

Memorandum

Memorandum No: 25-110

Date: March 20, 2025
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Ryan Henderson, City Manager 
Re: Keep Anna Beautiful and Tree City USA

The City of Anna's Keep Anna Beautiful program has completed annual affiliation reporting with Keep Texas Beautiful and Tree City USA. These reports allow for the recognition of the volunteers, staff, and community partners involved in the efforts of community beautification. Keep Anna Beautiful has earned recognition as a 2025 Silver Star Affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful and the City of Anna has been designated as a 2024 Tree City USA. These honors reflect our community's ongoing commitment to environmental safety, beautification, and collaboration.

Keep Anna Beautiful demonstrated significant involvement and community impact in 2024 with 123 volunteer hours to remove 40 bags of trash from city streets and parks and holding seven environmental education classes attended by 47 neighbors. Keep Anna Beautiful actively coordinates three Adopt-A-Spot locations in city parks, where quarterly group clean-ups are held. The City of Anna's Keep Anna Beautiful program partners with Grace Place Community Garden to provide an interactive location for environmental education taught by Texas A&M Agri County Extension Office. The Anna High School Beta Club also participates in park clean-ups and reseeding of the Prairie Restoration Garden, engaging youth in beautification efforts.

Keep Anna Beautiful – 2025 Silver Star Recognition:

Keep Texas Beautiful affiliates receive Good Standing, Silver Star, or Gold Star recognition on an annual basis. Keep Anna Beautiful was upgraded from Good Standing to earning the Silver Star recognition for 2025. Additional activities in 2024, such as providing election sign recycling and hosting seasonal clean-up opportunities, reflect the organization's dedication to fostering environmental safety and awareness within the community allowed for the new recognition level.

As described in [Memorandum 24-116](#), Anna received the 2024 Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA). The Governor's Community Achievement Award honors communities that excel in litter prevention, environmental education, beautification, waste management, and enforcement of litter laws.

Tree City USA – 2024 Recognition:

The City of Anna has been designated a 2024 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. This recognition celebrates the city's commitment to urban forestry, including planting, maintaining, and growing trees for the benefit of the local environment. Anna's efforts meet the four core standards required for Tree City USA: maintaining a tree board, having a community tree ordinance, investing in urban forestry, and celebrating Arbor Day. 100 oak tree seedlings were provided to the community in celebration. The Tree City USA designation highlights the city's focus on creating a safe and livable environment for its residents.

The recognition of Keep Anna Beautiful as a 2025 Silver Star Affiliate and the City of Anna's designation as a 2024 Tree City USA are significant milestones that highlight the ongoing efforts to enhance our community's environment. Furthermore, the Governor's Community Achievement Award and the upcoming landscaping project for Highway 75 further demonstrate Anna's dedication to beautification and safety.

On April 26, neighbors can engage with Keep Anna Beautiful by participating in proper disposal of hazardous and donatable items at the annual Earth Day educational event. These achievements are a direct result of the hard work and collaboration of neighbors, community partners, and dedicated staff. Congratulations to everyone involved in making these accomplishments possible.

c: Taylor Lough, Assistant City Manager
Greg Peters, Assistant City Manager
Management Team