

Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter

Traffic and Transportation

This month our spotlight shines on the City of Irving's Traffic and Transportation Department, which operates and maintains the city's streets and traffic control devices. The department is split into two divisions: Streets and Traffic. The Streets Division provides safe and well-maintained streets, alleys, sidewalks and drainage facilities, while the Traffic Division plans, operates and maintains the transportation systems within the city in a safe, efficient and proactive manner. The department also houses the Environmental Outreach Program, familiar to many of us as "Think Green...Be Green."

KIB works closely with Streets in the Adopt-a-Spot program. If you ever wondered how a sign goes from "available for adoption" to the name of a new adopter, look no further than the staff in the Streets Department. KIB staff submits a request, and the sign is often changed out the very same day. To keep our streets clean, they are in charge of street sweeping, and to keep them safe, they also fix potholes, with the aid of the 24-hour pothole hotline, which is displayed on city asphalt trucks. Anyone can call the hotline number at

972-721-7303 to report the location of a pothole. Graffiti removal also falls under the Streets division, and they have achieved a 100% rate of responding to a report of graffiti and removing it within 48 hours. That's hard to improve on, and it's obvious that they take pride in their efficiency and performing well in every job they do.

"Think Green...Be Green" covers all things environmental that the city has to offer, and includes a webpage on the city's site that is full of information, tips and educational opportunities. If you want to find out more about reducing, reusing and recycling, there are links for that. Do you want

to learn how to harness the energy of the sun by making a solar oven, conserve water by making a rain barrel, or discover plants and wildlife along the Champion Trails? These are examples of classes offered by Think Green...Be Green, many of them at no charge. You may register online at the website www.cityofirving.org, or scan the QR code below:



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Did You Know?

Since we're featuring our Traffic Department this time, here are facts and tips from Earth 911 about recycling tires:

- Nearly 300 million scrap tires are generated each year, but thanks to aggressive recycling efforts, only 10% now end up in landfills.
- Rubberized asphalt roads (made from recycled tires) are quieter, more durable and can be half the thickness of regular asphalt.
- Creative uses for tires include raised garden beds, hanging planters and much more. Check out their ideas at www.earth911.com!

Don't mess with Texas

TRASH-OFF

APRIL 9, 2016

Save the date: Saturday, April 9 is the "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off," our state's signature event for the Great American Cleanup. Online registration is ready at www.keepirvingbeautiful.org, or scan the QR code below the picture of some of last year's volunteers.



KIB to be Honored in February

Keep Irving Beautiful staff is headed to Orlando for the 2016 Keep America Beautiful National Conference, which will be held February 1-3. In addition to attending educational sessions, networking with affiliates from all over the country, and getting new ideas to bring back to Irving, they will also be receiving awards. KIB will be among the very first affiliates (only six in the country) to be honored by Keep America Beautiful with their new award of Sustained Excellence. This represents KIB winning

awards in 2013 and 2014 and scoring at least 90 points on this year's application. This is an achievement that reflects all the hard work done by our partners, and for that we are truly grateful. We are in the process of planning activities for 2016, and look forward to working with old friends who have volunteered with or sponsored KIB for many years, as well as welcoming new partners for the first time.