Summer is a quieter time in Tucson (except for the occasional intense lightning storm and downpour!), and also gives us a moment to reflect on the past year, and look ahead.

The Adopt-a-Park & Public Areas program has tallied more than 25,000 volunteer hours in the past year, a record for YOUR volunteer activity having an impact in cleaning up and beautifying our community at nearly 260 sites!

The Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Directory continues to expand its categories and options listed where you can recycle beyond curbside. Call (520) 791-5000 or visit http://www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/rd to look up items!

Finally, our Trees for Tucson program has delivered more than 8,800 trees to 3,700 homes and other sites areawide—in turn helping meet the Mayor’s 10,000 Tree Challenge which is in full swing and poised for success!

Thank you for being involved! Each member, volunteer, participant, partner, and supporter has made a difference—TCB has truly had a banner year!

Now is a great time to order trees for planting at home during monsoon and fall. For community projects, now is the time to recruit volunteers, determine your planting locations, and contact Trees for Tucson for assistance.

Streetcar Launch—and Let’s Plant!

The Tucson Modern Streetcar launches this Friday through Sunday, July 25-27 with free rides this first weekend. You can also register to volunteer in two-hour shifts from 8am-8pm to assist at stops on the opening weekend. Help people board and exit the streetcar, answer questions and hand out free water. As part of the volunteer training, you will get to ride the streetcar before the official launch, and receive a free T-shirt. More info: http://www.sunlinkstreetcar.com

The end of streetcar construction in a broad swath of the downtown/4th Ave./University area presents the opportunity to strategically fill in areas that were already desperately in need of shade, by investing in trees! Our community has only an average of 6% tree canopy cover—not much to shade our buildings and public spaces. Shade is a key component of transportation infrastructure, and Trees for Tucson looks forward to working with neighborhoods, community groups, and City & County government to maintain and increase tree canopy, especially targeting areas falling below 6% tree canopy coverage.
Using GIS Data to Map Adopt-a-Park Volunteer Impact

TCB staff recently created a GIS map to track Adopt-a-Park & Public Areas adopted and available sites in cooperation with the City of Tucson. Special appreciation to TerraSystems Southwest, which helped with early versions of this mapping effort! Thank you to these groups who have recently been recognized for their respective projects:

♦ Golf Links Rd., Pantano to Harrison—Thunder Mountain Moose Lodge #2475
♦ Broadway Blvd., Campbell to Euclid—Iota Tau, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
♦ Speedway Blvd., Euclid to I-10—Alpha Sigma Phi
♦ Basis North Charter School—Alamo Wash Linear Park

Our community continues to respond to the call for volunteers, with more than 260 sites now adopted. However, more than 700+ sites (mostly streets and washes) still need volunteer stewards! Contact Jean Hickman: email adoptapark@tucsonaz.gov or call (520) 837-6834 or and help keep Tucson Clean & Beautiful today!

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.

Join or renew your membership today! TCB members are eligible for great discounts at local plant nurseries and other partners providing environmentally friendly goods and services, including at: The Solar Store, 2833 N. Country Club Rd.—call (520) 322-5180 for home or business solar needs!
August 9: Electronics Recycling & Shredding (Southeast Side)

TCB has partnered with the Ward 4 Council Office and Desert Metals Recycling for an electronics collection event, plus Shred-It in support of DM-50! On Saturday August 9, 2014 from 8:00-11:00 a.m., Ward 4 will host electronics recycling and document shredding in the parking lot, 8123 E. Poinciana Dr., Tucson, AZ 85730 (east of Pantano Rd. between Escalante Rd. and Irvington Rd. Most electronics may be recycled at no charge, along with the first box of documents to be shredded. There is a fee of $5.00 for each computer monitor, and additional boxes of documents to be shredded.

For Tucson area recycling info, email recycle@tucsonaz.gov—call (520) 791-5000 or visit the Recycling Directory online: www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org

Public Service Announcements

Seen and heard: Recent public service announcements have aired on television and radio featuring U of A sports figures, Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Tucson Electric Power, cartoonist David Fitzsimmons, and other community volunteers.

TCB now has several of these PSAs and other media on Youtube!

Special appreciation to Film Creations Ltd. for their production assistance, and many local media outlets participating in this campaign:
Pantano Commmemorative Trees Still Available for Fall Dedication

TCB expects to dedicate at least 30 new trees on the Pantano Wash just north of Golf Links this fall. Now is the time to request your tree for dedication! Each new tree purchased for the park by community members will be dedicated as a permanent way to honor or remember friends and family. Already more than 150 trees have been dedicated over the past two years, with a goal of 580 trees designed to shade and beautify the Pantano River Park south of Golf Links Rd. to Kenyon Dr. A dedication ceremony is being planned for late Fall 2014. Trees are available for $225 each, including the tree and irrigation installation, name inscription on the commemorative wall, and a certificate. Call (520) 837-6832 or email tcb-admin@tucsonaz.gov to dedicate a tree.

AAA Arizona Green Shops—Going Above & Beyond!

AAA Arizona encourages going green as much as possible, but when a shop is described as “green,” it’s not always clear as to what that means. AAA-designated “green” shops go above and beyond the government environmental regulations already in place. AAA’s encouragement has permeated Tucson, where a large portion of AAA Approved Auto Repair shops have gone green. To date, there are 20 AAA Approved green auto repair shops around town. From oil changes to recycling dead batteries, these shops have found cost-effective ways to protect the environment and conserve resources. For more information visit the AAA Arizona GreenShops website. GreenShops are also listed in the TCB Recycling Directory alongside many other areawide recycling and waste reduction resources!

Buffelgrass Greenup Season

The monsoons are finally here! As excited as we get in Southern Arizona about rain, it is unfortunately also known as the Buffelgrass Greenup Season. It doesn’t take much moisture for buffelgrass to re-sprout from dormant rootstock. Buffelgrass grows vigorously and can go to seed in as little as 8 weeks! Now is a great time to map out where buffelgrass is growing, and start planning a buffelgrass removal project to clean this invasive weed out of your yard and neighborhood. Loaner gloves, tools, and other supplies are available! To learn more about buffelgrass identification and removal visit the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center website, and to schedule a buffelgrass presentation at your neighborhood meeting or for help organizing a buffelgrass pull, contact Erin Willett at (520) 837-6836 or email outreach@buffelgrass.org.

Recognition and Community Support

- TCB/Trees for Tucson received certificates of appreciation from Good Neighbor Ventures (Social and Economic Development in Neighborhoods) at the Community Action Group Annual meeting. Community leaders from Amphi, Myers, Sunland Gardens - Las Vistas, South Park, Stella Mann and Mountain/1st were on hand to learn about and discuss the good work taking place in their neighborhoods and thank TCB for the support of recent clean ups & tree planting.
- The Community Foundation of Greater Green Valley provided a grant in support of improving TCB outreach efforts in southern Pima County.
- Citi provided a grant and volunteers in support of trees for a senior citizens’ mobile home park!
- Hamstra Heating & Cooling contributes in support of tree planting for each A/C system installed!
- Chapman Honda and VW recently provided more than 230 Trees for Tucson trees for customers to plant at homes. Some customers requested the trees be planted at school & community sites!
- Long Realty is nearing its goal of supporting planting of 1,926 trees honoring its founding year!