

My work in combatting illegal dumping and littering

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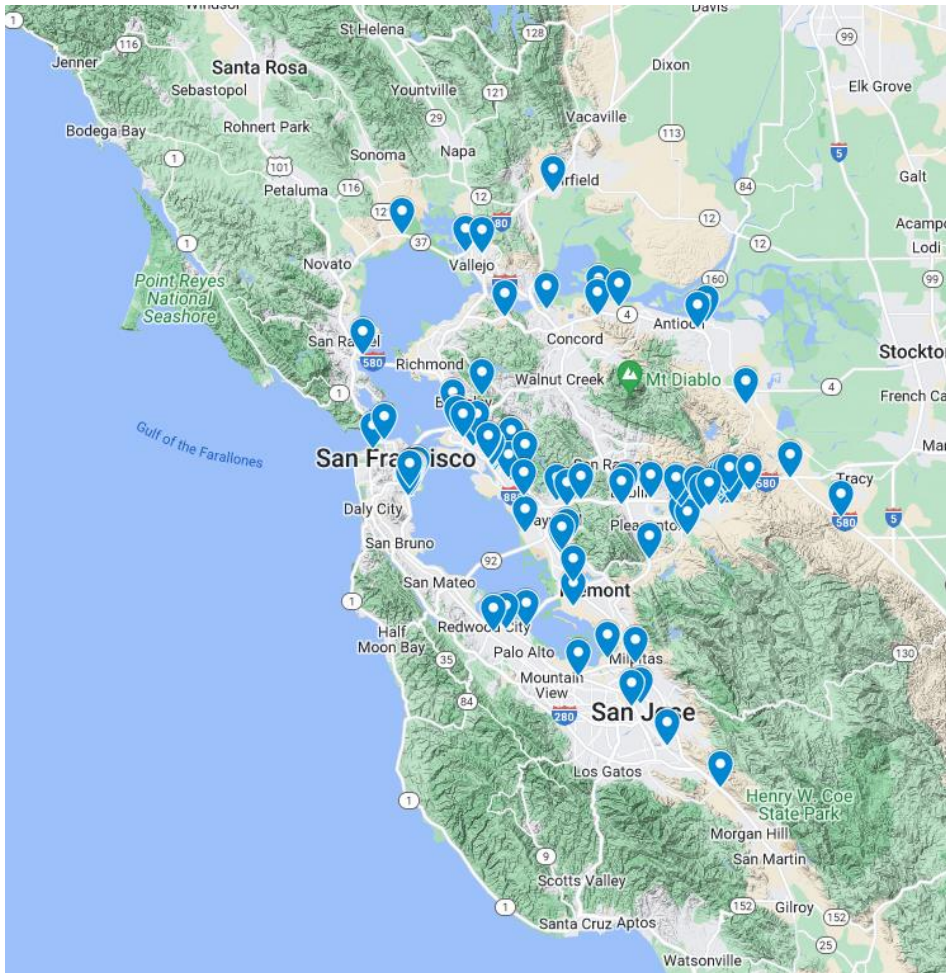
Introduction

1. Livermore resident for 3 years (2020 – present)
2. Electrical engineer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
3. Grew up in Colorado (2000 – 2018) before moving to California (2018 – present)
4. B.S from Colorado School of Mines
5. Masters from University of California, Berkeley



The view outside of the library I frequently studied at in Colorado. =)

One of my hobbies is to help beautify the Bay Area as much as I can.



1. My work has spanned across six different counties.
2. I primarily focus on street litter and illegal dumping sites.
3. I perform some research beforehand by viewing satellite imagery, reading news articles, and glancing at 311 requests.
4. I share timelapses and before/after pictures on Reddit and Instagram under the handle pengweather.

I have adopted various sites throughout the Bay Area.



1. SB I-880 / CA-84 (Thornton Ave)
2. SB I-880 / CA-84 (Dumbarton Bridge)
3. SB I-680 Grimmer to Mission

1. Coliseum Way
2. Oakport St.
3. Illegal dumping hot spots in East Oakland.



I tackle illegal dumping and littering, no matter how big and small they are.



My most difficult cleanup took place in Vallejo.



1. It is located at Route 37 and Wilson Ave.
2. It took 3 separate cleanups over a span of 1 month.
3. I collected 100+ bags of garbage (33 – 45-gallon bags).
4. Based on my estimates, this had an accumulation of a year's worth of garbage.
5. I last visited on February 2nd and it is still in very good shape.

These are the tools that I use.



Trash tongs



Clear 33 gallon bags (1.5 mil)



Leather gloves

Sharps container



Retractable rake



Straw broom

Industrial dustpan



5 gallon bucket



How do I cleanup the illegal dumping and littering?

1. I go slowly at first with my trash tongs.
2. I account for all hazardous waste.
3. As soon as I am certain that there are no more hazardous waste, then I use the rake and broom to scoop up large amounts of litter.
4. I do not bag up hazardous waste. I either put it in a special container or leave it along for Hazmat to manage.
5. I drop off the sharps at CVS in Livermore.
6. I take recyclables to recycling centers for some cash.



I have adopted the following measures to prevent the bags from being tampered with.

1. I use clear bags with 1.5 mil thickness so that contents can be seen.
2. I separate recyclables from waste.
3. I tape notice signs on the bags that encourage people to refrain from illegal dumping.
4. I place the bags at intersections or high-visible areas.
5. I immediately notify 311.

ILLEGAL DUMPING IS **COSTLY** TO TAXPAYERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

EL VERTIDO ILEGALES **COSTOSO** PARA LOS CONTRIBUYENTES Y EL MEDIO AMBIENTE.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FREE BULK PICKUPS.

APROVECHE LAS RECOGIDAS AL POR MAYOR GRATUITAS.



COMMUNITY CLEANUP LIMPIEZA COMUNITARIA

*DO NOT TAMPER WITH THE BAGS.
DO NOT DUMP HERE.*

*NO ABRA NI MANIPULE LAS BOLSAS.
NO TIRAR BASURA.*

REQUEST NUMBER:

DATE:

OTHER INFORMATION:

What do I hope to achieve through these cleanups?

1. Spreading awareness and educating people.
2. Inspiring action
3. Alleviating bottlenecks for 311.
4. Redirecting funds to other areas of concerns.
5. Showing the power of persistence.

I look forward to working with the City of Livermore to create a safe and healthy environment for everybody to thrive in.

1. Determining the best ways to engage the community in local environmental stewardship.
2. Focusing on ways to prevent illegal dumping through knowledge and resources.
3. Accentuating the financial, social, and personal benefits of a clean environment.
4. Fostering a positive atmosphere for residents to be proud of.

Thank you for attending and listening to my presentation!

Questions and comments?