

Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter



Irving's Libraries Have Much to Offer

Irving's first library began in the corner of a furniture store in 1941. Fast forward 75 years, and the Irving Public Library System (IPL) now consists of three state-of-the-art libraries and one storefront branch. Their mission is to improve the quality of life through community engagement, educational events and advanced technology. Facilities include:

- South Irving, 601 Schulze Drive, a Silver LEED-certified building that opened in 2015 to replace the Central Library across the street.
- West Irving, 4444 W. Rochelle, opened in 2011, is Gold LEED-certified and the state's first "Net-Zero" library, meaning the building generates as much power as it uses, through solar and geo-thermal technology.
- Valley Ranch, 401 Cimarron Trail, which was expanded by 5,000 square feet in 2014
- East Branch, 440 S. Nursery Road, celebrating 20 years in 2016

There is something for everyone at an Irving Library. Programs like the Summer Reading Challenge, the Big Read and "One Book, One Irving" engage the whole community in reading, and the variety of activities offered is impressive: career advancement/job search advice; meditation and "Color Me Calm" classes; "Conversaciones" English practice; movie nights and book clubs are just a small sampling. And yes, you can check out books, too! The library also offers a large selection of E-books which can be checked out anytime, from anywhere, and participates in the TexShare interlibrary sharing program.



KIB staff recently promoted clean public spaces at the South Library.

The Friends of the Library, who happen to share a building with KIB, are volunteers who support the library in a variety of ways. Their annual book sale, as well as the first Wednesday sales raise thousands of dollars for the library each year. They also donate books to KIB to be used as prizes with our spinning wheel, and they are quite popular with all ages. Being a "Friend" is just one way to volunteer with the library. For more information, call 972-721-2530.

The libraries have so much to offer that it is impossible to cover everything in this small space. Their page on the City of Irving website is full of information and links. Just go to: <http://www.cityofirving.org/1054/Library>, or scan the QR code to the right and all the information will be at you fingertips. Enjoy discovering Irving libraries!



KIB Celebrates "America Recycles Day"

We all know that April 22 is Earth Day, and the entire month of April has become known as Earth Month, but did you know that recycling has its own day and month, too? A Keep America Beautiful initiative, "America Recycles Day" has been celebrated on November 15 since 1997, but just like Earth Day, the celebration has extended into the whole month. Of course, here at KIB, every day is Recycles Day, and we encourage our residents to follow the three R's—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle—all year-round. Our official America Recycles Day Event for the past eight years has been a partnership with our friends at the Irving Family YMCA, specifically the

seniors group. KIB supplies the blue bags, and the seniors start bringing in their recyclables in October. The bags are weighed and recorded, with results reported to Keep America Beautiful. We will also be promoting recycling at the annual "Unite for Troops" event on November 12 at Porter's Army Navy, by providing recycling stations throughout the grounds. KIB encourages everyone to make recycling a part of their daily lives, and what better time to start than during November, Americas Recycles Month? Start by going to the website and taking the recycling pledge: <https://americarecyclesday.org/pledge/>

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Did You Know?

Libraries and books lead us to think about paper, so let's share some facts on paper recycling. Did you know that:

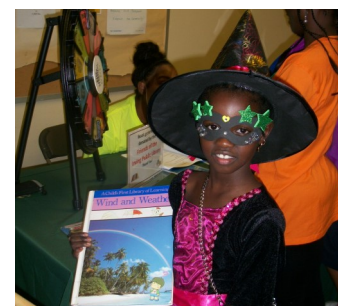
Every ton of recycled paper saves:

- 17 trees
- 7,000 gallons of water
- 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space
- 463 gallons of oil

Paper is categorized by the fiber length, which shrinks each time the paper goes through the recycling process. Newsprint and phonebooks have the shortest fibers, usually made from paper in its 5th to 7th generation.

By weight, more paper is recovered for recycling than plastic, aluminum and glass combined.

Courtesy of Earth911.com



Recycled books donated by the Friends of the Irving Public Library are a popular giveaway item at the KIB table, such as at the YMCA Fall Festival, above.



America Recycles Day
NOVEMBER 15

