

# PRESS RELEASE

May 14, 2014

Contact:Estella EspinosaWork:(832) 395-7022Cell:(832) 465-4782estella.espinosa@houstontx.gov

## Houston Parks and Recreation Department Awarded Recycling Bins for Use in Area Parks

Keep America Beautiful and Dr Pepper Snapple Group Fill Need for Recycling Bins in Public Parks

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) will receive 24 recycle bins designed specifically for placement in city parks. H.P.A.R.D. was one of 26 local and county governments in 19 states to receive durable, permanent recycling bins as part of the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group /Keep America Beautiful Park Recycling Bin Grant program.

The bins will arrive during May 2014. They will be distributed within five H.P.A.R.D. parks:

5 bins in Agnes Moffitt Park	10645 Hammerly 77043
5 bins in Herman Brown Park	400 Mercury 77013
4 bins in Melrose Park	1000 Canino 77076
5 bins in Stude Park	1031 Stude 77009
5 bins in T.C. Jester Park	4201 West T.C. Jester Boulevard 77018

"These bins will greatly reduce the amount of waste plastic being thrown away in Houston parks," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "Where park visitors have the option of tossing their bottles in the trash or depositing them in a neat, clean recycle bin, most will choose the environmentally sound alternative. The plastic will gain a new use and won't end up in a land fill, and everybody wins."

"Individuals, businesses and governments all have a stake in cleaner communities and reducing waste," said Vicki Draughn, D.P.S. Vice President of Corporate Affairs. "Working with Keep America Beautiful, we're embracing the opportunity to make recycling more convenient for our valued consumers in communities across the country as they enjoy their favorite public parks and other outdoor spaces."

"Access and convenience are two of the biggest obstacles to recycling," said Brenda Pulley, Senior Vice President, Recycling, Keep America Beautiful. "By making these recycling bins available in parks, nature trails, athletic fields and other public spaces, the grants awarded through our partnership with Dr. Pepper Snapple will help these communities increase on-the-go recycling."

In total, the grants will provide nearly 900 recycling bins for placement in a variety of park settings. The grant program was open to all government agencies that own or manage local, regional or state parks, with nonprofit organizations and K.A.B. affiliates eligible to apply on behalf of government agencies. For a full list of communities receiving grants, visit <u>http://irecycleonthego.wordpress.com</u>.

### **About Keep America Beautiful**

Keep America Beautiful is the nation's leading nonprofit that brings people together to build and sustain vibrant communities. With a powerful national network of community-based affiliates and participating organizations, we work with millions of volunteers who take action in their communities. Through our programs and public-private partnerships, we engage individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community's environment. For more information, visit <u>kab.org</u>, follow <u>@kabtweet</u> on Twitter and like us on <u>facebook.com/keepamericabeautiful</u>.

#### About Dr Pepper Snapple Group

Dr. Pepper Snapple Group (NYSE: DPS) is a leading producer of flavored beverages in North America and the Caribbean. Our success is fueled by more than 50 brands that are synonymous with refreshment, fun and flavor. We have 6 of the top 10 non-cola soft drinks, and 13 of our 14 leading brands are No. 1 or No. 2 in their flavor categories. In addition to our flagship Dr. Pepper and Snapple brands, our portfolio includes 7UP, A&W, Canada Dry, Clamato, Crush, Hawaiian Punch, Mott's, Mr & Mrs T mixers, Peñafiel, Rose's, Schweppes, Squirt and Sunkist.

#### About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,832 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit <u>www.houstonparks.org</u>.

-30-