

Quarterly Newsletter

APCCI

Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative

Oct-Nov-Dec 2025


Here's what has happened in the last quarter and what's to come!

The last quarter of the 2025 calendar year witnessed a remarkable surge in volunteering activities, ranging from weekend cleanliness drives to post-marathon clean-ups—setting a record of sorts. This growing participation reflects heightened awareness and responsibility among college students, corporate professionals, and citizens at large.

APCCI continues to actively support and encourage such initiatives, with the aim of transforming cleanliness into a true people's movement. One of the quarter's key highlights was a special gathering of nearly 600 APCCI waste warriors in Wanowrie. The event stood out as a unique celebration of their passion and dedication, and served as a powerful reminder of the values driving this mission—resilience, commitment, and the firm belief that sustainable change begins with collective action.

Several waste warriors enthusiastically shared their personal journeys from the podium, making the event both inspiring and impactful. Meanwhile, the Clean City Talks carried forward meaningful conversations on sustainability, viewed through the perspectives of young volunteers and emerging changemakers.

As we look ahead, 2026 appears extremely promising, with plans for more impactful initiatives and activities. The volunteering community is coming together like never before, a unity that is evident in every engagement. Together, we can make our city cleaner and more liveable. Wishing all our cleanliness volunteers a very happy New Year—thank you for your dedication and the positive difference you make every day!

Team apcci

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2025- A year of Young Changemakers Leading Pune's Cleanliness Movement

One of the most inspiring highlights of this year has been the increasing involvement of young volunteers stepping up and taking responsibility for their city. At Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI), cleanliness activities have always been at the heart of our work—beyond our day-to-day operations, actively engaging in large-scale public cleanliness drives across Pune.

These initiatives include cleaning public spaces, riverbanks, areas around heritage sites, post-marathon clean-ups, and restoring cleanliness after major festivals. As we reflect on 2025, it stands out as a particularly special year, marked by meaningful participation and growing public awareness.

A Visible Shift in Public Awareness

This year witnessed a substantial increase in both the number of cleanliness drives and the volunteers who joined them. This growth clearly reflects a positive shift in citizens' mindsets. People are no longer passive users of public spaces—they now want to actively contribute to maintaining their cleanliness and visual appeal.

Gone are the days when large events would leave behind heaps of litter due to lack of awareness. Today, event organisers—especially younger ones—are proactively approaching APCCI to partner with us as cleanliness collaborators, ensuring responsible waste management before, during, and after events.

Young Leaders Taking the Lead

The most refreshing development of the year has been the emergence of young leaders who are not just participating but leading cleanliness initiatives. What sets them apart is their approach—they are not satisfied with just action; they are keen to understand impact.

Sustainability as a concept is gaining strong traction among the youth. College hackathons, discussions, and innovation challenges are increasingly focusing on real-world issues related to waste management and environmental sustainability. These young changemakers want to know how their efforts translate into tangible results on the ground.



Youngsters at one of sessions of Clean City Talk



APCCI vehicle at a cleanliness drive post marathon



APCCI waste warrior at work during one of the cleanliness activities



600+ Waste Warriors. One Unstoppable Mission

The second week of October marked a special moment for the Adar Poonawalla Clean City initiative as over 600 Waste Warriors came together for a warm, informal gathering — a celebration of dedication, teamwork, and shared purpose. The program was held at Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Auditorium at Wanawadi. Mr. Amol Pawar, Assistant Commissioner, Wanawadi Ward Office graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Mr. Krishnan Komandur, CEO, APCCI, Mr. Malhar Karwande, COO, APCCI, Mr. Ashish Marathe, GM, APCCI and Sunil Kumbharkar, Director, Sumeet facilities were present on the occasion.

These incredible individuals are the driving force behind the cleaner, greener cities we often take for granted. Day in and day out, from early mornings to long hours in the field, they work tirelessly to improve the quality of urban life. Often working behind the scenes, they are the unsung heroes of our streets, parks, and public spaces.

The event wasn't just a get-together — it was a powerful reminder of the spirit that fuels this mission: resilience, passion, and the unwavering belief that sustainable change begins with collective action. Many waste warriors enthusiastically took to the podium to express themselves and tell their stories.

As stories were shared one thing became clear — this isn't just a workforce. It's a family united by purpose. The journey will continue with greater impact, deeper community connections, and a future that's cleaner and brighter for all.



Want to Volunteer for Cleanliness Activities in Pune? Here's How You Can Participate!

Once a city for pensioners way back till the 90s, today Pune is one of the fastest growing cities with multiple growth drivers from manufacturing companies to Global Capability Centres, from IT companies to start-ups to advancing infrastructure. The city is a powerhouse representing the growth story of India. But rapid urbanisation has its own challenges and with development comes responsibility of maintaining our city clean. And one of the challenges of urbanisation is the rapidly growing waste, whether wet or dry or plastic or electronic and how we deal with it. This cannot be the responsibility of only local governments, we all need to play our part. It is a matter of pride that Pune-kars are so passionate about the environment, about the city's heritage, but many don't know where to start ! In fact there are many ways to get involved in cleanliness drives to take care of our hills, heritage sites and our public places.

Here is how you can do it –

1. Cleanliness Drives for eliminating Chronic Spots- Chronic spots can emerge anywhere from streets, to bridges to hills to any corner of the city. These are areas where garbage tends to pile up repeatedly. Pune is usually buzzing with volunteering activities during weekends all round the year. We can together turn them into clean and usable spaces.
2. Riverside Cleaning Drives- Rivers are our lifeline, sadly they bear the maximum brunt of urban pollution. But a lot of organisations conduct drives during the weekend to collect and remove waste, especially plastic and dry waste.
3. Cleaning Near Heritage Sites- Pune's heritage is its pride. Heritage cleaning drives aim to preserve the beauty and dignity of these sites while creating awareness about cleanliness and its impact on tourism.
4. Cleaning After Marathons: Marathons are the latest trend setting public events of Pune. You can volunteer to clean up post-marathon routes or event venues. It's a great way to combine fitness, fun, and community service.
5. Cleaning post mega events and festivals - Pune is one of the important destinations for mega events and festivals as well as on route destination for annual pilgrimages. During these events the footfall in Pune increases multifold. Therefore it becomes all the more important to volunteer for cleanliness during and post these events.



Participating in such drives is more than just an act of cleaning up—it's a step toward building a healthier, more responsible community. When people come together to clean public spaces, they not only create a cleaner environment but also inspire others to adopt sustainable habits and respect shared spaces. Cleanliness drives help reduce pollution, improve hygiene, and enhance the beauty of neighbourhoods, making them more pleasant and liveable. Beyond the physical benefits, these initiatives foster a strong sense of unity, social responsibility, and environmental awareness. By taking part in cleanliness drives, every individual can contribute to a collective movement toward a cleaner, greener, and more conscious world. For first time volunteers, one can start small because every step counts, join a local NGO or volunteering organisation and participate in their weekend activities.

At Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI) volunteering activities are the cornerstone of our various initiatives to spread awareness . From Chronic spot cleaning to cleaning drives at public places to sustainable marathons, APCCI partners with various NGOs and organisations and help create awareness while maintaining cleanliness.

So if you to be a part of this transformational journey you can write to leadv@adarpccleancity.com and get started



Post marathon cleanup drives



In year 2025 APCCI participated 50+ post marathon cleanup drives

Cleanliness drives

In year 2025 APCCI participated 60+ cleanliness drives



Program for waste warriors

2025 was filled various events including Swacchta Sainik Melava, Blood Donation Camp, Fire safety education program amongst others



The Clean City Talks

The Clean City Talks explore the perspective of Young Volunteers on sustainability





Dilip Kumar Waghmare

The appreciation we receive for our cleanliness efforts gives us immense satisfaction. I was a two-wheeler mechanic earlier, and I joined APCCI as a Waste Warrior in 2019. Since then, I have been working consistently in the field. With the help of a Big Trilo, my team focuses on addressing chronic garbage spots across the city and collecting waste from these areas. While carrying out our duties, we make sure to maintain our vehicle properly, as it plays a crucial role in our day-to-day work. We take special care of the Trilo by keeping it clean and regularly checking its vital parameters to ensure it remains efficient and reliable



Gautam Sopan Waghmare

I have been working at Karve Nagar. Punching in the early morning for attendance through a selfie, we go to 13 different defined points and take the collected garbage to the Ghole Road waste collection point. Our work includes meticulous understanding of the way our machines operate and also sites and chronic spots where we operate. We work alongside PMC and organizations like 'Swachh' and help maintain our areas clean. I am extremely proud to be working towards cleanliness of the city.



Podcaster Gauri Kulkarni with VijayKumar Barkul, Operations Manager, APCCI

VijayKumar Barkul, Operations Manager at APCCI, recently interacted with podcaster Gauri Kulkarni and shared valuable insights into the role and functioning of the Glutton Machine. He explained that the Glutton Machine has become an ideal support system for this initiative. One of the major advantages of the machine is that, due to its compact size, it can work easily in locations with narrow lanes where conventional vehicles find it difficult to operate. Its unique design and working style attract a lot of attention from the public, with youngsters in particular showing keen curiosity about how it functions and where it can be used. During the weekend cleanliness drives, volunteers often gather to watch live demonstrations of the Glutton Machine in action. Over time, the machine has emerged as a strong visual identity of the initiative and has proved to be a dependable and efficient aid for APCCI's waste warriors in their daily work.

Volunteering Activities

Mission Sustainable Marathons



Cleanliness Drive Post Pune World Marathon Event



Sekhon Indian Airforce Marathon organised by Air Force Station



APCCI participated in the post cleanup drive at Pune Run for Unity 2025



Federal Bank Marathon- Organisers and Volunteers ensure cleanliness post the run



Parivartan Marathon - APCCI partners for post marathon cleanup drive



AMC Half Marathon hosted by Association of Medical Consultants

Volunteering Activities

Cleanliness Drives



**Caring for our historical landmarks-
Volunteers at Sinhgad Fort
Cleanliness Drive**



**Young leaders at
MIT - ADT University Cleanliness Drive**



**Enthusiastic volunteers at Tanpura
Bridge Cleanliness Drive**



**iVolunteer Cleanliness Drive-
Volunteers gather in large numbers
to give a message of cleanliness**



**Volunteers from Tech Mahindra at
SNDT**



**The spirit of volunteering- corporate
employees of TCS at Aundh
Cleanliness Drive**



The Clean City Talks 10th edition focused on the intersection of **sustainable tourism** and cleanliness, showcasing impactful initiatives by volunteers



The Clean City Talks 11th edition showcased how young citizens are shaping a cleaner, greener urban future

YouTube

 <p>स्वच्छता सैनिक मेळावा २०२५ 288 views • 2 months ago</p>	 <p>'एपीसीसीआय' चे स्वच्छता यंत्र 'गलटन' - विशेष पॉडकास्ट 238 views • 2 months ago</p>
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 <p>Being a Volunteer - Amrin Navaloor 45 views • 2 months ago</p>	 <p>Being a Volunteer- Mohammad Awais 30 views • 2 months ago</p>
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 <p>World Soil Day 2025 73 views • 2 weeks ago</p>	 <p>'एपीसीसीआय' चे स्वच्छता यंत्र 'गलटन' - विशेष पॉडकास्ट 247 views • 3 weeks ago</p>
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BLOG

Want to Volunteer for Cleanliness Activities in Pune? Here's How You Can Participate!

November 07, 2025

Once a city for pensioners way back till the 90s, today Pune is one of the fastest growing cities with multiple growth drivers from manufacturing companies to Global Capability Centres, from IT companies to start-ups to advancing infrastructure. The city is a powerhouse representing the growth story of India. But rapid urbanisation has its own challenges and with development comes responsibility of maintaining our city clean. And one of the challenges of urbanisation is the rapidly growing waste, whether wet or dry or plastic or electronic and how we deal with it. This came...

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When waste warriors meet, they talk about cleanliness ! 600+ Waste Warriors. One Unstoppable Mission.

October 17, 2025



When waste warriors meet, they talk about cleanliness ! 600+ Waste Warriors . One Unstoppable Mission. This week marked a special moment for the Adar Poonawalla Clean City initiative as over 600 Waste Warriors came together for a warm, informal gathering – a celebration of dedication, teamwork, and shared purpose. The program was held at Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Auditorium at Wanawadi . Mr.Amol Pawar, Assistant Commissioner, Wanawadi Ward Office graced the...

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What can we do as individuals to help preserve soil in urban areas ?

December 05, 2025

When we think of soil we think of food, when we think of soil we think of plants, when we think of soil we think of the habitat for countless organisms that survive on it, when we think of soil, we think of water and when we think of soil we think of earth! Healthy soil is fundamental to life, serving as the basis for food production, biodiversity, and the regulation of water and climate systems. It supports plant growth, sustains ecological balance, and underpins the planet's essential nutrient and carbon cycles. When we think of soil we think of vast open farmlands, away from urban areas but rarely do...

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2025- A year of Young Changemakers Leading Pune's Cleanliness Movement

December 18, 2025

One of the most inspiring highlights of this year has been the increasing involvement of young volunteers stepping up and taking responsibility for their city. At Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI), cleanliness activities have always been at the heart of our work—beyond our day-to-day operations, actively engaging in large-scale public cleanliness drives across Pune. These initiatives include cleaning public spaces, riverbanks, areas around heritage sites, post-marathon clean-ups, and restoring cleanliness after major festivals. As we reflect on 2025, it stands out as a particularly special...

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Volunteers lead the change through impactful initiatives

October 06, 2025



The 10th edition of The Clean City Talks , an initiative by APCCI , brought together passionate changemakers committed to building cleaner, more sustainable cities. This inspiring session focused on the intersection of sustainable tourism and cleanliness, showcasing impactful initiatives by volunteers . Yogesh Karandikar, founder of the Green Trail Foundation , along with team member Brihaspati Rai, shared insights on the upcoming Konkan Trail 2025 – a thrilling...

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Young Volunteers Inspire Change for a Cleaner City

November 21, 2025



The eleventh edition of Clean City Talks, organized by APCCI, showcased how young citizens are shaping a cleaner, greener urban future. Among the inspiring participants were members of BPT Seva (Baner Pashan Tekdi Seva)—a youth-led community initiative dedicated to improving city cleanliness through regular drives and awareness campaigns. Founded by Shanti Saxena, Tanish Saxena, Arghav Choudhary, Tej Pundey, Arnab Nair, Suzanne Thomas, and Aadit Bagde, BPT Seva...

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