

This essay is an attempt to provide a blueprint on making my community of Wilkinsburg a better place to live. To me, I personally think that the number one thing that would make Wilkinsburg a better place to live is to clean up the streets. I would first start out by holding a town meeting and telling everyone about my idea. Then we could post flyers around and let everyone know about our project to clean the streets. I think we could get a pretty decent number of people to join our group. After the group has been assembled, we can tell them that we will be cleaning up two days of every week until the project is completed. The first two days that we go out to clean, we can start in a very popular place such as McDonald's putting trashcans on every corner and continue throughout the community. People in the community might notice what we're doing and ask to help or they might tell others what they know about our group and what we are doing for the community. This will encourage others to join the group. The more people we have on the committee, the faster we could get things done in the community. We can get a few people to be our representatives and send them to our community schools to enlist more help of both adults and children alike. After we've completed the tasks of placing a garbage can on every corner and enlisting more members of the clean-up crew, we can send out more representatives to the waste company to have them empty the cans twice per week. Step two of my community blueprint would be to buy recycling cans. We'll need a whole lot of those! Then, just like with the waste company, we'll need to send another representative to the recycling company and request for them to come and empty out the recycling bin twice weekly.

Step three of my community blueprint is the most difficult one yet. For this, we'll get the group to gather three times a week. We will go around and pick up all of the trash everywhere in our community since trash can build up on the days the waste company or the recycling company are not involved. This group could mostly involve kids who skip school. They will clean on days that nothing else is being done. We can keep up the process of keeping our streets clean by increasing the punishment and observations of no littering laws and since we are observing "laws" the police could be part of the effort. Step four of community blueprint would be to go out and clean all graffiti off of all the walls and things around the community. We won't have to meet three times a week but more like once a week to clean. This may cost us more money because some of the products that are used to clean graffiti is expensive. The final stage of my community blueprint would be to knock down every single one of the abandoned houses and buildings in the community. I know in order to have this done, we need someone who is a smooth talker to persuade our local government of the necessary demolition issues. After this is done, I think my community will be a far better place to live.