



BILL WHITE  
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF HOUSTON  
TEXAS

Dear Houstonians:

We are blessed to live in a city rich with history, culture, diversity and resources. We are however challenged with many issues, including protecting our environment. This year the City of Houston and Keep Houston Beautiful were the hosts of the 2006 Environmental Summit. The theme of this year's Summit helped promote my environmental plan and vision of "Making Houston a Model Environmental City."

During the Summit the City of Houston launched a recycling awareness campaign with the objective of increasing recycling participation in all programs, especially the curbside recycling program. Recycling is a great way to help keep our environment healthy and thriving, just as our city is today.

Your neighborhood receives curbside recycling service. This program is not currently available citywide; there are a number of neighborhoods on the waiting list. It is important that neighborhoods with curbside recycling pick-up use the service. A lack of neighborhood participation may result in the loss of this service.

Of the residents with curbside recycling, only one in five of them currently recycle so to increase the public's awareness of the importance of recycling, the City of Houston will sponsor a competition among the subdivisions that currently have curbside recycling. Each subdivision will be "scored" on their participation rate and the amount of recyclables. The subdivision with the highest overall score and the one with the most improvement will be rewarded with a \$5,000 cash prize to be used on neighborhood improvements. Prizes will be awarded in four categories: the most improved paper recycling area, the overall highest paper scoring area, the most improved commingled area, and the highest overall commingled area.

We want Houstonians to know how important it is to recycle, for our community, our environment and our livelihood. I would like to ask you to join your neighbors in taking part in this initiative. With your help we can keep Houston beautiful and protect our environment.

Sincerely,

Mayor Bill White

P.S: To help your subdivision with curbside recycling participation I've enclosed a 2006-2007 Bi-weekly Recycling Schedule for your neighborhood. If you have any questions, please call 3-1-1, the City's Customer Service Hot Line or log on to [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org).