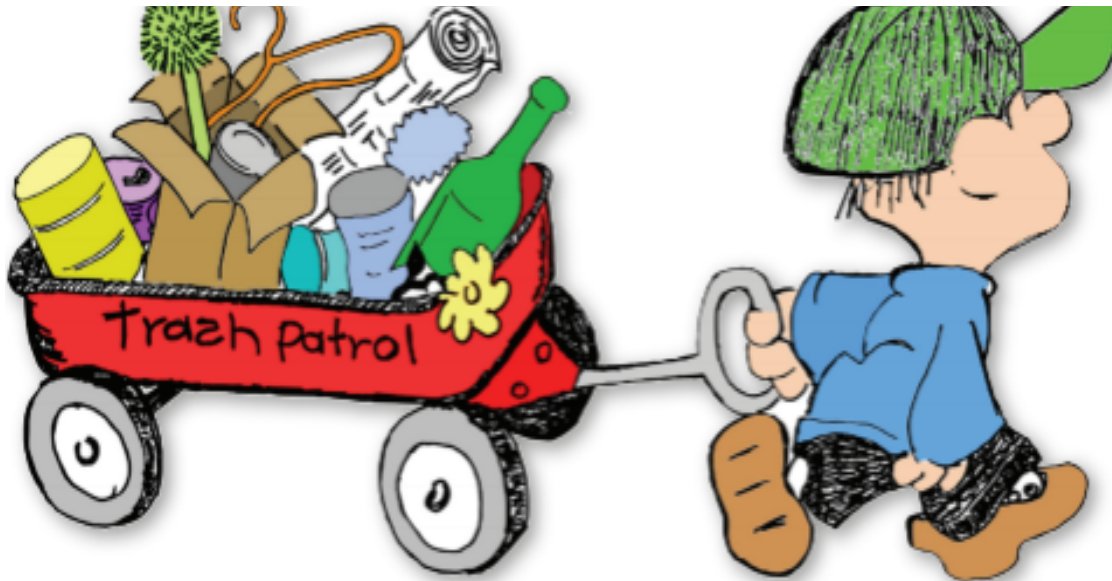


# Keep Blanco Beautiful Newsletter

Issue XII



## Celebrate America Recycles Day

**[America Recycles Day](#)** takes place on **November 15, 2022**. The Blanco County Recycling Center located at 425 Jones Street is self-serve and open seven days a week 24 hours a day. The center has multiple bins for the different recyclables and each bin has a sign to help identify which item goes where. Because of the different containers, it is really easy for Blanco County residents to drop off their recyclables. Paper, aluminum beverage cans, cardboard, glass, cooking, motor oils, steel cans, scrap metals, and oil filters, are all accepted at this center. Plastic is not accepted at this time due to the lack of market. Other items not accepted include automotive parts, garden hoses, PVC pipe, blue tarps, paint, and tires. There is a large red sign at the center that lists the items that can and cannot be recycled to help residents out.

## Scenic City Certification

The [City of Blanco](#) has achieved Gold Status (80-89% of possible points) for [Scenic City](#) Certification. The City is one of six newly qualified cities and there are currently 91 certified Scenic Cities. The certification is valid for five years and then the City will need to recertify.



The [Scenic City Certification Program](#) is “to support and recognize the Texas municipalities that implement high-quality scenic standards for public spaces” which include having higher municipal standards, environmental conservation, economic growth and growth management, and high quality of life for citizens. Any Texas city may apply for certification, but there are required criteria needed to be named a Scenic City. These required criteria include trees and landscaping along major roadways, city streets, street medians, and in parking lots; prohibition on new off-premises signage (billboards); and permitting process and size,

placement, and quantity requirements for on-premises signage. Other areas that are reviewed include streetscape enhancement; parks, trails, and open space; lighting standards; design integrity; landscaping; sign control; litter and graffiti prohibition; utility and cable line programs; dumpster screening; and unique municipal features and special programs. After the application was submitted, the application was evaluated by the Scenic City Certification Program Advisory Committee. The benefits of this certification include assessment, analysis, diagnostic, communication, economic development, recognition, and value. More detailed information regarding these benefits can be found at <https://www.scenictexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/SC-FAQ.pdf>. Scenic Texas, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our state’s visual environment, particularly as seen by the traveling public.

## Upcoming Eclipses

On October 14, 2023, an annular solar eclipse will occur. On April 8, 2024, there will be a total eclipse of the sun. Other parts of the U.S. have had their infrastructure, private property and community services overwhelmed by visitors during prior major eclipses; we don’t want that to happen in Blanco County and a task force has already been formed. The 2024 Eclipse Planning Task Force for



Blanco County's goal is to encourage preparation, offer suggestions, and assist with sharing ideas for the upcoming eclipses. Anyone interested in joining these efforts should fill out this [survey](#) or email [bc.eclipseplanning@gmail.com](mailto:bc.eclipseplanning@gmail.com). For more information visit the [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page or [Instagram](#) page.

### Upcoming Environmental Holidays

- America Recycles Day (Nov. 15)
- National Hiking Day (Nov. 17)
- World Pollution Prevention Day (Dec. 2)
- Wildlife Conservation Day (Dec. 4)
- World Soil Day (Dec. 5)
- International Mountain Day (Dec. 11)



### Kayak and Clean the Blanco River

KBB received the [Dos Equis Waterway Cleanup](#) Month Grant earlier this year. This grant has allowed us to expand the river cleanup. With these funds, KBB was able to purchase three inflatable double kayaks and four inflatable single kayaks. These inflatable kayaks will be lent out to volunteers\* who want to clean the river along with a life jacket, a litter grabber, and a mesh bag. All items must be returned to KBB and a wrap-up report (how many bags of trash collected) must be submitted to KBB after your event is completed. To sign

up to rent a kayak please visit [here](#). Renting a kayak and all of the supplies is completely FREE! For any other questions, please contact us at [keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com). Thank you to [Dos Equis](#) and [Keep Texas Beautiful](#) for helping us expand our river cleanup program!

\*Because this is a grant that is funded by [Dos Equis](#), which is a beer brand, volunteers

must be 21 years of age or older.

## Don't Leave Your Butts Behind

Are you tired of seeing cigarette butts littered along the sidewalks and streets? Join KBB's Cigarette Litter (CLPP). KBB has [America](#) and has a goal to cigarette butts more ashtrays and members. KBB receptacles cigarette butts be recycled; KBB [Waste Recycling](#) are available for ashtrays should cigarette litter has cigarette Leave Your Butts available for a cigarette but needs the



Prevention Program partnered with [Keep Beautiful](#) on this program decrease the number of around town by providing receptacles/personal educating community has added over 30 around town and all are mailed to [TerraCycle](#) to is part of their [Cigarette Program](#). Pocket ashtrays FREE; these pocket help reduce the amount of along the roads. KBB also litter brochures and "Don't Behind" window decals FREE. KBB desires to have litter-free historic district help of the community!

"Don't Leave Your Butts Behind." Let's join together to create a cleaner, greener, more beautiful town! For more information please visit our [website](#) which has a page dedicated to our CLPP and contains lots of facts and information. Please contact us at [keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the CLPP or any of the free items. Must be 18 or older.



**Facebook:** [KeepBlancoBeautiful](#)  
**Instagram:** [keepblancobeautiful](#)  
**Twitter:** [BlancoBeautiful](#)

## Seeking Secretary

We are currently looking for a new board member for Secretary. The Secretary “shall keep the records, the minutes of the meetings, a roll of the attendance; shall notify officers, and the committee chairpersons of meeting time and place, shall distribute to members proper notices of all call meetings, and of other meetings when necessary.” Any interested volunteers should send an email to [keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keepblancobeautiful@gmail.com). If you are interested in joining KBB, but not ready to take on a board member role, we’d still love to have you join; we are always looking for volunteers! Our committees include Education, Civic/Neighborhood, Education/ Schools, Fundraising/Finance, Law Enforcement/Municipal, Public Awareness, and Recycling. More information on these committees can be found on our [website](#). We have volunteers ranging in all ages and you do not have to live in Blanco. Our Beautification Committee meets on Tuesday mornings in front of City Hall at 9 a.m. weather permitting. All are welcome!

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