

Reuse-A-Shoe Contest—The fifth-annual Reuse-A-Shoe competition among Allen ISD schools began March 12 and runs through April 13. This partnership between Keep Allen Beautiful and The Shoe Bank (www.ShoeBank.org) challenges youth in Allen schools to see who can bring in the most good-condition used shoes to donate to The Shoe Bank. The school that collects the most pairs per capita wins the grand prize (to be determined). Three class prizes (pizza party with school permission) will also be given, one to each school level—elementary, middle school, and high school. Adult athletic shoes and any type of children’s shoes will be accepted. The news release sent to Teresa Warren also encourages Allen citizens to bring their gently-used athletic shoes to the Great American Clean Up on April 21 or to drop them off at City Hall during business hours by April 13. Two donation boxes are also set up in City Hall so that City employees can participate. Staff point of contact: Lauri McIntosh, 214-509-4552.

Great American Clean Up—Keep Allen Beautiful and Community Waste Disposal (CWD) are sponsoring the Great American Clean Up on Saturday, April 21, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Allen residents can follow the event signs on West Exchange Parkway (west of U.S. Highway 75) to donate items or “dump their junk.” A one-page stuffer containing details went out in this month’s utility bills. Organizations accepting items include Allen Community Outreach (ACO), Allen Noon Lion’s Club, Allen Animal Shelter, Goodwill, The Shoe Bank, Cyclone Aluminum and Steel, and CWD. Brinks Document Destruction will be on site at City Hall to shred up to two boxes (no larger than 12-7/8” wide x 25-3/8” deep) per household until their trucks are full. Staff point of contact: Donna Kliewer, 214-509-4554.

Great American Clean Up (GAC)—More than 400 cars drove through the City of Allen’s annual Great American Clean Up on Saturday, April 21, to donate reusable and recyclable items and to “dump their junk.” Allen citizens brought items including computers, furniture, outdoor grills, eyeglasses, cell phones, shoes, appliances, pet items, lawn mowers, and even a 15-foot diameter satellite dish. Allen Community Outreach (ACO), Allen Noon Lion’s Club, Allen Animal Shelter, Goodwill, The Shoe Bank, Brinks Document Destruction, and Cyclone Aluminum and Steel were on site to take donations and recyclable items. Volunteers and City employees unloaded vehicles and directed traffic as donations filled trucks and trailers to overflowing. Community Waste Disposal (CWD) provided truck-size dumpsters for anything that couldn’t be reused or recycled—which was only a small percentage of the items, making this a highly-successful city-wide clean up. For example, Cyclone Aluminum and Steel took in 17,085 pounds of computer equipment, electronics, lawn mowers, and other metals; only 569 pounds were unusable and sent to the landfill, resulting in a 96-percent recycle rate. Results from other recyclers will arrive in the next few weeks. Keep Allen Beautiful and CWD sponsored this event.

Boon Elementary GOLD Day—Community Services employees participated as guest presenters at Boon Elementary's Greater Outdoor Learning and Discovery (GOLD) Day on May 18. Paul McGinnis and Triston Hibdon from the Stacy Road Pump Station showed students how Allen's water distribution system works with a working model that includes elevated and ground storage. They also discussed water conservation; demonstrated leak detection equipment; and showed other photos using PowerPoint. Lauri McIntosh taught students how to recycle in Allen using demonstrations, examples of what residents can and cannot recycle, and a PowerPoint presentation with wrap-up questions (example slide is included).



Wait—can you recycle these metals, too?



No. You can't recycle pie plates or aluminum foil in Allen.