For Immediate Release – April 1, 2009
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Keep Texas Beautiful Announces Environmental Award Winners

Statewide Organization Recognizes Individuals, Businesses, Civic Organizations, Youth Groups and More

(Austin, Texas) – Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) recently recognized active members of the community with an array of awards to honor efforts to beautify their communities and protect the environment.

The KTB Awards honor individuals, governments, civic organizations, media outlets and military installations for their commitment to litter prevention and cleanup, education and publicity of environmental issues, and community beautification. A full list of winners is attached, but some of those recognized include: Finisar Corporation, of Allen, Texas, acknowledged for its laudable environmental principles; the Irving Lake Association and Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce, for their efforts in litter prevention and beautification; The Beto Halfway House – Texas Youth Commission, in McAllen, Texas; and the Fort Bliss Directorate of Environment.

Keep Texas Beautiful is currently accepting applications for its youth and educator awards, which will be decided in early May. Winners of all KTB Awards will be formally recognized on June 11, during the 42nd Annual KTB Conference, scheduled to take place in Houston. More information about the winners, as well as details about the conference, is available at www.ktb.org.

Keep Texas Beautiful, a statewide grassroots environmental and community improvement nonprofit, strives to educate and engage Texans to take responsibility for improving their community environment. KTB and its more than 360 affiliates work with government, businesses, civic groups, and volunteers to ensure that every Texan has the opportunity to make Texas the cleanest, most beautiful state in the nation. For more information on programs and events, call 1-800-CLEAN-TX or visit www.ktb.org.

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List of winners and fact sheet attached

KEEP TEXAS BEAUTIFUL AWARDS FACT SHEET

WHAT: The Keep Texas Beautiful Awards are presented to deserving individuals and groups in nine different categories.

The awards recognize the efforts made to enhance the community and to protect the Texas environment. The nine awards are:

- Ruthe Jackson Youth Leadership Awards* *(recognizes outstanding youth)*
- Sadie Ray Graff Educator Awards* *(honors outstanding educators)*
- OP Schnabel Senior Citizen Award* *(honors lifetime achievement, age 55 and over)*
- Individual Leadership Award *(honors lifetime achievement)*
- Civic Organization Award
- Ed Davis Litter Law Enforcement Award *(recognizes law enforcement professional for lifetime achievement)*
- Government Awards* *(honors government departments, divisions and, agencies, including military installations)*
- Ebby Halliday and Maurice Acers Business/Industry Award*
- Media Awards*

** Awards may be given in multiple categories*

WHEN: The KTB Award winners are announced annually in March, immediately after judging, and recognized formally each year on the final day of the the KTB Annual Conference.

This year's conference takes place June 8-11 in Houston, at the Houston Marriott Westchase.

MISSION: To educate and engage Texans to take responsibility for improving their community.

ELIGIBILITY: Keep Texas Beautiful Awards are open to any and all individuals, organizations and entities committed to achieving the mission of Keep Texas Beautiful.

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2009 Keep Texas Beautiful Awards

O.P. Schnabel Senior Citizen Awards

The O.P. Schnabel Senior Citizen Awards recognize senior citizens in special categories of men, women, senior groups and couples who have exhibited long-term dedication to the principles of KTB. This award is named for the late O.P. Schnabel, founding president of Keep Texas Beautiful. Mr. Schnabel is a legendary, inspiring example of leadership and commitment to the cause of a cleaner, more beautiful community, state and nation. Schnabel's cleanup crusade began in the 1940s and has reached far beyond the borders of our state and nation.

1st Place-Male	Jim Mayfield	Corinth
1st Place-Female	Dorothy Wolverton	Duncanville
1st Place-Memorial	Virgil Polocek	Sonora

Individual Leadership Awards

Individual Leadership Awards recognize individuals who support the Keep Texas Beautiful mission of empowering Texans through education to take responsibility for enhancing their community's environment. This award is a lifetime distinction and was presented for the first time in 1993.

1st Place	David Howarth	Lake Jackson
2nd Place	Donna Kliewer	Allen
3rd Place	Lennerd Byrd	Odessa
Honorable Mention	David Green	Duncanville

Ebby Halliday and Maurice Acers Business/Industry Awards

The Ebby Halliday and Maurice Acers Business/Industry Leadership Awards recognize those businesses with sound environmental principles. The awards are named for Ebby Halliday and the late Maurice Acers of Dallas, two founding members of Keep Texas Beautiful. The award was presented for the first time in 1993.

1st Place	Finisar Corporation	Allen
2nd Place	Community Waste Disposal	Allen
3rd Place	Wal-Mart Supercenter – Store 513	Big Spring
Honorable Mention	Woodforest National Bank	Conroe

2009 Keep Texas Beautiful Awards

Civic Organization Leadership Awards

The Civic Organization Leadership Award recognizes outstanding litter prevention and beautification efforts by civic organizations. This award was presented for the first time in 1993.

Program Category

1st Place	Irving Lake Association – Vilbig Lake Cleanups	Irving
2nd Place	Sutton County 4H	Sonora
3rd Place	United Way of Concho Valley	San Angelo

Project Category

1st Place	Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce	Waco
2nd Place	Coppell Community Garden	Coppell
3rd Place	San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts	San Angelo

Media Awards

The Keep Texas Beautiful Media Awards recognize local newspapers, radio and television stations for outstanding public service efforts designed to educate, inform and encourage public involvement in local litter prevention, solid waste issues and community beautification in cooperation with the local KTB affiliates.

1st Place	The Irving Rambler	Irving
2nd Place	Absolutely! Magazine	Katy
3rd Place	Big Spring Herald	Big Spring

Government Awards

The Government Award recognizes outstanding contributions by government entities supporting the mission of Keep Texas Beautiful in their local communities. The award was first presented in 2001.

City Program

1st Place	BVSWMA & CSR	College Station
2nd Place	City of Coppell	Coppell
3rd Place	City of Baytown Healthy Department	Baytown

2009 Keep Texas Beautiful Awards

Honorable Mention	City of Allen	Allen

City Project

1st Place	City of Sugar Land	Sugar Land
2nd Place	City of Katy Parks and Recreation Department	Katy
3rd Place	City of Irving Code Enforcement Department	Irving
Honorable Mention	City of Irving Parks Department	Irving

Regional

1st Place	BVSWMA HHW	College Station
2nd t Place	Capitol Area Regional Environmental Task Force	Austin
3rd Place	WORD of Comal County	Canyon Lake

State

1st Place	Beto Halfway House – Texas Youth Commission	McAllen
2nd Place	TXDOT – Odessa District	Odessa

Military

1st Place	Fort Bliss DPW - ED	Fort Bliss
2nd Place	Goodfellow Air Force Base	San Angelo
3rd Place	Fort Hood Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division	Fort Hood