

This past Saturday we went from this



to this



It took a a few hours and some dedicated help from neighbors, but we were able to round out the year with another successful clean-up. Here's a [video](#) .

This year the NPCA sponsored five community clean-ups with good results:

- Nearly 20,000 pounds of trash taken off our streets (including dozens of couches and mattresses that people use to do all sorts of unsavory things)
- Spread our efforts to include everywhere from Adams up in Between Heights to Altadena

and Carmel Heights in the south

- Began an effort to help re-think how we deal with illegal dumping in North Park; and
- Encouraged several dozen new neighbors to lend a hand since our first clean-up this year

Our volunteers also helped repaint the picnic tables at both local parks, with the help of Rodney and Jesus--two dedicated Parks and Recreation Center staff who provided the supplies.

A special thank you is in order for [Pizzeria Luigi's](#) (new location on El Cajon Boulevard), who helped feed the volunteers and to Einstein Bros for more bagels to get us started. Also, the USD Law Student Outreach Committee was a huge help.

Each clean-up now takes less than four hours to organize, plus about six hours on the day of the event. We are putting together our clean-up schedule for 2010 and would love to have even more neighbors join in. Drop me a note or post a comment if you are interested.