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**TUCSON
CLEAN &
BEAUTIFUL INC.**

Our Third Decade of Community Partnership!

VOLUME 9 — ISSUE 2

FALL 2007

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World Environmental Synergy Spotlights Local Organizations TCB Undertakes Program Planning to Address Global Warming

To our Directors, Members, Volunteers, Sponsors, Staff and the Tucson area Community:

"Within any important issue, there are always aspects no one wishes to discuss."

- George Orwell

A renewed environmental synergy has significantly revitalized the leadership role of environmental organizations and the movement on a local, state, national and world level. We applaud our former

Vice President, Al Gore, for "An Inconvenient Truth", validating the impact of the scientific evidence confirming that Global Warming is no longer a theory but a scientific amalgamation of proven facts, requiring worldwide political action, participation, and accountable calculated results.

The seriousness of this rejuvenation has presented TCB with new challenges and the need for evaluating our present mission and direction. Are we using our

community leadership and resources effectively? Can we provide programs and the resources for increased citizen demand and recruitment? Are we presently at our organization's capacity limits to sustain substantive, qualitative educational and participatory programs?

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Award-Winning Adopt-a-Park Saves Tax Dollars & Environment

In September 2007, the Arizona Parks & Recreation Association presented its “Partnership Award” to Tucson Clean & Beautiful and the City of Tucson Parks & Recreation Department. The Adopt-a-Park and Public Areas volunteer litter cleanup program, established with the founding of TCB, continues to have a positive impact on Tucson’s environment and quality of life, as well as economic well-being. In just the past year, the volunteer efforts provided through this program are estimated to have saved taxpayers an astounding \$130,000 in labor! This estimate is based only on the thousands of volunteer service hours provided each year, and is in addition to the value of aesthetic and environmental benefits along with enhanced property values associated with our community’s parks, streets and washes being cleaner and safer for all to enjoy.

Thank you to our dedicated community volunteers, and staff of the City of Tucson & Pima County for working with Tucson Clean & Beautiful to make this possible! ♦

Below: JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa Adopt-a-Street recognition ceremony, 4/28/2007



Thank you to several other recently recognized volunteer groups:

- 3/24/2007: Toltecalli Academy—Liberty Ave. (Irvington Rd. to Nebraska St.)
- 4/5/2007: Wingspan Senior Pride—Iron Horse Park
- 4/6/2007: Pima Comm. College Desert Vista Student Government—Calle Santa Cruz
- 4/14/2007: The Tucson Prunes, Take 2—Himmel Park
- 4/21/2007: Trinity Lutheran Church—Houghton Rd. (Valencia Rd. to Poorman Rd.)
- 4/22/2007: UA Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity—Park Ave. (Grant-Speedway)
- 5/16/2007: Child & Family Resources—Mission Manor Park
- 10/20/2007: Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn.—Santa Clara Ave. (Drexel to Valencia)

Tucson Clean & Beautiful

Welcomes New Members to its Board of Directors:

Judy Dare,
Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer

Michael Dunne,
Cox Communications

Beth Gorman,
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

TCB thanks each board member and their affiliated organization, for committing to improve our community's environment and quality of life through Tucson Clean & Beautiful programs!

Tucson Clean & Beautiful News

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Mission Statement

The purpose of Tucson Clean & Beautiful, Inc., a non-profit organization, is to preserve and improve our environment, conserve natural resources, and enhance the quality of life in the City of Tucson and eastern Pima County. These goals will be achieved through initiating educational and participatory programs implemented with broad-citizen, multi-culture support.

Please join as a Tucson Clean & Beautiful supporting member! TCB programs have an immensely positive impact on the environment and quality of life in the Tucson-Pima County metro area. Your membership helps sustain these important efforts. Members are also eligible for discounts at participating plant nurseries and recycling & waste reduction partners. Visit our website or call 791-3109 for a member benefits list. **Already a Tucson Clean & Beautiful member? Share the gift of a cleaner local environment with your friends and family—give gift membership for their next special day!**

Please check membership category: Junior (12 and under) - \$5 Student & Senior - \$15 Individual - \$20
 Family - \$30 Business - \$100 to \$500 Corporate - \$500 to \$2000 Benefactor - \$2000 or more
 This is a gift membership (please fill in gift recipient information below and attach your information)
 My company matches donations (please include matching gift form)

Membership Dues: \$ _____
 Additional Gift: \$ _____
 Total Donation: \$ _____

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Please mail your membership form to:

Tucson Clean & Beautiful
P.O. Box 27210
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210
 or, visit www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org
 to donate online through Network for Good!

Energy Efficiency, Proper Disposal Key for Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs



Heavy promotion by the media and retailers has brought long-life Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) to the forefront of environmental talk. Touted as a simple and inexpensive path to saving energy and money while reducing Global Warming, CFLs combine the best of tube fluorescent bulbs commonly used in commercial buildings—long life span and relatively low energy usage—into a small bulb that fits standard light fixtures. Consumers are being encouraged to quickly change out all inefficient short-life standard incandescent bulbs.

Not included in the promotions is the fact that compact fluorescent bulbs—as well as the long tube style—contain small amounts of mercury. Please remember these tips to maximize environmental and economic benefits of CFLs:

- ◆ Properly dispose of used fluorescent bulbs! (Bulbs are not recyclable at curbside, business or neighborhood sites; Household Hazardous Waste accepts fluorescent bulbs; incandescent bulbs may be thrown away)
- ◆ Change to new CFLs as incandescent bulbs burn out! (How wasteful is it to throw away perfectly functional bulbs?)
- ◆ Turn lights and appliances off when not in the room! (The first key to efficiency and savings is reducing use overall)

For more information:

- ◆ Tucson Recycles Info Line, 791-5000
- ◆ Household Hazardous Waste: www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw

Buffelgrass: Desert & Neighborhood Invader

How many weed-infested roadsides, vacant lots and alleyways do we all pass each day? And, it seems like the patches of weeds keep getting drier and bigger each year. Our major “growing”: problem: invasive plants, especially Buffelgrass!

This highly desert-adapted, fire-prone grass was introduced from the African savannah to the Sonoran Desert decades ago for erosion control and enhanced cattle pasture. While it had limited success for those uses, the unfortunate conse-

quence is its spread far beyond initial pasture and revegetation sites and yards and are now prevalent throughout southern Arizona and northern Mexico.

In light of recent California wildfires, it is important to note that no part of the Tucson area is immune from the spread of Buffelgrass. In the Tucson area, maintenance deficiencies combined with rapid spread of seeds is allowing Buffelgrass and other non-native invasive plants to enter

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World Environmental Synergy Spotlights Local Organizations

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These and other questions will be addressed in the next six months. TCB and Trees for Tucson will undertake a series of major planning strategy meetings to define and determine goals and programs for the next five years. These planning sessions will include: program evaluation, new programs, new organizational structure, financial sustainability, and other organizational, operational and program considerations. Our primary goal will be to focus on Global Warming and ensure that our environmental leadership is effective, sustainable and benefits all segments of our community—environmentally, economically, and socially.

We have the experience, the commitment and qualifications, and last, but not least, a committed and passionate Board of Directors, Membership, Volunteers, Sponsors and especially our Staff to expand our green footprint. I encourage each one of you to join us and fight this environmental battle and to win it, for all of our world and future generations.

I thank you all for making my purpose in life so meaningful.

With commitment to our future,

Joan Lionetti, TCB Executive Director

Tips for Buffelgrass Removal at Home:

- ◆ **Dig up buffelgrass at the roots—especially when the ground is wet**
- ◆ **Avoid buffelgrass mowing & weed-eating (mowing maintenance will not kill buffelgrass; worse, it spreads seed even further)**
- ◆ **Spray green buffelgrass clumps with glyphosphate containing herbicides**

For more information and to get involved in invasive plant removal volunteer efforts:

Call 877-6000

or visit:

www.buffelgrass.org

Children's Memorial & Tree Park Update

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 27, 2007 at Michael Perry Park for new Children's Memorial Garden and Commemorative Tree features at Pantano River Park. TCB will provide updates as commemorative tree, children's memorial, and sponsor opportunities become available! ◇



Buffelgrass: Desert & Neighborhood Invader

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neighborhoods, vacant lots and even open desert, where native plants and desirable non-invasive vegetation are being crowded out.

Buffelgrass spreads and grows quickly in dense stands during wet weather, and quickly dries out to become a fire hazard in dry weather. Our formerly fire-resistant desert environment and low-maintenance home landscapes now require consistent, year-round maintenance to ensure that buffelgrass is quickly removed, and communitywide vigilance to ensure no regrowth.

Please do your part—start at your home and in your neighborhood, removing buffelgrass and encouraging your neighbors as well as nearby business and property owners to do the same! Your action will help to prevent potentially irrevocable damage to our unique Sonoran Desert, as well as the chance of buffelgrass-fueled fires reaching your neighborhood and home! ♦

Above, right: Buffelgrass-infested alleyway and yard, fire hazard with adjacent wood fence and utility poles



"Live in Studio C" Volume 2 CD

Available Soon!

Radio station 92.9 The Mountain has renewed its commitment to support Tucson Clean & Beautiful, along with the Tucson Community Food Bank through Volume 2 of the "Live in Studio C" CD compilation. This CD will again feature acoustic versions of artists' recent famous songs, recorded right here in Tucson!

CDs will be on sale for \$15 each at all Tucson area Bookmans locations be-



ginning in late November 2007. Help support outstanding music and community nonprofit organizations at the same time by purchasing a copy today. These make great gifts for the holidays and special occasions. TCB sends its appreciation to 92.9 The Mountain staff and listeners for supporting community & environmental improvement efforts! ♦

1,000 More Trees for Tucson!

On the weekend of Saturday, October 27, 2007, 600 volunteers of all ages from a variety of business & community groups joined together to help plant 1,000 Trees for Tucson throughout the Tucson metro area on Make a Difference Day.

This effort, organized and sponsored by Tucson Electric Power, enabled TCB's Trees for Tucson program to provide free 5-gallon size native desert-adapted shade trees to volunteer groups, with additional sponsorship & volunteer support from the Arizona Daily Star, Citi, and Cox Communications. These 1,000 trees were planted at dozens of school & nonprofit organization buildings, Habitat for Humanity homes, parks, along streets, and many other community sites. These trees will help to beautify, shade & cool our community, while absorbing greenhouse gases & pollution, providing wildlife habitat and reducing stormwater runoff for many years to come!

The once-a-year 1,000 Trees for Tucson project is planned for at least the next four years. However the Tucson area community can still get involved by sup-



Left: Henry Elementary School volunteer tree planting and school grounds cleanup project, October 27, 2007

porting the Trees for Tucson "Tree Bank", with donations of any amount accepted to help plant even more trees throughout the year. Shade trees are also available year for planting through the Trees for Tucson program, including low-cost shade trees (\$6 each) delivered to residences within the Tucson Electric Power service area to plant on the sunny sides of their home (especially the west side, but also the east or south) and for neighborhood groups to plant along streets. Free trees and tree planting & maintenance demonstrations are also available for schools and nonprofit organizations. Visit www.treesfortucson.org or call 791-3109 for more information and an application for these low-cost shade trees. ♦