

Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter

Discover Irving's Many Parks and Trails

Covering over 2,000 acres of land, Irving's 43 parks offer a variety of activities for residents and other visitors to enjoy year-round. We have the Parks and Recreation Department and their hard-working staff members to thank for taking such good care of these parks. Keep Irving Beautiful and the Parks staff work closely together to provide our partners opportunities to serve the community by volunteering their time in painting, planting and cleanup projects. The Parks team always has the designated area reserved and ready for our volunteers, providing supplies, guidance and knowledge. This is especially evident during tree planting projects at the Tree Farm, where volunteers learn that there is much more to planting a tree than just putting it in the ground. They come away with skills in proper root preparation, mulching, watering and tree maintenance, and a great appreciation for our Parks staff.

KIB often holds cleanups at parks located on the Campi3n Trails, a 22-mile greenbelt with 12-foot wide concrete trails along the Elm and West Forks of

the Trinity River. They will eventually link to a regional trail system, with the most recent connection being to Grand Prairie's Lone Star Trail. As part of the city's eco-tourism program, they offer an abundance of plant and animal life, and are an important part of Irving's history as river crossing areas for pioneers heading west in the 1800s. Several of the northern parks are closed until the high waters from spring flooding recede, but the south trails are open and ready to enjoy! For the status of the park you want to visit, go to www.cityofirving.org.



Several of Irving's parks, such as T.W. Richardson Grove, above, are part of the Campi3n Trails system.

Annual Awards Presented

KIB honored our "Proud Partners" at the annual awards reception and ceremony, held on Monday, August 10, at the First Baptist Church of Irving. There were twelve winners in ten categories, and we also acknowledged Keep Texas and Keep America Beautiful honorees. There were 143 attendees, and thanks to all who contributed their time and dedication in making this a beautiful evening. For a complete list of winners, see the KIB website, and pictures

Volume 5, Issue 9
September 2015

Did You Know?

Our Earth 911 tips this month have to do with conserving water in your yard/garden:

- Use soaker hoses: Purchase or make your own by punching small holes every 6 inches and capping the end of the hose
- Collect rainwater: You can learn to make your own rain barrel by taking a city-sponsored class
- Re-purpose wasted kitchen water: Collect any water you run while waiting for it to get hot and use it
- Mulch the soil: This keeps the sun from drying our the soil too fast.



Above, L to R: Event Hostess Margie Stipes, Emcee Cathy Whiteman and Honorary Chair Mayor Beth Van Dyne at the awards ceremony

Below: Yes, lunch will be served at the Trash Bash. This is last year's hot dog team who did an outstanding job feeding over 600 people!



Trash Bash Moved to Trinity View Park

In last month's newsletter, KIB invited you to join us at the **24th Annual Trash Bash**, which will be held on **Saturday, September 26** (National Public Lands Day). We still want you to come, but due to high river levels and flooding which have kept the northern Campi3n Trails parks closed, we have changed locations from the T.W. Richardson Grove site. The event will now take place at **Trinity View Park**, which should be familiar to KIB volunteers as the location of the spring Trash-Off. We will meet

at the pavilion by the soccer fields, on the south side of Highway 356. The event goes from 9 a.m. to noon, with lunch included.

Please register online by September 18. You can access that page by scanning the QR code on the right, or by going to the KIB website:



www.keepirvingbeautiful.org.