

For immediate release
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Press contact: Erin Foley
Marketing/PR Coordinator
(708) 496-4752

Peace Students Participate in Clean-Up Day

Members of Queen of Peace High School's Environmental Task Force braved the cold weather and participated in an environmental clean-up day at the Chicago Portage National Historic Site on Saturday, Dec.18. Peace's students worked with the Forest Preserve and Friends of the Chicago Portage. Queen of Peace is currently the largest group working at the site, which is located at Portage Woods Forest Preserve and Ottawa Trail Woods Forest Preserve in Lyons (4800 S. Harlem) and is one of two National Historic Sites in Illinois.

The students spent the morning burning three brush piles that accumulated over the past few months and sawed branches of trees that had fallen in the frozen water. During the clean-up, the students and other volunteers took time to make s'mores and roast hotdogs. Each student received a Forest Preserve T-Shirt with the slogan, "I Make a Difference."

As members of the Friends of the Portage Site, Peace's students help maintain the site, which they have adopted, and make sure the trails are clear of pollution and debris.

Along with their moderator Mr. John Dragicevich, the following 10 students participated in the clean-up day: Diana Aguirre, Alyssa Alvarez, Yesenia Arteaga, Natalie Benitez, Tiara Moore, Sheila Silva, Samantha Seggerson, Andrea Serratos, Arianna Villarreal and Emily Williams.

Environmental Task Force members demonstrate concern regarding environmental issues by promoting recycling efforts and completing conservation projects, which support local communities. Each year, the students participate in environmental workshops offered through the Chicago River Student Congress.

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Cutline:



Members of Queen of Peace High School's Environmental Task Force, as well as other Portage volunteers, burned brush piles at the Chicago Portage National Historic Site on Dec. 18.