



For Immediate Release – January 3, 2013
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Keep Utopia Beautiful Receives Green Bag Grant from H-E-B, Central Market, and Keep Texas Beautiful

Utopia, Texas – Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) has recognized Keep Utopia Beautiful (KUB) as a recipient of a 2012 Green Bag Grant. H-E-B, Central Market, and KTB have partnered to create the Green Bag Grants program, giving 20 communities from five regions of Texas a share of \$25,000 to support plastic bag recycling and reduction, water conservation education, and educational programming pertaining to environmental education and/or waste management. Grants awarded range in size from \$300 - \$2,000.

“The Green Bag Grants are a wonderful partnership, bringing together H-E-B’s commitment to a healthier environment with dedicated Keep Texas Beautiful affiliates and community groups working to reduce, reuse and recycle,” Cathie Gail, KTB Executive Director, said.

Keep Utopia Beautiful will use the grant funds for environmental education and will partner with Keep Texas Beautiful & Keep America Beautiful to provide training for area teachers and youth leaders to become certified Waste in Place trainers. Waste in Place is a nationally recognized, interactive educational program for children K-6th grade. The activities are designed to help develop awareness and knowledge of litter prevention, beautification, and community improvement. Teachers will be able to participate in the training at no charge, and will receive six hours of Texas Environmental Education Advisory Credit (TEEAC) toward an environmental education certificate and six hours of State Board of Education Continuing Education Units. Once trained, these teachers and youth leaders will use this knowledge and tool kits in their classrooms. The small, rural school districts in the area are not large enough to individually sponsor this training and also have limited funding to purchase the training curriculum and materials needed to provide the interactive lessons.

“Due to this generous award, we are able to invite K-6 teachers from other school districts to participate in the 6-hour Keep America Beautiful training to be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Utopia ISD,” said Claudia Rogers, Chair, Keep Utopia Beautiful.

Keep Utopia Beautiful, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) that operates Utopia Recycles, an award-winning program serving the Greater Utopia area and provides many other programs and services to serve as nurturing stewards of the Sabinal Canyon.

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



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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 about Keep Texas Beautiful, call 1-800-CLEAN-TX or visit www.ktb.org.

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