

KIB Newsletter



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Looking Back on 2014, Forward to 2015

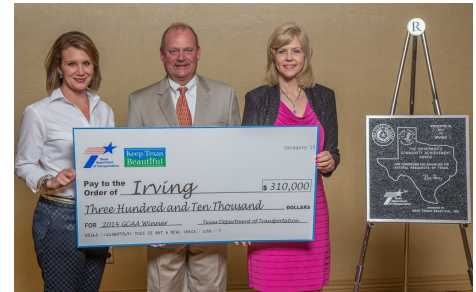
2014 was another banner year for Keep Irving Beautiful and our partners, the volunteers who put in so many hours to help make Irving a better, cleaner, greener, safer place to live. During 2014, we continued our focus on:

Litter Abatement: Our cleanups, including the Trash Bash and the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off, drew 1,043 volunteers who gave 3,280 hours and collected 13,500 pounds of trash and recyclable material. Our Adopt-a-Spot partners remained dedicated to keeping neighborhoods clean, and gave over 5,000 hours in this volunteer effort.

Beautification: We partnered with groups for eleven paint projects at parks and rec centers, four of them at Fritz Park Petting Farm. Our partners also planted 231 trees at the Tree Farm which will be used to replace trees in parks in a few years.

Recycling/Waste Minimization: KIB helped make 18 events "green" by providing recycling collection. For America Recycles Day, we once again partnered with the YMCA seniors, who collected 613 pounds of recyclables.

Community Enhancement: The Gerald Taylor Community Garden at Bear Creek Church continues to thrive. This year we also collected canned items at the Trash Bash for their food pantry.



The year was highlighted by Irving winning the coveted Governor's Community Achievement Award (above) for the 2nd time in five years. This award from TxDOT through Keep Texas Beautiful is a reflection of the dedication of the entire Irving community. The \$310,000 grant will be used to plant and maintain trees along Irving Boulevard that will be enjoyed for many years.

It was with a great deal of sadness that we said goodbye to our dear friend and KIB Board Treasurer Jan Schriefer, who passed away on November 8. Jan was very active not only in KIB, but also in two local doll clubs. Her sense of humor and can-do volunteer spirit will be greatly missed by all.



Coming Up Soon

The KIB office will be closed on January 1st as we all welcome in the new year. We hope you all have a happy and healthy 2015. KIB Board meetings will resume on January 21. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, at 11:00 a.m.

Board Reflections

This month KIB Board member Karen Harmon takes a moment to reflect on the past year and accomplishments:

"The end of the year is always a great time to look back with pride on all the great things that took place here in Irving. But it is also a time to look ahead and plan for future events where we can encourage even more community involvement. On behalf of the entire KIB Board, I want to thank all our volunteers who helped make 2014 so successful, and invite you to participate again in 2015. We appreciate you and all you do to help Keep Irving Beautiful!

