

Establish a KAB Affiliate in Your Community

Since 1953, Keep America Beautiful (KAB) has sought to end littering, improve recycling, and beautify America's communities through tested, practical methods for education and hands-on stewardship. The Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation became the first-ever state affiliate in 1978, and we support local programs from Union County to Savannah.

Program affiliates create meaningful, positive, and lasting change in their communities by innovatively addressing local needs. Recent studies show that KAB affiliates reduce litter in their communities by an average of **48**% after an initial three-year period. They also realize an average of **\$11.45** in benefits for every public dollar invested in their programs. Read on to discover how you can establish a KAB affiliate in your community and become part of our network in Georgia.

Step 1: Gain Community Support

Complete an Application for Certification

The process begins with your sponsoring organization or local government applying to KAB on behalf of your community. This includes a letter from your highest-ranking public official(s) endorsing the formation of a local KAB affiliate.

Payment of a One-Time Certification Fee

Along with your application, you will submit a one-time certification fee to KAB. The exact amount corresponds with the size of your community's population and supports the initial development of your affiliate, including a daylong pre-certification training workshop and a field visit from a KAB national trainer who will assist your local leaders and officially certify your program.

Population Size	One-Time Certification Fee
0-7,500	\$1,500
7,501-15,000	\$2,500
15,001-50,000	\$3,500
50,000 +	\$4,500
Migration	\$1,500*

^{*}Existing organizations may qualify to submit an application using the Migration process. Please contact us for further details.

Community Support

During this stage, you will also select a team leader who will act as primary contact during the establishment of your KAB affiliate. You will also invite representatives from local government, businesses, and the community at large to complete your precertification team.

Step 2: Pre-Certification

Pre-Certification Workshop

Once you form your pre-certification team, you will attend a daylong training workshop to learn how to adapt KAB's methods to your community. A KAB trainer will give your team step-by-step instruction and materials to complete the certification process.

Complete Keep America Beautiful Certification Requirements

After the workshop, your pre-certification team must complete the following certification requirements:

- Invite community leaders to serve on your board of directors, committee, or commission
- Secure an executive director.
- Meet administrative needs
- Complete KAB's fact gathering studies, community appearance index, and litter/solid waste survey

Step 3: Certification

Certification Training

Upon completion of certification requirements, a KAB trainer and your KAB state affiliate leader (if applicable) will travel to your community to conduct a certification meeting and training for your executive director and newly formed board of directors, committee, and/or commission members. They will also provide guidance in setting program goals for your first year and officially certify your affiliate by performing a public ceremony.

Maintaining Certification

Once you become a certified affiliate, you are required to demonstrate program quality by submitting reports to KAB twice per year. Your executive director should keep accurate records and provide KAB with statistics regarding program efforts and community involvement in affiliate activities. All affiliates must calculate an annual cost/benefit analysis using KAB's basic formula and conduct litter index measurements each year. Directors must also receive six hours of professional training and pay an annual network service fee based on population size.

Population Size	Annual Fee*	Population Size	Annual Fee*
0 - 7,500	\$60	75,001 - 150,000	\$345
7,501 - 15,000	\$115	150,001 - 500,000	\$400
15,001 - 30,000	\$170	500,001 - 1 million	\$460
30,001 - 50,000	\$230	Over 1 million	\$575
50,001 - 75,000	\$285		

^{*}The annual fee goes into effect the year following certification.

Additionally, Georgia has an annual state network service fee of **\$255**. This entitles your affiliate to receive grants from the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation, electronic newsletters, special pricing for state conferences, and more.

Interested in Beginning the Application Process? Contact Us First.

We welcome the opportunity to speak with you about the KAB framework and provide you with further information about the application process. We are also available to present information to your local officials and community leaders.

Call us at 404-679-4910 or send us an email at natalie.johnstonrussell@kgbf.org.