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Our Third Decade of Community Partnership!

NEWS!

DECEMBER 2012 - JANUARY 2013

Holidays, Recycling & New Year Notes!

Thank you for your interest in, and support of, Tucson Clean & Beautiful! As 2012 winds down, this edition of TCB News is our reminder of the importance of prioritizing waste reduction, reuse and recycling during this season and learning to incorporate these practices into our habits, plans and processes throughout the year! Throwing things away unnecessarily is not only harmful to the environment, but also impacts our own pocketbooks. With the economy still in recovery mode, reducing wastefulness, shopping local and seeking environmentally friendly products are keys to our economic, environmental and social sustainability! Are you a conscious participant toward these goals? Visit TCB's Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Directory online, email recycle@tucsonaz.gov or call (520) 791-5000 for assistance.

Happy Holidays and warm wishes for an outstanding New Year from the TCB Board of Directors and Staff!



Holiday Trash & Recycling Collection Schedule: New lookup tool; Neighborhood Recycling Centers

Due to the Christmas and New Years holidays, City of Tucson residential trash and recycling schedules for Tuesday through Friday of those weeks will be one day later. Residents scheduled for Monday pickup will remain on the same schedule.

A new, convenient lookup tool for your trash & recycling days and many other public services and contacts near you can be found online:

<http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson>

If you are outside City of Tucson limits or served by a private waste and recycling hauling company, your schedule may vary from this. Please be sure to contact your hauler for more details on their schedule.

Is your recycling barrel going to overflow after the holidays? Take items to a neighborhood recycling center! Call (520) 791-5000 or visit www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/recycling-directory to find nearby sites.

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 Trees for Tucson

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 & eastern Pima County. These goals will be achieved through initiating educational & participatory programs implemented with broad-citizen, multi-culture support.

Tucson Clean & Beautiful News

is published periodically by Tucson Clean & Beautiful Inc., a non-profit 501(c)3 environmental education organization.

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Please consider a year-end membership donation in support of TCB Programs!

TCB Programs have an immense impact on improving the environment and quality of life across the Tucson/Pima County area, and are supported by your membership donations. Members get great discounts too! Call (520) 791-3109 for a list.

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: _____

Please mail this form with your donation to: Address: _____

Tucson Clean & Beautiful
P.O. Box 27210, Tucson, AZ 85726

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Or donate online via Network for Good!
www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org

E-mail: _____

Tips for reducing holiday waste (year-round too!)

Help reduce extra holiday waste, which can be more than 1 million extra tons weekly over the holidays!

- ◆ Cardboard, paperboard and many other holiday packaging items are recyclable! Visit www.domoreblue.com for a list of items that can go in your blue recycling barrel. If you are unsure if a particular item can be recycled at the curbside, call (520) 791-5000 or email recycle@tucsonaz.gov for assistance!
- ◆ Shop local small businesses, to reduce packaging waste (and support our local economy!)
- ◆ Bring reusable shopping bags; grocery stores recycle plastic bags, air packing cushions & plastic wrappings
- ◆ Send greeting cards by email, or use recyclable paper (avoid foil and glitter-coated cards)
- ◆ Reuse gift bags; avoid metallic or glitter paper finishes (most other wrapping papers are OK to recycle)
- ◆ Drop off packing peanuts at local shipping outlets for reuse

Freecycle: Home-Grown, Worldwide Reuse Resource

Did you know that The Freecycle Network—now comprised of over 5,000 groups and 9 million members worldwide—started with a single email from Deron Beal (now a TCB Board Member) to local nonprofits and a few friends? The simple act of an offer of used office furniture available free of charge downtown right here in Tucson spawned a still-growing movement of selfless giving and reducing landfill waste. Next year this “virtual curbside” of giving away and receiving unwanted but still reusable items will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary, allowing people to give items for free directly to those who need it, and receive items directly from others in a selfless, pay-it-forward scenario where no money is to be exchanged. If you have a hard-to-recycle item that you can't bear to send to the landfill, or that you don't want to take the time to sell or donate—this is a great option for you!

Visit www.freecycle.org for more information and to sign up for the Tucson list or other area towns!

Used Barrels to Mexico: Building International Goodwill and a Better Environment

In 2005 TCB began coordinating cross-border donations of trash and recycling containers that have been taken out of service in Tucson. Since that time, about 6,500 used containers have been picked up by the City of Agua Prieta, Sonora and nearly 300 by neighboring Naco, Sonora. Previously, Tucson landfilled used and damaged containers, so this was a great way to reduce impact on the landfill (recently the damaged containers also became recyclable). These donations represent a fraction of containers Tucson changes out annually, but have a tremendous positive impact in reducing litter in these border communities, while building positive international goodwill! Special appreciation to the City of Tucson Mayor & Council for its foresight in approving these donations in 2005, Environmental Services for setting aside a portion of its used containers, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Border Programs for its early facilitation and ongoing support, and municipal staff of Agua Prieta and Naco—all partners for international environmental improvement and goodwill-building!



Upcoming Buffelgrass Education & Volunteer Events

Invasive Buffelgrass continues to threaten to our unique Sonoran Desert ecology, and human safety due to increased fire risk in the urban environment! Upcoming work days to help reduce this threat:

- ◆ Saturday, January 12, 2013: - 8:30—11:00 a.m.: La Cholla Blvd. just north of Ajo Way. Meet at the Fiesta area parking lot on the west side of La Cholla.
- ◆ There may be a repeat of this project on Thursday January 24, 2013 from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Email happydesert@gmail.com or call (520) 837-6832 for more information and to sign up as a group or individually for these volunteer projects to dig up invasive plants along scenic corridors!

Mark your calendars: the 6th Annual Beat Back Buffelgrass Day is Saturday January 26, 2013.

Group leaders can register additional volunteer sites, and individual volunteers and groups can sign up to volunteer for sites throughout the Tucson metro area! Sites include Kennedy Park/Tucson Mountain Park border, A Mountain, Henry Elementary School, Starr Pass Blvd, Skyline, Colossal Cave, Corona de Tucson/Sycamore Canyon, Julian Wash/Los Ninos Elementary School, Prince Tucson Neighborhood, Rooney Wash/Town of Oro Valley, Saguaro National Park West - Mam-A-Gah Picnic Area, San Juan Wash at Mockingbird Lane, Santa Cruz River/Marana, Town of Sahuarita, and others throughout the metro area! Visit www.buffelgrass.org today or call TCB at (520) 837-6832

Trees for Tucson Staff at Alliance for Community Trees Conference

The Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) annual meeting and Partners in Community Forestry annual conference were held in November 2012 in Sacramento, California. This is ACTrees' 20th Anniversary, and the conference was a great opportunity to learn from fellow tree planting & care organizations, and share the unique aspects of our urban desert tree program with others. TCB is a founding member of ACTrees. Special appreciation to J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation for supporting the travel scholarships that allowed Trees for Tucson staff members to attend.

TCB Environmental Education Minigrants

TCB is pleased to offer mini-grants for school and youth environmental education projects in the Tucson metro area. Grants from \$100 to \$500 are available, with applications due February 8, 2013. Grants reviewed and funded in part by the Southern AZ Environmental Management Society and AZ Native Plant Society. For more info call (520) 837-6832, email tcb@tucsonaz.gov or download a form:

<http://www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/assets/docs/tcb-education-grant.pdf>

Household Hazardous Waste—Protect the Environment & Your Health!

The City of Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste program is a great way to dispose of unwanted chemicals, oil, paint, car batteries and many other toxic items that may be stored around your home. The main facility at 2440 W. Sweetwater Dr. (I-10 frontage road south of Ruthrauff) is open Fridays and Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and the popular eastside outreach location is held on the first Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at 7575 E. Speedway Blvd. (go north from stoplight at Prudence Rd.). For additional general Household Hazardous Waste info visit www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw or call (520) 791-5000. Volunteers are also needed! Call (520) 690-5749.