

# Keep Blanco Beautiful Newsletter

Issue X



## Save the Date

**Trash-Off and River Cleanup 2022 will be on 4/2/21!**

We will be holding our annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off and Blanco River Clean-Up on Saturday, April 2, 2022. We're looking forward to cleaning up Blanco with our community that weekend! More information will be provided closer to the event and will be posted on our [website](#). Here's a list of recommended hashtags for our events this year:

#KeepBlancoBeautiful #BeautifyBlanco #DoBeautifulThings #GAC #DMWTTTO  
#KeepTexasBeautiful #KeepAmericaBeautiful #BeautifyTx #TrashTag

## Join us in 2022!

Are you looking for a new organization to volunteer with? Join KBB! Our [committees](#) include: Beautification, Civic/Neighborhood, Education/ Schools, Fundraising/Finance, Law enforcement/Municipal, Public Awareness, and Recycling. The beautification committee sets goals for landscaping projects, tree planting programs and initiatives, wildflower planting, quality of life projects. This committee is currently meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday mornings in front of City Hall weather permitting to maintain the flower beds and



pots around the courthouse square and in Bindseil Park. Our education committee educates school children regarding litter and waste handling practices and teaches officials, teachers, and staff regarding cleanliness techniques. The business and industry committee educates the business community and develops financial resources for programs. The civic/neighborhood committee focuses on developing special projects for local community and neighborhood groups and involving people in the projects and to educate people about litter. The law enforcement/municipal committee

serves as the “Gatekeeper” of the trash handling practices in the city and works with the local government agencies to educate citizens and enforce environmental codes and ordinances. The public awareness committee informs the public and develops programs of recognition; this committee is also in charge of running the website and social media pages. Our recycling committee explores all solid waste options for the community and provides education to the general public about recycling. All of the committees help with the clean up committee and the focus is on clean-ups and addressing the symptom, litter, rather than the problem, littering. Awareness and education and ongoing programs like Trash-Off and [Adopt- A - Highway](#) fall under this committee as well. No special skills are needed and volunteers range in age from 20s - 80s. Volunteers do not need to live in Blanco to be a part of this wonderful organization. Come join us in 2022!



## Membership Drive

KBB has a membership drive each year and it's starting up shortly. We will be handing out our 2022 brochure shortly, so get excited! The membership prices are: \$300-Sponsor, \$150-Patron, \$100-Business, \$25-Individual, and \$0-Students. We wouldn't be able to do everything we do without your support; contact us if you would like to become a member!  
Blanco CLPP Updates

### Upcoming Environmental Holidays

America Recycles Day (Nov. 15)

National Hiking Day (Nov. 17)

Wildlife Conservation Day (Dec. 4)

World Soil Day (Dec. 5)

## Cigarette Litter Prevention Program (CLPP) Updates

Would you like to live in a cigarette butt free community? Join our [CLPP](#) today! KBB has partnered with [Keep America Beautiful \(KAB\)](#) to implement this program and the goal is to decrease the amount of cigarette butts around town by providing more receptacles/personal ashtrays and educate community members. We have pocket ashtrays, cigarette litter brochures, "Don't Leave Your Butts Behind" window decals, and stickers for FREE. [Contact](#) us if you are interested in any of the above. Never throw your cigarette butts on the ground and always properly dispose them properly. If you see one on the ground, take the time to pick it up to throw away in a receptacle. Cigarette butts might be small, but throwing them on the ground is inexcusable. There are over 30 receptacles around the square for smokers convenience. KBB empties the receptacles a few times during the year and sends all the butts to [TerraCycle](#) to be recycled; KBB is part of their Cigarette Waste Recycling Program.



3,300 butts were recycled in 2021. A \$1.00 is donated towards the [KAB CLPP](#) for every pound of cigarette waste collected by Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company. Please contact Retta Martin at (830) 833-4720 or send us an email at [keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the CLPP. Must be 18 or older. "Don't leave your butts behind!"

**Follow us on social media!**  
[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)

## Holiday Party Tips

Hosting a green holiday party might be easier than you think. Start by sending out an Evite rather than a paper invitation to guests for your party. There are many holiday party



decorations that can be reused from year to year.

Purchase silk flowers or fake garlands rather than real ones for decorations because they will last longer. You can even make decorations from objects around your house or yard like a string of popcorn or old holiday cards. Decorate with LED lights because they are more efficient and last longer. Serve finger foods to minimize dish and utensil usage and encourage smaller portions to reduce the amount of food waste. By using reusable dishes, glasses, and utensils you can cut down on the waste of paper and plastic products; using cloth napkins do as well. Make sure to fill up your

dishwasher fully before running it to save energy running fewer cycles. Before heading to the store, plan the menu so you will know exactly what to purchase and how much. Buy food and drinks in bulk and avoid individually packaged items to reduce waste. Aluminum foil is recyclable and should be used instead of plastic wrap to store leftovers. Similar to running a full dishwasher, make sure to run appliances on full loads like cooking several items in the same oven. Gift-giving is common at holiday parties so here are a few tips to keep it green. Bring reusable bags when you go shopping to reduce the number of plastic bags. You could also make your own gifts such as cookies or knit a scarf. Another option

is to give gifts that are locally made and/or energy-efficient or tickets to local events. Donations to a good cause or volunteering are also great ways to be environmentally friendly. If a gift is purchased, wrap it in reusable materials such as newspapers. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s website, “If every American family wrapped just three presents in reused materials, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields.” Chocolate and candy tins can be reused as containers or even as gift wrap. Another fun idea is to have a scavenger hunt for the unwrapped presented hidden around the house. When unwrapping the gifts, make sure to recycle all the items properly such as paper and cardboard. Paper, cardboard, and glass can be recycled at the Blanco County Recycling Center, which is located at 425 Jones Street. You can also donate any old items or unwanted gifts to places like the Good Samaritan Center located at 607 Chandler Street. Send home leftovers with your guests to make sure nothing is wasted. These are just a few tips to help make your holiday party green. We can all make and keep Blanco beautiful by following these green tips!



**Check out our [website](#) today to see the latest photos and helpful information!**

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