



May 6, 2026

MDOC shows community engagement through inmates cleaning highways and roadways

COVINGTON COUNTY, Miss. (WDAM) - State inmates are helping keep Covington County free of litter. A new inmate litter removal program is underway in that county.

It's the result of a partnership that includes Covington County, the Mississippi Department of Corrections and the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Non-violent state inmates who are housed in the Covington County Jail will pick up litter across the county. MDOT is providing trash bags, pick-up tools, and other resources.

"(MDOT will) give the (attending) officer reimbursement, \$15 an hour for his participation for making sure the inmates are treated fairly and correct and they're safe, and they also give us 72 cents a mile for transportation," Covington County Sheriff Darrell Perkins said.

Perkins says the folks at Southern Pine Electric also fixed up a trailer that is being used to haul the trash.

MDOC inmates are also on litter pick up duty in Madison County.

The inmate work crew from the Madison County Community Work Center and the supervisory staff helped to beautify a Jackson community by removing a substantial amount of trash, debris, and bulky waste.

The MDOC supported the Spring Community Clean-up in the Jayne Avenue neighborhood on April 18 at the request of House District 68 Rep. Zakiya Summers. The MDOC thanks Rep. Summers for her letter of appreciation.

"Beyond the physical transformation, this partnership represents something deeper - an opportunity for service, restoration, and community connection," Rep. Summers said in the

letter. "We are grateful for the professionalism of your team and the spirit in which this work was carried out."

