



**MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Sarah Johnson
Safe Yakima Drug Free Action Team Youth Coalition
Tel: 509-248-2021 x114
Email: safe@yakima.org

**Safe Yakima Valley Joins with Local Partners to
Host 2020 Keepin' It Safe Neighborhood Cleanup**

YAKIMA, WASH – September 9, 2020 – September is National Neighbor Month, and Safe Yakima Valley is working with local partners and businesses to sponsor a 2020 COVID-safe Neighborhood Cleanup.

We invite the community to join us in cleaning up Yakima County neighborhoods Sept 11-28. A clean neighborhood is a safe neighborhood. And a safe neighborhood creates a space where neighbors reach out to communicate and help each other. We're launching the 2020 cleanup on September 11, and concluding it on September 28, National Good Neighbor Day.

COVID has changed our world this year. The 2020 Safe Yakima Valley Neighborhood Cleanup is making a big difference and doing it safely! Instead of gathering large groups of people for one day to address garbage in one neighborhood, the 2020 version expands county wide and lasts 18 days to give families and individual residents an opportunity to walk through their own neighborhoods, picking up debris found along their chosen path.

KFFM Radio DJ, Sarah J, will be drawing for prizes on the radio September 29 and 30 in the 3:00pm hour, to residents who choose to participate and meet the guidelines. Drawing items include: Ray-Ban sunglasses and other lifestyle gifts from Hogback Development, weekend get-always, meals, haircuts, coffee cards, a state-of-the-art Kingston gaming prize pack, and more.

Please be mindful of your surroundings. Follow #maskuptoopenup guidelines by wearing masks, gloves and following social distancing of 6-feet for those outside your household. "Safety is our top concern. Youth should only participate with a parent, guardian or older sibling. Some debris can have sharp or messy surfaces, so approach with caution and

please ask an adult for help. Please take a disposable bag with you and when it is full, dispose of it properly," says Becky Shelton, Chair of the Safe Yakima Drug Free Action Team Youth Coalition.

The 2020 Keepin' It Safe Neighborhood Cleanup invites residents to walk through any Yakima County neighborhood, picking up trash and debris.

Join us in making the Yakima Valley safer and more beautiful. And in the process, enter to win awesome prizes at www.SafeYakimaValley.org

About Safe Yakima Valley

Safe Yakima Valley is a Yakima-based not-for-profit organization, dedicated to improving and safeguarding our community. Through outreach, education and special events, we strive to highlight what's best about the Yakima Valley and create positive change throughout our beautiful community. Safe Yakima Valley mobilizes individual citizens, families, neighborhoods, and organizations in collaborative efforts to create safer communities. For more information call 509-248-2021 x114 or email safe@yakima.org