



Phase II Storm Water Program

Fall 2018

Help the Hooch 2018

This year's Help the Hooch cleanup comprised of 10,102 volunteers and removed 78,180 pounds of trash and debris from the Middle Chattahoochee River Watershed. The event is organized by the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission to improve aquatic habitat and the quality of our water resources. It also enhances the surrounding landscape by removing trash, car tires, and other debris. The two day tri-community event includes school campus cleanups and community cleanups held the following day. There is a Watershed Festival that follows and includes educational games and activities where children and other volunteers can learn more about the environment. Help the Hooch is the largest watershed cleanup in the area and has promoted environmental stewardship in our community for more than 24 years.



Volunteers separate trash and debris picked up during the cleanup.

Items were separated to determine the quantities for the different types of trash and debris.



Fun Facts

- Help the Hooch was a local partner of the Mill Creek Watershed Project that resulted in Mill Creek being removed from ADEM's 303(d) list.
- 10,545 pounds of shredded paper were collected in 2018.
- 2,125 pounds of shoes were collected in 2018.
- Some unusual items found during the 2018 cleanup include: car parts, fishing poles, wool socks, car radio, toy soldier, tiki lamp, stroller, shiny blue gem, i phone, toilet seat, metal bed frame, road sign, crock pot, Panama City key chain, and a heated mat from Korea.

Volunteers tally items collected along the Phenix City Riverwalk.

These tally sheets were turned in at the end of the cleanup.



Help the Hooch takes place each year on the second weekend of October. If you would like to be a part of this event next year information can be found online at:

www.columbusga.gov/KeepColsBeautiful