

May 5, 2021

Dear Council and staff of the Municipality of West Grey,

For at least the past two year my now 10 year old son, Oshun, has been doing his bit to clean up our community. I don't know why he started, but likely from him seeing his parents always picking up the garbage at the side of our road as we went for walks. In any case, about two years ago now he began a campaign to clean up our community. He started by taking a large bag out on walks and filling it up with whatever he saw on the side of the road. Then he started recruiting his friends (before COVID), thus when friends came over, they would both take a walk with a large bag and collect garbage. He has continued this routine, more in the spring and summer for obvious reasons, he now brings two bags, one for beer cans that were thrown from cars (having his parents needing to explain to him not only about the issues with littering but also about the risks and concerns around drinking and driving), and one for garbage/recycling. He then will bring the bags back to our home, divide up the garbage and recycling for disposal and arrange to have the beer cans/bottles returned for deposit - which he then deposits in his bank account.

Below is a photo of Oshun with his bags. I wanted to let our Council members know about what my son is doing for our community. In addition, hopefully (maybe) those that throw their garbage out the window or drinking and driving on the back roads around Durham will rethink their behaviour and what that shows our young about our community.

Sincerely,  
Susan Batten

Durham, ON, N0G 1R0

