Youth clean up during Big Sweep

By Larry Penkava  
lpenkava@courier-tribune.com  
@LarryPenkavaCT

WORTHVILLE — It's a cleaner world at the Deep River dam in Worthville after some 150 youth took part in Big Sweep Saturday.

Randolph Early College High School (RECHS) students made up the bulk of the crew, which collected trash in the woods and along the river near Worthville Beach. Greg Patton, planning director for the City of Randleman, oversaw the event.

"I've been doing this six years," he said. "The first time there were just two of us."

Patton credits Bob Langston, an educator and environmentalist with the N.C. Zoo, for promoting the Big Sweep program and bringing students out. Randleman is just one area of the county with Big Sweep events.

"We try to pick up all the trash," Patton said. "Last year, we had a basketball goal with a chunk of concrete at the base."

"We coordinate with DOT (N.C. Department of Transportation) to pick up the trash," he said, adding the DOT crews would remove the trash piles Monday.

He said other youth groups he’s worked with

TRASH IS A DRAG — These Big Sweepers from Randolph Early College High School had to drag this pile of metal roof decking about 100 yards to the roadside.

See CLEANUP, page 7A
Clean-up
From page 1A

It was a good day to shake hands with, salute and honor veterans in Randolph County during the Honoring Our Veterans Cruisin’ event provided by Wayne Thomas Chevrolet Saturday in Asheboro. Guests had ample opportunity to do all of those things in the hours-long event in the parking lot of the car dealership on Dixie Drive across from Randolph Mall. As a bonus, vets and guests were treated to a parade of performances by country music star. Rockie Lynne, left. At right, Navy veteran Todd Holland of Wilkesboro, left, shakes hands with WWII veteran William Pierce of Sophia. This was the fifth year for the annual event, which could be moved to a larger location in the future due to its popularity.

TRASH TROOPERS — Students from Randolph Early College High School are cleaning along the bank near Worthville Dam, which saw heavy flooding during Hurricane Florence.