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## **Snohomish County’s Litter Wranglers Clean Nearly 500 Road Miles, Collect More Than 3,400 Bags Of Litter During 2023 Season**

*Litter Wranglers scheduled to return in spring for the 2024 season*

**EVERETT, Wash., November 21, 2023** – They see it all over Snohomish County: piles of garbage along with shopping carts, mattresses, broken chairs -- things that belong in the transfer station and not on the sides of roads. From April to October, the Litter Wranglers collected those items and more than 3,400 bags of trash alongside nearly 500 miles of county roadsides.

“We know our residents and visitors expect us to keep our roadways as clean as possible, since they take us to **some of** the most spectacular places on the planet,” said Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers. “Through six seasons, the Litter Wranglers have helped maintain the natural beauty of Snohomish County. I continue to be impressed by the problem-solving skills of our staff and their commitment to making a difference every single day.”

Snohomish County Public Works maintains more than 1,600 road miles throughout the unincorporated areas of the county. The Litter Wranglers started as a pilot program staffed by seasonal Solid Waste division employees in 2017 to collect and bag roadside litter for the road maintenance crews to pick up. This enables road maintenance to stay focused on maintaining and repairing vital infrastructure, saving both time and money. The crew wasn’t activated in 2020 due to COVID restrictions.

“The Litter Wranglers is among the most popular programs in the county,” Snohomish County Public Works Director Kelly Snyder said. “County residents are so generous with their praise for our crews. These employees have such a positive impact on our communities.”

Since its inception, the Litter Wranglers have collected more than 28,000 bags of litter from county roadways.

The five-person crew has been aided by Snohomish County residents calling and emailing about locations with excessive litter. The Litter Wranglers have been able to respond within less than a week to reported locations. The program is scheduled to return in Spring 2024.

For more information about the Litter Wranglers, visit [www.snohomishcountywa.gov/litter](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/litter).

### **About Snohomish County Public Works**

Snohomish County Public Works is responsible for approximately 1,600 miles of county roads, more than 200 bridges and manages about 200 traffic control signals. The department also processes nearly 600,000 tons of garbage per year. Its mission is to focus on safety and mobility while practicing fiscal responsibility and preserving the environment. Public Works has won numerous state and national honors for its work and is the

largest department within Snohomish County government with approximately 500 employees plus seasonal staff. Its main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201. Visit [www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks) or follow the department on [Facebook](#) and [X](#) (formerly Twitter) for more information about Snohomish County Public Works.

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