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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keep America Beautiful Recognizes Pennsylvania Environmental Officer with National Law Enforcement Award

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Ranger Todd Ottinger Receives

STAMFORD, Conn. (Jan. 23, 2018) – Keep America Beautiful, the nation's iconic community improvement nonprofit organization celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2018, presented Edward "Todd" Ottinger, a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Ranger, with a 2017 Environmental Officer Award at Keep America Beautiful's National Awards Ceremony. The National Awards were presented during Keep America Beautiful's recent National Conference in Dallas, Texas.

The Keep America Beautiful Law Enforcement Awards recognize law enforcement professionals who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community service in their approaches to enforcement of environmental laws and regulations. Receiving the other Law Enforcement Award was Richard E. Moore, a constable for St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

Ottinger is a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Ranger at the Michaux State Forest District #1. The DCNR rangers are responsible for interpreting rules, regulations, laws, and policies that cover 2.2 million acres of state maintained forest lands. Ottinger, working with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful (KPB), learned how to use DCNR surveillance cameras and, in a few short months, he and other DCNR Rangers garnered more than 40 prosecutions.

In addition, Ottinger has been requested by local nonprofit foundation PA Parks and Forest to advise it on approximate reparations for crimes committed on state forest land to allow for appropriate restitution when community service is not approved. This educational tool is currently in use by PA Parks and Forests as well as KPB. He works alongside volunteers and youth groups to clean up roadside litter and large-scale dumping in state forests as part of the Great American Cleanup. Ottinger also worked with local District Justices to use community service as restitution for illegal activities committed against Pennsylvania's natural resources. As a result of the many prosecutions from Todd's dedicated work, KPB recognized Todd for an "Enforce It!" award in early 2017.

"Development and enforcement of written expectations – ordinances and policies – continue to be central to Keep America Beautiful's Behavior Change System," said Keep America Beautiful Vice President Litter & Affiliate Relations Cecile Carson in presenting the

award. "Our Law Enforcement Award recognizes the importance of law enforcement professionals as partners of our community-based affiliates in keeping our communities clean, green and beautiful."

Ottinger was one of more than 80 individuals and organizations from communities across America to receive national recognition. Keep America Beautiful's National Awards recognize the passion, dedication and impact of Keep America Beautiful's affiliates from across the nation as well as partner organizations and individuals who share Keep America Beautiful's vision of a country in which every community is a clean, green and beautiful place to live.

For a complete list of National Awards recipients, click [here](#).

The Keep America Beautiful National Conference, its premier educational and networking event, brings together nearly 400 leaders from Keep America Beautiful's national network of affiliates, business leaders, policymakers and other experts who shared innovative ideas and proven strategies to help End Littering, Improve Recycling, and Beautify America's Communities.

The 2018 Keep America Beautiful National Conference was made possible through the support of some of America's leading companies, including: Leadership Sponsors – Altria, Lowe's, Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, SC Johnson, A Family Company and Wrigley Company Foundation; Stewardship Sponsors – Anheuser-Busch, Carton Council, Pratt Industries – Recycling Division and Steel Recycling Institute; Strategic Sponsors – Dr Pepper Snapple Group and Owens-Illinois, Inc.; Supporting Sponsors – Dipjar, insurance Auto Auctions, Inc. – Donation Division and Irio. Scholarships are provided by Altria, Dr Pepper Snapple Group, Southwest Airlines and Wrigley Company Foundation.

About Keep America Beautiful

Keep America Beautiful, the nation's iconic community improvement nonprofit organization, inspires and educates people to take action every day to improve and beautify their community environment. Celebrating its 65th Anniversary in 2018, Keep America Beautiful strives to End Littering, Improve Recycling and Beautify America's Communities. We believe everyone has a right to live in a clean, green and beautiful community, and shares a responsibility to contribute to that vision.

Behavior change – steeped in education, research and behavioral science – is the cornerstone of Keep America Beautiful. We empower generations of community and environmental stewards with volunteer programs, hands-on experiences, educational curricula, practical advice and other resources. The organization is driven by the work and passion of more than 600 Keep America Beautiful affiliates, millions of volunteers, and the collaborative support of corporate partners, social and civic service organizations, academia, municipalities, elected officials, and individuals. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#). Donate and take action at [kab.org](#).

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