

Quarterly Newsletter



ISSUE #14

APCCI

Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative

APR-MAY-JUN 2026



A Summer of Volunteering and Community Action

This summer, Pune witnessed an extraordinary display of community spirit and environmental stewardship. Students enjoying their summer break and young professionals dedicating their weekends came together to organize and participate in cleanliness drives across riversides, hills, streets, and other public spaces.

APCCI proudly participated in more than 50 cleanliness drives during the season. These efforts included clean-up campaigns, post-marathon cleanup activities, and plogging events that combined fitness with environmental action.

Together, volunteers removed significant amounts of litter, restored cleanliness public spaces,

and spread awareness about responsible waste disposal and sustainable living.

What makes these achievements truly special is the enthusiasm of citizens who chose to invest their time and energy in creating a cleaner city. Their commitment reflects a growing culture of civic responsibility and collective action. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to every volunteer, partner, and supporter who made this summer a season of meaningful impact and positive change.

Team apcci

In this newsletter

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Info Corner

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Social Media

World Environment Day



Manjari Khurd Cleanliness Drive



Cleanliness drive organised by Manjari Khurd Gram Panchayat, Maher Sanstha, Sagar Uday patil Yuva Manch at Manjari Khurd on 5th June 2026.

Fauji Hills Cleanliness Drive

Cleanliness and plantation drive organised by Station Health Organisation at Fauji Hills to mark the World Environment Day on 5th June.



Viman Nagar Cleanliness Drive

Citizens along with APCCI and PMC staff members participated in a cleanliness drive at Viman Nagar.



Tanpura Bridge Cleanliness Drive

Cleanliness drive Organised by PMC team members and Symbiosis University



How Youngsters Are Transforming the Landscape of Cleanliness Volunteering

For Ojas Pathak, Founder of Ecoforce, the journey began with a deep passion for conserving biodiversity on hills. However, he soon realised that true conservation is impossible without addressing the growing problem of waste. The constant littering on natural landscapes became a pressing concern—one that demanded action, not just intent.

In December 2024, he embarked on an independent research journey. Over the next thirteen months, he explored not just environmental concerns, but also the economics and psychology behind waste management. His approach went beyond clean-up drives to include segregation, recycling, and building a sustainable system. The outcome was a clear, actionable roadmap—from formally registering an NGO to implementing structured on-ground solutions.

This spirit of purpose-driven action resonated strongly at the Clean City Talks organised by the Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI). The 13th session brought together four youth-led organisations—Together India Foundation, Ecoforce, Cleanup Pune, and MyPrakriti—each showcasing their unique efforts towards a cleaner Pune.



Among them, Raj Choksey drew inspiration from his time in France, where he observed disciplined waste management practices. Encouraged by his mother to lead by example, he returned with a renewed sense of purpose. Today, his organisation, Together India, regularly conducts clean-up drives across the city.

Similarly, Dilip Shinde is working towards decentralising clean-up efforts by creating local “waste champions” to ensure long-term sustainability. Ayush Jagtap, Co-Founder of MyPrakriti, has been relentlessly organising drives across hills, streets, and public spaces—transforming awareness into consistent action.

What stands out across these initiatives is a shift in mindset. Today's youth are not merely raising concerns—they are investing time in research, understanding systems, and building scalable solutions.

This new wave of young changemakers is moving beyond complaints and problem statements. Armed with knowledge, empathy, and determination, they are leading with action and creating sustainable impact on the ground. Their journey reflects a powerful truth—when young voices take charge with clarity and commitment, cities don't just improve, they transform.

Why Waste Management Should Be Part of Student Induction Programs

A strong induction program plays a vital role in shaping young minds by helping students understand real-world challenges, responsibilities, and opportunities beyond the classroom. It is during these early interactions that students begin to connect academic learning with social responsibility and civic awareness.

As part of this vision, Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI) recently participated in the student induction program at Keystone School of Engineering on Wednesday, 25 March 2026. Malhar Karwande, COO, APCCI, interacted with students on the theme “Urban India: Cleaner, Greener and Healthier.” He emphasized the vital role that citizens and institutions play in effective waste management and in building clean, sustainable cities.

Including waste management in induction programs is important because it creates early awareness about environmental responsibility. It encourages students to think beyond textbooks and understand how daily habits, community participation, and informed action can contribute to a healthier society. Such sessions inspire young learners to become responsible citizens who support cleanliness, sustainability, and long-term urban well-being.

The presence of Dr. Sandeep Kadam, Principal of Keystone School of Engineering, along with Sagar Rajebhosale, Sharvari Kulkarni, Dr. Vineeta Shukla, and Nilesh Ramekar, reflected the shared commitment toward nurturing environmentally conscious future leaders.



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Health Dialogue to Promote Well-being Among Waste Warriors

The health and well-being of waste warriors are essential to building cleaner, healthier, and more resilient cities. Reinforcing its commitment to the welfare of its workforce, the Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI) recently organized a special Health Dialogue for its waste warriors, supervisors, and staff members in collaboration with the Directorate of Health Services and the Public Health Department.

Around 650 waste warriors, supervisors, and staff members participated in the programme, which focused on raising awareness about preventive healthcare and encouraging healthier lifestyle choices.

The session underscored the importance of making health a priority through conscious daily decisions. Health experts emphasized that maintaining good health requires a balanced lifestyle, nutritious food, regular physical activity, keeping weight in check, avoiding harmful habits, and giving equal importance to mental fitness and strong family bonds. Participants received valuable guidance on preventive healthcare and overall well-being.

The programme was graced by Chief Guest Dr. Kailas Bawiskar, Deputy Director, State Health Education and Communication Department, Government of Maharashtra. Other distinguished speakers included Dr. Hemant Joshi, Paediatrician; Dr. Uday Chavan, Representative, Mahatma Phule Jan Arogya Yojana; Dr. Satish Tajne, State Lead – Maharashtra, PATH; and Dr. Jathar, Assistant, Arogya Bhavan.

The experts shared practical health insights and encouraged participants to adopt healthier habits in their daily lives. They also explained the benefits of the Ayushman Bharat Health Insurance Scheme, followed by a camp to facilitate the issuance of Ayushman Bharat Health Insurance cards.



A Decade of Cleanliness: How APCCI's Battery Operated Suction Litter Picker (Glutton) is maintaining cleanliness of Pune's Streets

Completing a decade of dedicated service, The Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative(APCCI) has evolved into a technology-driven public-private partnership that has redefined how cities can collaborate, innovate, and engage citizens to create cleaner, healthier urban spaces. Among its many unique initiatives and modern machines, the Battery Operated Suction Litter Picker (Glutton) has emerged as a prominent symbol of modern waste management and is now a familiar sight on the streets of Pune, sparking curiosity among residents.

Designed to efficiently collect small waste such as wrappers and roadside dry litter , the Glutton machine enables quick and effective cleaning of footpaths and public spaces. Unlike traditional manual sweeping, it uses suction technology to pick up litter with greater precision and speed, ensuring cleaner surroundings in high-footfall urban areas. As part of APCCI's larger fleet of over 275 machines covering hundreds of kilometres daily, such equipment significantly enhances operational efficiency. The impact of these machines goes beyond cleanliness. By reducing visible waste, they contribute to cleanliness, more aesthetically pleasing city environment and in turn better public health. Importantly, they also change citizen behaviour—cleaner streets encourage responsible waste disposal and civic pride. For waste warriors it is one of the best, safest and user-friendly tools.

APCCI's integration of such advanced machines reflects a shift toward scalable, sustainable urban solutions. In rapidly growing cities like Pune, where waste generation is increasing, innovations like the Glutton machine demonstrate how technology, when combined with community participation, can create cleaner, greener, and healthier urban spaces for all.



Mission Sustainable Marathons



**LSOM (Last Sunday of Month)
Marathon Kothrud**



**Maharashtra Mission Marathon Baner-Pashan
Link Road**



Vrukshathon



Lokraja Marathon - Pune Chapter



**Runs N Miles marathon organised
by Run to Reborn**



Cleanliness Drives



Cleanliness Drive at Manjari-Mundhwa Keshavnagar Road



Cleanliness Drive at BPT Seva - Pashan Sus Road



Cleanup drive organised by Theur Citizens Group at Moraya Gosavi Temple Road



Cleanliness Drive organised by Reform Social Welfare Foundation near Kirti Garden side, Pashan



Cleanliness Drive organised by Together India at Kharadi



Cleanliness Drive organised by MyPrakriti at Vetat Tekdi

Cleanliness Drives



Cleanliness Drive organised by Pune Ploggers group on the hill near FC college



Cleanliness Drive organised by Janwani, PMC, Swachh and APCCI at a chronic spot Manjari



Cleanliness Drive organised by Theur Grampanchayat at Theur



Cleanup drive organised by Panchavati Cleanliness Notice Board at Panchavati Garden Tekdi in Pashan



Cleanliness Drive organised by funsmart knowledge foundation at Aundh



Cleanliness drive organised by Vikrant Singh and team Inquilab Jayate, PMC and citizens of Katraj area at Katraj Ghat



BLOG

World Environment Day: Practical Steps Every Citizen Can Take to Reduce Waste and Protect the Environment

June 05, 2026

The environmental challenges facing India are becoming increasingly visible. From prolonged heatwaves and erratic rainfall to water scarcity, urban flooding, and growing pollution, the effects of climate change are now part of everyday life. Alongside these challenges, the country is also grappling with rising waste generation, with large quantities of plastic and mixed waste ending up in landfills, rivers, and public spaces. While policy changes and large-scale interventions are necessary, meaningful change also begins at the individual level. Simple, consistent actions adopted by millions of people...

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Earth Day 2026: Each one of us has a role to play

April 22, 2026

World Earth Day is celebrated every year on 22 April and reinforces a powerful global message—our everyday choices shape the future of our planet. The Earth Day 2026 theme is 'Our Power, Our Planet,' which emphasizes accelerating the global transition to renewable energy and leveraging collective grassroots action for environmental protection. Among the most pressing environmental challenges today is poor waste management. Overflowing landfills, plastic pollution, and untreated waste are contaminating soil, water, and air, directly impacting ecosystems and human health. When waste is...

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A Decade of Cleanliness: How APCCI's 'Glutton' is maintaining cleanliness of Pune's Streets

April 17, 2026



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Why Waste Management Should Be Part of Student Induction Programs

April 10, 2026



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Summers- the best time for volunteering activities

May 19, 2026

Volunteering organisations have made the most of summers with back-to-back weekend cleanliness drives, turning early mornings into purposeful community action. Groups across Pune have been actively engaging citizens. This year APCCI participated in initiatives led by organisations like MyPrakriti, BPT Seva, Together India, and CleanUp India. Summer in Pune is often seen as a time to slow down with vacations, but it can also be the most powerful season to give back. With clear skies, it's the perfect opportunity to step outdoors and contribute to cleanliness drives across the city—from the...

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International Biodiversity Day 22 May : Protecting Nature Begins at Home

May 22, 2026



Every year, International Biodiversity Day reminds us that nature is not separate from our lives—it is the foundation of our survival. Clean air, fresh water, fertile soil, forests, rivers, birds, insects, and wildlife together create the balance that supports human life. However, increasing pollution and poor waste disposal are putting this biodiversity under serious threat. One of the biggest contributors to environmental damage is unmanaged waste. Plastic waste thrown on roads, in...

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How Youngsters Are Transforming the Landscape of Cleanliness Volunteering

May 06, 2026



For Ojhas Pathak, Founder of Ecoforce, the journey began with a deep passion for conserving biodiversity on hills. However, he soon realised that true conservation is impossible without addressing the growing problem of waste. The constant littering on natural landscapes became a pressing concern—one that demanded action, not just intent. In December 2024, he embarked on an independent research journey. Over the next thirteen months, he explored not just...

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