



shelby county  
**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

FOR RELEASE

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**Hickory Hill community cleanup highlights need for litter prevention while engaging voters with midterm candidates**

**Memphis, TN** – District 12 of the Shelby County Democratic Party (SCDP) will be hosting the Hickory Hill Spring Clean this Saturday, March 26 from 9am-1pm. SCDP has come together with the Teamsters Local 667, New Direction Christian Church, Power Center CDC, and Memphis City Beautiful in an effort to address litter and litter prevention efforts. Volunteers from these organizations, community residents, and midterm candidates will work together to clean up the Winchester business corridor. Deputy registrars will also be on hand to complete voter registration.

“The Shelby County Democratic Party is here to support local leaders in addressing what matters most to them and their districts,” says Gabby Salinas, SCDP Party Chair. “The party is committed to running a community-centered grassroots operation.”

With community reinvestment and property assessments on the rise, Salinas adds that “County Commission District 12 is making the case to elected officials and candidates why Hickory Hill is worth the ‘sweat equity’ and we fully support them in this effort.”

Hickory Hill Spring Clean will have candidates running for County Commission, District Attorney, Property Assessor, and School Board serving alongside residents in this community service.

Community organizer and SCDP District 12 Executive Committee woman Melonee Gaines wants projects like this to increase civic engagement in Hickory Hill. With no trash cans along business corridors on Winchester, Raines, and Shelby Drive, she says neighborhoods and commercial properties are overrun with trash that heaps into already clogged storm drains. Volunteers will be working with local businesses to complete their Memphis City Beautiful applications to sponsor a trash can with a solid care plan in place.

“Data is always important in how we address issues challenging our communities, but sometimes you need the eyes of leaders and ‘boots on the ground’ to really see how a problem snowballs in a community,” she says. “We need solutions for the humans that live in this community, not pandering.”

Data shows that trash cans reduce unsettled trash and can prevent public health issues, but if left unchecked, the problem evolves. With a five year average of nearly [23 tons of litter](#) picked up monthly from roads and bridges, Memphis city government recently adopted the [Litterati](#) app as a means to reduce litter and illegal dumping. Volunteers will be utilizing the app to increase data metrics for Hickory Hill.

“It’s counterintuitive in thinking marginalized communities don’t need litter prevention as they have a higher chance of lacking access to trash cans and need timely recourse for illegal dumping on roads, bridges, and underpasses.”

She adds, “We want to create an accountability partnership with local businesses who want to do business in our community while also addressing the need for keeping their commercial properties up to code. Let’s all feel good about where we live, work, and play.”

**A Hickory Hill Community Coalition** **NEW DIRECTION**

Local 667 POWER CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SC DP shelby county DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEMPHIS CITY BEAUTIFUL

# hickory hill spring clean

March 26, 2022 | 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Register to volunteer

Meet at New Direction Christian Church parking lot

Trash pickup along Winchester @ Ridgeway, Ridge Meadow Pkwy, Lichterman Rd., & Hickory Hill and Eden Square

Family-friendly with tools, water, & snacks provided

Voter Registration | Midterm Election Candidate Meet & Greet