

THE LAKE MERRITT INSTITUTE

A Center For Urban Runoff And Watershed Research

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VOLUNTEER LETTER

WE OVERCOME THE EVIL DEEDS OF BAD, DUMB, NASTY, LITTERBUGS: Littering costs Oakland (and every other large city) millions of dollars a year in tax money. So bad is the problem that six litter control officers work full time in Oakland to stem the tide of illegally dumped trash, abandoned cars, litter and junk. They dig through the debris, searching for names, addresses and other information that will lead them to the culprits.

In addition, street sweeper operators, lawyers that prosecute the cases, workers that clean out storm drains and countless volunteers work to keep our city clean. All because some scofflaws are too lazy and too cheap to dispose of it properly. They think the whole world is their private garbage can. If they don't care about the environment, why should we care about them?



Seven year veteran volunteer Bill Bardeen is shown here removing household items from the Lake. Included in his catch were: A bedspread, a sweater, a T-shirt, a magazine and one hard copy of the Hite Report on female sexuality.

You too can help overcome. Call 238-2290 to help clean Lake Merritt.

Or, join other programs of Oakland Public Works – Keep Oakland Beautiful, including: Adopt-A-Spot, Adopt-A-Creek, Community Clean-Ups, Maintain-A-Drain, Storm Drain Stenciling, and Daffodil Days.

SUMMARY FOR JUNE:

- 0.00 inches of rain
 - 2,620 pounds of trash
 - 133 people
 - 81 bags of trash.
 - Clean ups were conducted on 17 out of 30 days.

Amidst the goose feathers we removed a lawn chair, a stroller, only a few bits of widgeon grass, a parking meter, dozens of bottles and two orange traffic cones. But mostly it was feathers.

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