


[Home](#) | [Customer Service](#)Find it: [Cars](#) | [Jok](#)

StatesmanJournal.com

PCW

Statesman Journal

Newspaper archive powered by [Archive Search](#) > [Buy](#) > [Print](#)[» New Search](#) [» Pricing](#) [» Help](#) [» FAQ](#)[Return to results](#) [Printer Friendly](#)

Account Information

You have purchased articles, and you have remaining before the subscription expires on .

April 19, 2008

Section: Mid-Valley

Page: 1C

Groups make clean sweep

Dennis Thompson Jr.

By Dennis Thompson Jr.

Statesman Journal

Mary Hadley and Andrea Cantu lifted a heavy cast-iron grate out of a round tree well in a Liberty Street sidewalk downtown, while Katie Rayfield started picking out the cigarette butts and weeds that had accumulated beneath.

"I wouldn't have been as gung-ho about this if I didn't have the gloves," Rayfield said, referring to the plastic gloves she donned for the task.

Cantu nodded her agreement.

"It makes you think twice of where you throw your gum," she said.

The three Willamette University students were part of a coordinated cleanup effort Friday morning in downtown Salem.

More than 40 people worked outward from the intersection of Liberty and Court streets, sweeping and picking up trash and pulling weeds.

The cleanup was sponsored by Salem **Young Professionals**, Willamette University and GoDowntown, a business group formed to market and improve the city core.

"We want a vibrant downtown, so we decided to roll up our sleeves and make a difference," said Krista Noland, chairwoman of the Salem **Young Professionals'** Action! Team.

Clear and dry weather aided the cleanup, allowing the volunteers to sweep the streets easily. However, it was a chilly morning that left fingers a tad numb.

The group met at the corner of Liberty and Chemeketa about 8 a.m. and, after a few speeches, broke into four teams that each initially were assigned two blocks.

The Willamette students were taking part in the cleanup as part of their Brownwater Regatta, a weekend of activities before finals that includes a public service project, said Debra Ringold, dean of the university's Atkinson Graduate School of Management.

The **young professionals** group said this is the first of what they hope will be a number of community projects they undertake in weeks to come.

Looking out a front window at the Coffee House Cafe, Angela Lucas noticed the bustle of activity outside and commented approvingly.

"I was wondering what they were doing," Lucas said. "It's a great thing to keep our city as nice looking as we can."

Copyright (c) Statesman Journal. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.



Partners: [Jobs: CareerBuilder.com](#) | [Cars: Cars.com](#) | [Apartments: Apartments.com](#) | [Shopping: 5](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Site Map](#)

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [About Us](#) | [Work for Us](#) | [Subscribe](#)