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eNewsletter

MAKING HOUSTON SHINE SINCE 1979

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The Houston Astros: “Home Runs for Trees”

The Houston Astros continued their “Home Runs for Trees” program on Tuesday, October 26th, with their second installment of trees. Members of the Houston Astros staff participated in the planting as part of the Astros green initiative to restore forestation around the Houston area. The Astros, along with Play Green® partners Keep Houston Beautiful, HLS Enterprises and Christison Landscape, planted 46 Loblolly trees at the Astros MLB Urban Youth Academy. Each one of the trees represents an Astros home run hit at Minute Maid Park from June 23 through October 3. With these 46 trees, the team will have planted 62 trees in 2010 and 234 since kicking off the Play Green® Campaign in 2008.

*We Teach
We Work With Youth
We Lead
We Recognize Others*



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Beautification Project at Waco and Lyons



On Saturday, October 30, 2010, volunteers from the City of Houston's Public Works and Engineering Department Right-of-Way and Fleet Maintenance Division and The Fifth Ward Missionary Baptist Church, along with community residents worked on a Beautification Project all morning at Waco and Lyons under the bridge overpass.

This project transformed the area and has done a lot to prevent illegal dumping.

Through the volunteer work of planting trees, mulching the landscape, and cleaning the area, community ownership for the site grew. Twenty-two live oak trees were planted around the bridge, in addition to the landscaping. The previously blighted site is now being maintained regularly by the Fifth Ward Missionary Baptist Church.



The project was supported by Keep Houston Beautiful and The Texas Department of Transportation, Boyer, Inc, RdLR ARCHITECTS INC. who provided in-kind contribution services to support the success of the project.

Partners in this initiative included Scotts Miracle-Gro, who donated 88 bags of landscaping mulch and 108 bags of Organic Garden soil to enrich the ivy planting area under the bridge and enhance their green space as well as help prevent illegal dumping.



25th Anniversary of the International Coastal Cleanup



The 25th Anniversary of the International Coastal Cleanup was celebrated around the world on Saturday, September 25, 2010. Hundreds of thousands of people in more than 100 countries volunteered to cleanup beaches, lakes, and rivers and remove millions of pounds of trash.

Little White Oak Bayou at Moody Park was one of the many sites that was cleaned. 200 volunteers from Bank of America worked together to remove the trash and debris from the waterway to conserve the ocean.

The volunteers were organized into 8 teams, and covered 3.6 miles of waterway. They collected 1.64 tons of debris. This debris consisted of 117 Bags of Trash, as well as 23 Tires, 3 shopping carts, and 1 television set. The most unusual item collected was a car chassis pulled from out of the water of the bayou.

This event was sponsored by Bank of America and The Ocean Conservancy, in partnership with Keep Houston Beautiful, the City of Houston, Public Works and Engineering Department, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Solid Waste Management, the Houston Police Department, Neighborhood Protection Corps, M.D. Anderson, YMCA, and Harris County Flood Control District.



26th Annual Mayor's Proud Partners Luncheon

Keep Houston Beautiful recognized exceptional local individuals, neighborhoods, businesses and organizations for their volunteer efforts during the Mayor's Proud Partners Awards Luncheon, Monday November 15, 2010. The reception was at the Westin Oaks Houston Hotel, and was followed by the luncheon and awards program.

The Mayor's Proud Partners Awards Luncheon coincided with the 2010 America Recycles Day (ARD). The 450 guests that attended the Mayor's Proud Partners Luncheon were encouraged to pledge to increase their recycling habits at home and at work.



Mayor Parker presented the 2010 Mayor's Outstanding Proud Partner Award to H-E-B and it was accepted by Scott McClelland, President of H-E-B's Houston Division.

The Landmark/Beautification Award was presented to the Memorial Park Conservancy and Houston Parks and Recreation Department for The Memorial Park Living Bridge, a much needed safe trail connection. James A. Elkins, III was honored with the Distinguished Service Award for his service on the Houston Parks

Board. The event also honored Calvin Wills as the J. Howard Rambin, III Founder Award for his efforts to tirelessly bring about improvements to the Pleasantville neighborhood.

Adopt-A-Block

MetroBank N.A. adopted a block at Bellaire Blvd. and Corporate Blvd. 6 years ago because their headquarters and main bank location are located there. Their volunteers consist of bank employees representing all departments, including senior executives, corporate personnel and branch staff members. The employees really enjoy the project and since they have been maintaining this site it has been litter-free.



To date, there are 131 community groups that have agreed to clean and maintain a block in the Houston area through Keep Houston Beautiful's Adopt-A-Block program. This program is a great way for groups to be actively involved in their community, while making Houston the cleanest city in America.



To Adopt-A-Block for your group, find a minimum of 500 yards of an incorporated City of Houston street and agree to pick up litter from that street at least four times a year or more for a two year period. Keep Houston Beautiful provides equipment and trash bags, and you provide the volunteers.

Adopting a block not only benefits the community by making it more attractive and litter-free, but it also creates recognition for your group and gives the knowledge that you are making a difference. Join the many other groups that have decided to better Houston by filling out the forms below.

[Click here to fill out the Adopt-A-Block forms.](#)