

Creating Cleanliness With The Spirit Of Gotong Royong In Muara Betung Village, Ulu Musi Sub-District District Four Lawang

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Received [07-11-2025]

Revised [09-12-2025]

Accepted [10-12-2025]

Abstract. Environmental cleanliness in the community is very important. A clean environment will produce a clean soul, physical and spiritual health for the community. Knowledge about environmental cleanliness can create a clean environment that must be done in groups, namely by mutual cooperation, this can be done routinely, not just stopping when there are activities. Activities carried out in creating cleanliness with a spirit of mutual cooperation and family that have many benefits for the community in Desa Muara Betung Kecamatan Ulu Musi Kabupaten Empat Lawang. Which have a positive impact on maintaining environmental cleanliness. With the spirit of mutual cooperation and togetherness between residents, it can create a family relationship in the community. This mutual cooperation activity has a positive impact on participants and the community, especially in fostering a sense of concern for the environment, creating cleanliness, improving community welfare.

Keywords: *Mutual Cooperation, Cleanliness, Village Community.*

INTRODUCTION

Community Service Program (KKN-T) is a university program designed to provide innovative solutions and young people who can help solve various problems and promote village progress, benefiting both students and the community. This program also provides an opportunity for universities to demonstrate their contribution to national development and enhance their reputation in the eyes of the general public. This shift focuses on the spirit of mutual cooperation, also known as working together. Mutual cooperation is also a part of Indonesian culture. It could also be described as local wisdom inherited from the nation's ancestors. This culture is often found in rural areas, given the familial atmosphere there, somewhat different from the almost individualistic atmosphere in cities (Indah Diah, 2022).

Environmental cleanliness in the community is crucial. A clean environment will produce a clean soul, physical and spiritual health for the community. Knowledge about environmental cleanliness will influence awareness of environmental hygiene facts. A healthy environment makes us feel comfortable in carrying out daily activities. One of the main causes of environmental cleanliness problems is a lack of community awareness of their environment. Communities should be aware of and care about their environment, as its condition also impacts their lives (Sanimah et al., 2024). Achieving environmental cleanliness can be achieved by fostering a spirit of mutual cooperation within the community through community service, which is a tangible manifestation of community performance and reflects this spirit.

The purpose of this community service activity is to foster cleanliness through a spirit of mutual cooperation in Muara Betung Village, Ulu Musi District, Empat Lawang Regency. This initiative aims to foster public awareness and concern for environmental cleanliness by first conducting outreach to the community to engage in mutual cooperation activities. This mutual cooperation program focuses on cleaning up organic and plastic waste, constructing clean water reservoirs, cleaning wastewater drainage channels (SPAL), and improving infrastructure such as village officials' brand names, cleaning community garden paths, cleaning places of worship (mosques), cleaning irrigation channels, and constructing clean water reservoirs.

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research is a participatory approach, engaging the community as the primary actors in village development and involving them in planning and decision-making (Nurman, 2015). This approach can increase community involvement and their understanding of the importance of maintaining a clean and sustainable environment. Initial identification revealed several cleanliness issues, including roads that still need cleaning, the lack of clean water reservoirs, and the lack of signage for village officials. This activity was held from June 19 to June 21, 2025, in Muara Betung Village, Ulu Musi District, Empat Lawang Regency, involving community leaders, the community, and KKN-T students from Dehasen University, Bengkulu. The implementation of the mutual cooperation program included:

1. Preparation Stage: Applying for a permit from the village, conducting direct observation and identifying problems regarding community needs, preparing equipment for the mutual cooperation activity, and conducting outreach to village officials and the community to participate in the mutual cooperation activity.
2. Implementation Stage: Carrying out outreach activities about cleanliness and mutual cooperation activities.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the mutual cooperation activity carried out in Muara Betung Village, Ulu Musi District, Empat Lawang Regency, which was attended by the community, village officials and KKN-T students of Dehasen University, Bengkulu, were very enthusiastic in supporting this mutual cooperation activity. The benefits of mutual cooperation activities can create a cleaner and healthier environment and strengthen the relationship between students and the surrounding community. The Muara Betung Village community with a population of 1,530 with 457 heads of families, where the western boundary is with Padang Tepong Village, the east with Kemang Island, the south with Tanjung Agung and the north with Batu Bidung, which is headed by a village head. The following documentation of the mutual cooperation activities carried out can be seen in Figure 1 below:



Figure 1. Documentation of Gotong Royong Activity Implementers



Figure 2. Documentation of Gotong Royong Activities

Positive behaviors involving environmental concern must be consistently instilled to become good habits. These mutual cooperation activities can be carried out routinely, not just during other activities. Good habits foster togetherness and foster a sense of community concern for the environment. The spirit of mutual cooperation and camaraderie has numerous benefits for the community, including helping maintain environmental cleanliness and beauty, improving the quality of village infrastructure, fostering a sense of mutual cooperation and togetherness among residents, and building familial relationships within the community (Rizky Pratiwi et al., 2024). These activities also open up space for dialogue among residents, foster collective awareness, and encourage residents to take a direct role in maintaining environmental cleanliness through creative and practical methods.

These mutual cooperation activities have a positive impact on participants, increasing their knowledge of the importance of mutual cooperation, which in turn fosters a sense of environmental concern. Creating cleanliness through the spirit of mutual cooperation strengthens social bonds and improves community well-being. Results from these activities indicate increased community participation in joint activities, improvements to village infrastructure, and a strengthened sense of community. This activity has a positive impact in strengthening solidarity with the spirit of mutual cooperation that has been awakened so that it can continue and provide long-term benefits for the community (Ramadhan et al., 2024).

CONCLUSION

Creating cleanliness with the spirit of mutual cooperation and kinship that has many benefits for the community in Muara Betung Village, Ulu Musi District, Empat Lawang Regency which has a positive impact in maintaining environmental cleanliness. With the spirit of mutual cooperation and togetherness between residents, it can create family relationships in the community. This mutual cooperation activity has a positive impact on the participants and the community, especially in fostering a sense of concern for the environment, creating cleanliness, improving community welfare. The results of the activity show an increase in community participation in joint activities, improving village infrastructure, and strengthening the sense of togetherness between residents can be solidarity. With the spirit of mutual cooperation that can create environmental cleanliness and be beneficial for the long term.

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