



**MEDIA CONTACTS**

[Andrew Cauthen](#)

Communications Manager

404-371-2806 (o)

470-553-4408 (c)

[Sarah Page](#)

Public Information Officer

404-371-2705 (o)

404-989-1386 (c)

[Suzanne Forte](#)

Public Information Officer

404-371-2709 (o)

470-512-0148 (c)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Operation Clean Sweep Nears 400 Tons Removed

*Final county department sweep Saturday, Nov. 4*

**DECATUR, Ga.** — Operation Clean Sweep's Phase I will culminate Saturday, Nov. 4, when DeKalb departments will hit the road one more time to remove litter, grass and dirt embedded along curbs. To date, Operation Clean Sweep crews have removed 391 tons of debris, 1,685 bags of loose litter and 51 piles of illegally-dumped material.



*Since March 11, DeKalb County employees are on the roads most Saturdays to “bump curbs,” hard work that includes shovels and skid-steer loaders, clearing curbs of debris.*

Operation Clean Sweep kicked off March 11 after the DeKalb Board of Commissioners approved the 2017 budget, which included \$2.6 million that CEO Michael Thurmond reallocated to fund the project. Prior to the initiative, DeKalb had not engaged in countywide roadway-drain debris removal in more than five years, resulting in drainage obstructions that restrict water from properly draining off the roads and into the storm sewers.

**(more)**

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*On May 13, county employees removed 20 tons of heavily embedded debris along Columbia Drive.*

On Nov. 4, Operation Clean Sweep will be on South Hairston Road between Rockbridge Road and Covington Highway. Motorists are advised to slow down and drive with caution around crews and equipment.

After county crews finish on Nov. 4, street sweeping and debris removal contracts will be used to continue the progress and maintain more than 2,000 miles of roads in DeKalb.

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