

March 26, 2009

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-447-5400 ext. 286
F: 817-447-6885
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

Beautify your community at Burleson's Great American Cleanup Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off event on Saturday, April 25, at Warren Park on Johnson Avenue.

Keep Burleson Beautiful and the City of Burleson's environmental services division need volunteers to join the clean-up, 9 a.m.-11 a.m., to remove litter and debris from retail corridors and residential drainage channels. Volunteers who are younger than 18 need to be supervised by an adult volunteer (at a ratio of one adult for every four youth). Those who participate will be treated to a free lunch and prize giveaways following the clean-up.

During the event, students from Burleson High School's Green Club will host an environmental fair. Students and volunteers will learn about environmental issues facing the community as well as take part in some special "green" activities.

The April 25 event is part of the 2009 Great American Cleanup: Green Starts Here campaign of Keep America Beautiful, of which Burleson is an affiliate.

"Green starts with a person's decision to help clean up the local park, retail corridors and residential drainage channels," Bianca Chafin, environmental programs specialist for the City, said. "Green starts here in Burleson, but it extends beyond our borders."

The Great American Cleanup takes place every year, across the nation, between March 1 and May 31. This year an expected 3 million volunteers will get involved and let "green" start with them by participating in 30,000 community improvement activities and educational workshops happening in more than 17,000 communities nationwide.

The Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off began in 1986 to encourage the public to refrain from littering for one designated day. The City of Burleson partners with two community organizations (and the City is looking for more to get involved) in the Burleson Adopt-A-Street program. This program empowers volunteer participants to keep their neighborhoods free of litter, one street at a time.

To sign up as a volunteer for the April 25 Burleson Great American Cleanup Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off, call Environmental Programs Specialist Bianca Chafin at 817-447-5410, ext. 269, by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 23. For more information about this release, call the public information office at 817-447-5400, ext. 286.