

Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter

2015 in Review

Every new year we like to look back on the events and accomplishments of the previous year. So here we are in 2016, thinking back on all we did in 2015. It was another great year for KIB, thanks to the dedication of our many partners, volunteers and sponsors. KIB's programs and events fall under one of our three main focus areas of litter abatement, beautification and recycling/waste minimization, and had the following results:

Litter abatement: Our cleanups, including the Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off and the Trash Bash, had 1,113 volunteers who gave 3,650 hours of service in collecting more than 14,400 pounds of trash and recyclables. Our Adopt-a-Spot volunteers worked throughout the year keeping their locations clean, and gave close to 4,000 hours in collecting more than 2,200 bags of trash and recyclable materials.

Beautification: This included several paint projects at Irving parks and recreation centers, such as the Senter Park pool area and the Running Bear Park Playground. We also supported tree-



Councilman Oscar Ward and KIB Board Members Margie Stipes, Chuck Kirk and Jim Scrivner (L to R) helped Elliott Elementary celebrate Arbor Day.

planting events like Arbor Day and continued to maintain our plot at the Gerald Taylor Memorial Community Garden.

Recycling: Our Green Events program provided recycling at eight different community events, like the Family Promise Steps and Strides Fun Run and the Irving Family YMCA Fall Festival. We also partnered with the YMCA for our America Recycles Day event, where the seniors group had their best effort so far, collecting 1,440 pounds of recyclables during November.

In 2015, KIB volunteers gave a total of 8,245 hours in service, which equates to a value of more than \$190,000! We can't thank them enough for all they do to help our organization and this community. As a volunteer-driven, grass-roots organization KIB depends on the generosity of community members from all areas, whether they live, work or attend school in Irving, and we invite everyone to join us in 2016.

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Did You Know?

From Earth 911, here are some tips for your New Year's Healthy Home checklist:

- Change your furnace filter: Upgrading to a high performance filter removes over 90% of particles and airborne allergens
- Make your own non-toxic cleaning products: Check out the video on the Earth 911 website to see how to use natural ingredients like baking soda, vinegar, and essential oils in your household
- Replace your plastic storage containers with glass or metal to decrease toxins.



KIB sign in table volunteers Vicki Haynes, Lisa Ross, Scott Wilson and Elouise McMillian helped the Trash-Off run smoothly on April 11.

North Lake College Service Learning students played a big part in KIB activities, including the South Library grand opening, below left, and the YMCA Fall Festival, below right.



We added QR codes in 2015, to make KIB news easier than ever to access. This one takes you to our website:

