : 4imprint.com
- Biodegradable Trash Bags OR 5 Gallon Bucket (Option <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>)
- Reusable Gloves (Option <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>, <u>4</u>, <u>5</u>)

- Trash Grabbers (<u>Options from Home Depot</u>)
- Safety Vests (Option <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>, <u>4</u>)
- Printed Educational Materials

**Potential Partners-** Frostburg Green Team, Frostburg Friends, Save the Westernport Library, GC Friends, Rocky Gap, City of Frostburg Parks and Recreation, City of Cumberland Parks and Recreation, C&O Canal, Great Allegheny Passage, Yaks and Tracks, Wheels Up, Runners Wings, FSU Sierra Club, Let's Beautify Cumberland, United Way, Town of Westernport, Town of Lonaconing

## Resources

Library Clean Up Kits - Keep Delaware Beautiful- Catalog Example, Follow Up Survey

Litter Clean Up Results Form

Litter Kit - Alpha Park Public Library

LOT Equipment binder example

Litter Cleanup Kit | Suffolk Library, VA

Talking Trash | American Libraries Magazine

Litter Kits — Keep Waco Beautiful

Sample Press Releases- Keep Suffolk Beautiful Revamps Library Litter Kit Program, Get Down and Clean Up

Responses from systems/ organizations currently implementing the program:

Keep Little Rock Beautiful / Website- http://www.keeplittlerockbeautiful.com/cals-litter-kits/

Little Elm Litter Kits

Joel from Findlay-Hancock County Public Library

Lincoln Library, RI- Sample Graphic

James City County- Website- https://www.jamescitycountyva.gov/3601/Litter-League