

Keep Haltom City Beautiful 2015



Green Report

Citizens working for a cleaner community

Haltom City effort wins national honor

Keep Haltom City Beautiful received a Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Affiliate Award at the annual KAB National Awards Dinner, held recently in Washington, D.C.

Keep Haltom City Beautiful (KHCB) distinguished itself as an exemplary affiliate organization in the 50,000 or less population category. Taking first place in the category, KHCB was honored for its outstanding community improvement programs.

The awards were open to all affiliates for program activities during the 12-month period from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014 that created socially connected, environmentally healthy and economically sound communities. KAB consists of a national network of more than 600 community-based affiliates.

"It's my privilege to honor Keep Haltom City Beautiful and celebrate its dedication in engaging volunteers to make its community vibrant," said Jennifer Jehn, president and CEO of Keep America Beautiful. "Award-winning affiliates, such as Keep Haltom City Beautiful, serve as a great inspiration in our national effort to keep America beautiful."

KHCB took first place in its population category for its implementation of multiple community improvement programs.



Keeping it real...A grant through Keep America Beautiful from Lowe's paid for the materials to turn the front yard of Haltom City Hall into a low-maintenance landscape using Texas native plants and hardscapes. Much of the turf was eliminated cutting back on mowing and the air pollution created by mowers. Plants used in the yard require little water.

The latest grant brought to \$11,000 the total earned through the Lowe's grant program. The two other improved locations are the Northeast Center (old library) and the Northpark Disc Golf Course.

Signal box winners add to public art

Haltom City Art in the City members have found a second purpose for the boxes at intersections that house the equipment controlling traffic lights at street intersections. A few years ago, they chose a few photographs to enlarge and "wrap" the boxes. The idea was so popular that the committee decided to sponsor a contest to find additional works for a second round of wraps.

The box at Glenview and Haltom Road now sports this photo taken by April Horton, one of the contest winners. Other winning artists include Sheila Cahill, Gary Blocker and Jerry Wenninger.

To view a map of the locations of the wrapped boxes along with the list of those who created the art, visit the Haltom City Webpage at www.haltomcitytx.com.



Art in the City is a subcommittee of Keep Haltom City Beautiful that was founded in late 2010. The volunteer group hosts two Gallery Nights per year and an annual craft show.

**KEEP
AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL**

Keep Texas Beautiful

History can inspire recycling today



I was talking with my aunt recently when the conversation turned to our disposable lifestyles.

by Carol Williams,
Board Chair

We used to recycle many products in our daily lives. Milk and soft drinks came in glass bottles which were redeemed and re-used. Groceries were packed in biodegradable paper bags which were used to line trash cans. Even used tires found new life as retreads. We found many secondary uses for products and packaging as the original use was finished.

In the fall of 2014, we set about to highlight our rich historical heritage. We attempted to break a world record by building the world's largest cardboard structure modeled after the original Tarrant County courthouse, which was located in Birdville (now Haltom City).

Groups from the Quad-Cities along with many volunteers spent approximately 13 hours completing the project. The finished structure may be viewed on our Facebook page titled Haltom City Beautification Board.

From this project, we were able to recycle 6 tons of cardboard, with help from Progressive Waste Systems, that did not go into a landfill but will find another life.

I hope this short column gives you a desire to recycle more in your own life. Will you try to live a greener lifestyle by repurposing materials that you handle on a daily basis?

If you want to know more about green ideas, visit our Facebook page. You will find ideas on recycling and other green suggestions.



Working on a record...Volunteers from Keep Haltom City Beautiful and the Northeast Environmental Team stack box on box in an attempt to break a Guinness Record by building the largest sculpture from boxes in the world. Work took place on America/Texas Recycles Day, Saturday, Nov. 15, at The Hills Center on Grapevine Highway.

Organizers are awaiting word from Guinness World Book on whether or not the attempt was successful. A drawing by Daniel Williams, an architect from Texas A & M, was used as a guide during construction.

Approximately 18,000 boxes were collected from local businesses including Dollar Tree, Sonic, Sprad's Hardware, Big Lots, Surplus Warehouse, Ace Mart, The Cafe, 2nd Opinion Auto, SpreadTek and the public. The bulk of the boxes came from Harris Packaging of Haltom City.

Assistance was also provided by Lloyd Bransom Surveyors, Buyers Barricades, Haltom City Parks & Public Works, The Hills Center and Star Industries. Progressive Waste recycled the boxes which totaled more than 12,000 lbs. of material.

Curbside recycling numbers decrease

Recycling is one of the easiest ways for Americans to get involved in protecting the environment. Yet, according to reports from Progressive Waste Solutions, the company providing curbside recycling service in Haltom City, recycling amounts have dropped in the past 12 months compared to the year before. In 2013 the amount recycled by residential customers at the curb totaled 146,800 lbs. In 2014, residents recycled 125,900 lbs. curbside.

While Keep Haltom City Beautiful board members are disappointed by the results, since one of their goals is to promote recycling and encourage citizens to participate, they will continue to attempt to make the

public more aware of why.

Here are some important points:

- Recycling saves landfill space which is not unlimited. Siting new landfills is expensive and extremely difficult.
- Through recycling, what was trash becomes raw material for new products.
- Making something from a recycled product saves energy and water (and money).
- Using recycled instead of virgin materials reduces air pollution.



Great American Cleanup kicks off with annual contest

A variety of community projects, led by Keep Haltom City Beautiful members, will start the annual spring cleanup campaign in Haltom City.

Residents are invited to take advantage of free disposal opportunities and to volunteer to help clean litter from public areas during the Great American Cleanup, a project sponsored nationally by Keep America Beautiful.

Images of Haltom City Photo Contest will get the ball rolling. The deadline is Tuesday, March 17. The contest encourages citizens to get out and photograph their surroundings while giving them a shot at publication in the annual Haltom City Community Calendar. There is no fee to enter.



Texas Trash-Off

Volunteers are needed to get rid of litter along Haltom City public areas during the Texas Trash-Off scheduled for Saturday, April 11. The city will partner, once again, with students from Haltom High School in an organized effort to clean more than a dozen areas throughout town. For the past four years, Haltom Gives Back has provided volunteer student assistance to the city as they accumulate community service hours.

Last year, the number of project areas totaled 19 with students also performing yard work for senior citizens and trimming trails at the Birdville Environmental Study Center.

Volunteers may register via the city's website: www.haltomcitytx.com.



Spring Dumpster Day

allows residents to clean out their yards and garages and dispose of items free of charge at the Progressive Transfer Station. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, April 18. The address is 2120 Minnis Dr.

A utility bill and driver's license is required as proof of residency. Each family may bring up to four tires and one pickup load of materials for disposal. An unlimited amount of metal and electronics for recycling will be accepted.

Residents are reminded that, along with two free dumpster days, they may visit the center two additional times per year to properly dispose of materials at no charge.



Board updates Adopt-a-Spot guidelines

One of the very first programs initiated by the Haltom City Beautification Board is Adopt-a-Spot. As early as the mid-1980s board members saw it as a way for citizens to show they personally care about the community in a public way. Those who adopt are provided with a sign on the spot they've adopted.

Volunteers have signed up to maintain public property. Parks, right of ways, medians; any city-owned (and approved) space has been eligible.

After 29 years, board members felt it was time to study the program and consider making some changes.

One thing they have decided to take advantage of is the Internet. Adopt-a-Spots will be listed on the Haltom City Website and mapped, pinpointing their locations and listing volunteer caretakers. Those spots that are eligible and not adopted will also be listed.

In order to become an Adopt-a-



Spot volunteer, citizens must apply, designate a spot and suggest how they intend to care for the spot. Options range from litter pickup/patrol to planting flowers and watering.

The application form and guidelines can be found at www.haltomcitytx.com under Departments/Community Projects. Interested volunteers may also call Keep Haltom City Beautiful at 817-222-7767.

*Haltom City
Garden Club
Annual*



*Plant Swap
& Sale*

*Saturday, May 30
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

*Haltom City Library
4809 Haltom Road*

*Plants will be given away
& swapped*

Donations of plants accepted

Plant-related items for sale

Raffle for flower baskets

*For booth rental information,
call 817-281-8739*

The year in pictures...(Top row, L. to R.) Haltom Middle School students, EcoWarriors and participants in the Aspire program, encourage recycling at their school. A member of the American Legion Post 655 instructs girl scouts from Troop 1171 on how to set flag holders at the New Trinity Cemetery at Beach and NE 28th Streets. A kindergartener and winner in the Car Show for Kids Coloring Contest tests out her first place prize. Wayne Clowers shows off his work during a recent Art in the City Gallery Night at the Northeast Center in Haltom City.



(Middle row, L. to R.) One of the elementary school choirs performs during Christmas on Broadway, the annual kick off of the holiday season in Haltom City. An urban forester explains how to identify tree species to a group of students during the annual Enviro-Fair held at the Birdville Environmental Study Center near Haltom High School.



(Bottom row, L. to R.) Haltom High students help spread mulch at the Grace-Full Community Garden during Haltom Gives Back, a day set aside annually during which students perform numerous community projects. Two volunteers from the Church of Latter Day Saints pick up litter along Midway Road during the Great American Cleanup last spring. Mayor Richard Hutchison presents the Business of the Quarter Award to representatives of Life Care of Haltom located on Markum Drive. Participants in Enviro-Camp 2014 enjoy a laugh during a team-building exercise.

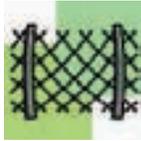




Residents should follow the codes, help keep our city clean

In order to preserve the public health, keep the city looking good and maintain property values, a number of ordinances have been passed. Among other things, these "codes" set limits on accumulation of trash, make it illegal to park on the lawn and set a limit to the height of grass. These laws include:

Fences - Property owners are required to maintain fences in a structurally sound condition.



Vehicles on the front lawn - The zoning ordinance prohibits parking of motor vehicles, trailers, boats and other vehicles in the front or side yard unless they are parked on a hard surface (concrete or asphalt) or behind a screening fence.



Commercial vehicles in neighborhoods - Unless a service vehicle is temporarily located on a street making repairs, it is against city law to park commercial vehicles on a public street or residential property, in alleys, on parkways, along boulevards or in other public places.



Garage Sales- A permit is required to host a garage sale. Permits are available at City Hall. The cost is \$7. A resident may host no more than four garage sales per year. Temporary signs advertising garage sales shall be



permitted subject to the following:

1. Signs shall not exceed 2.5 square feet in area and shall not exceed 2.5 feet in height, nor shall they be illuminated.
2. May only be posted on the premises where the garage sale will take place which must be a residence.
3. May be posted for no more than three days beginning on the first day of the sale.
4. Shall be removed at the close of the sale or by 8 p.m., whichever occurs first.
5. Shall not be posted on utility, traffic signal or sign poles or in any public right of way.

Graffiti - The property owner is responsible for removing graffiti. Once the property owner is notified by code compliance of a problem, he or she has 10 days to abate.



Grass height- Grass and weeds may not be allowed to grow in excess of 10 inches in height. If there is a violation, the property owner is notified by mail and is given 10 days to abate the problem.



General nuisances - This includes the discharge of waste water, stagnant pools of water conducive to mosquito breeding, storage of items or materials on a porch.

Junk vehicles - Parking a junk motor vehicle in public view is a violation of a city ordinance. A junk vehicle is:

1. Self-propelled but inoperable
2. Does not have a current license plate or valid inspection certificate



3. Is wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled or discarded
4. Has remained inoperable for more than 30 consecutive days.

Substandard structures -

A structure is substandard when it does not meet the standards or specification established in the 1997 Uniform Housing Code. When a complaint is received, an officer inspects the premises to determine if the complaint is valid.



Accumulation of junk, trash and debris -

The accumulation or storage of trash and debris is a violation of the city nuisance code. Violators are issued a warning notice to clean up the property within 10 days, or they may be issued a municipal court citation if the violation continues.



Overgrown trees -

The ordinance regarding trees requires maintenance in height of 13 feet, six inches minimum clearance over the right of way and a minimum of eight feet clearance over sidewalks. Trees cannot obstruct street intersections, signs or traffic control devices. The owner of the property on which the tree is growing is responsible for keeping the tree trimmed.



Once notified - If the owner and/or occupant fails to comply in a timely manner with a request to correct a violation, a citation may be issued and/or the violation corrected at the owner's expense. A lien may be filed to recover the city's cost of abatement.

Long-time NEET partnership continues to benefit all involved

When the Northeast Tarrant Chamber of Commerce decided to eliminate its beautification committee, members of the small group representing Haltom City, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills and Watauga were not disappointed for long. The group, made up of affiliates of Keep Texas Beautiful, had been working cooperatively through the committee for a couple of years.

Each city, being part of BISD, realized that many of the activities they would have sponsored separately were more successful when done together.

However, no longer a chamber

committee, they decided to develop their own 501 c3 non-profit organization, and the Northeast Environmental Team (NEET) was born.

That was back in 1993, and the NEET group continues to coordinate activities meant to educate youth and adults. Among these are:

- Enviro-Camp - a day camp for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students held each June.
- Enviro-Fair - two days of round-robin activities for 4th graders held at the BISD Environmental Study Center.
- Recycles Day Flea Market - the largest garage sale in Tarrant

County held in observance of Texas Recycles Day each November.

- Ruby Dillon Environmental Scholar Award - a scholarship presented to a graduating senior heading into the environmental field.
- Custodian of the Year - a means for recognizing outstanding work by BISD custodians and available to all campuses in the district.



Spicer wins annual campus awards

Each year, Keep Haltom City Beautiful sponsors programs for students and teachers in an effort to educate them about the importance of recycling and a clean community. John D. Spicer Elementary was the winner, this year, of both.

Clean Campus - Each Haltom City principal is asked to complete a brief report about activities at their schools that are meant to keep their campus litter free. They are asked to include any special environmental curricula and educational activities. Volunteers tour each school and give the campus a "litter score" which is combined with reported activities. These determine a Haltom City Clean Campus, and the school is awarded a \$100 check.

Recycle Challenge - Thanks to the cooperation of the Paper Retriever Program, all schools were able to register for this contest which took place in April. The amount of materials recycled through the program was tracked, and the school recycling the most paper wins a \$500 award from Keep Haltom City Beautiful.

Congratulations to Spicer faculty and students on their great work.

Haltom City Spring 2015

Dumpster Day

Trash accepted:

8 a.m. - noon

Saturday, April 18

Progressive Transfer Station
2120 Minnis Dr.

Residents may bring:

- *Bulky items for disposal including construction material & unbundled brush (limit one pickup load)
- *Four tires per household
- *Metals for recycling
- *Electronics for recycling (look for special container)

All loads must be tarped!

Bring a City water bill & drivers license

as proof of residency

Visit www.haltomcitytx.com for more information



Dispose of hazardous waste the right way at the

Environmental Collection Center

6400 Bridge St., Fort Worth
Thursday/Fridays: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Saturdays: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Proof of city residency required

Acceptable items:

Acids, Aerosol cans, All batteries, Antifreeze, Brake fluid, Craft chemicals, Hobby chemicals, Degreasers, Drain cleaners, Fertilizer, Fluorescent lights, Gasoline, Herbicides, Household chemicals, Motor oil, Paints/stains, Paint thinners, Pest strips, Pesticides, Photo chemicals, Pool chemicals, Oil filters, Solvents, Transmission fluid, Varnishes

Not accepted:

Ammunition, Explosives, Propane or butane cylinders, Medical waste, Radioactive material, Tires, Waste from businesses

The Green Report is a publication of Keep Haltom City Beautiful. It is printed and circulated once a year to inform Haltom City residents and inspire environmental stewardship.

Board Members

Carol Williams - Chair
Denise Ford - Vice-Chair
Sandy Lottes - Secretary
Wayne Clowers, Birdi Blocker,
Sheila Behrens, Bob Presley
Donna Peterson

For questions about board programs or this publication, call 817-222-7767.

City of Haltom City
P.O. Box 14246
Haltom City, TX 76117
817-222-7700

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FORT WORTH, TX
PERMIT # 2114

Interested in being a part of the Grace-Full Community Garden? Grow your own vegetables and learn from others. Plots are available for \$25 per year. Call Sandy at 817-510-7065.

March 28 - 5K, car show, SpringFest, art event set to go

Residents and visitors are invited to come to Haltom City on Saturday, March 28, and participate in one or all of the activities taking place that day, starting with...



The Buff Run - The first year worked so well that organizers decided to run again. The timed 5K will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the High School located at 5501 Haltom Road.

Car Show for Kids - The 6th annual edition of this fundraiser will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Haltom High student parking lot. More than 100 classic cars, trucks and motorcycles will compete for trophies. There is no admission charge. A bike safety rodeo will be featured. Proceeds go to the Back-to-School Health Fair and provide school supplies to Haltom City elementary and middle school students



SpringFest - The Easter Bunny will be the featured guest at this family-fun event held at the same location and time as the car show. A rock & roll band, food concessions provided by the HHS Band Parents, inflatables, goody bags for kids, a petting zoo will kick off spring in Haltom City. Admission is free to this annual Haltom City community tradition.



SPRING 2015

GALLERY NIGHT IN HALTOM CITY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
1 TO 8 P.M.

HC NORTHEAST CENTER
3201 FRIENDLY LANE

FEATURING:

- FREE ADMISSION
- A VARIETY OF LOCAL ARTISTS
- A PERFORMANCE BY

THE JAZZ MONSTERS
(FUNDED BY ARTS COUNCIL NE
& TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS)

FOR INFORMATION,
CALL 817-222-7767
OR FBURNS@HALTOMCITYTX.COM

presented by:



Art in the City