

September 21, 2009

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Approximately 160 community volunteers walked more than half a dozen areas Saturday as part of Burleson's Annual Trash Bash.

Employees of the City's street department and parks maintenance department gathered the trash bags from each cleanup site and came up with a grand total of 1,500 pounds of litter and debris collected in a span of two hours. The most unusual item discovered was a window.

Volunteers of all ages combined forces with the City's environmental services department and Keep Burleson Beautiful on Sept. 19 to beautify the city. Litter and debris were removed from retail corridors, residential drainage channels, and streets. The targeted areas were Warren Park; the areas behind Hobby Lobby, Home Depot and Building Blocks Day Care; Bailey Lake; part of Hidden Creek Parkway; part of Hulen Street; the drainage ditches around Hughes Middle School; and Gateway Station.

Thanks to donations from CiCi's Pizza and Domino's Pizza, volunteers enjoyed a pizza feast and the chance to take home door prizes. Each participant received a neon green "Burleson Trash Bash – Celebrating the Trinity River and its Tributaries" t-shirt and either a bracelet or a bag to reward their volunteer spirit.

The Burleson Trash Bash is part of the regional Trinity Trash Bash program. Key funding for the 2009 Trinity Trash Bash programming was provided by the Texas Clean Rivers Program through the Trinity River Authority (TRA). The free bags, bracelets and a \$100 Wal-Mart gift card (awarded to those volunteers who found the golden fish at their site) were made possible courtesy of TRA.

Every fall since 1992, thousands of Trinity Trash Bash volunteers have rolled up their sleeves to improve and protect the Trinity River watershed. Participants are active in educational, litter cleanup and recycling projects in neighborhoods and at parks, lakes and streams across the Dallas Fort Worth area.



Communities participating in the 2009 Trash Bash include Allen, Arlington, Benbrook, Burleson, Carrollton, Cedar Creek Lake, Fort Worth (Tarrant Regional Water District), Garland, Grand Prairie, Grapevine, Haltom City, Irving, Kaufman, Keller, Lewisville, Mesquite, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills and Rockwall.

In 2008, approximately 68,000 pounds of litter and 15,400 pounds of recyclables were collected through Trash Bash events in area cities. The goal this year is to collect 100,000 pounds of litter before it can pollute the North Central Texas waterways and the Trinity River.

For more information on how you can get involved in beautifying Burleson, call Bianca Chafin at 817-426-9842, or, e-mail bchafin@burlesontx.com.