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Second Annual Clean-up Initiative Kicks off April 18

by Chance Leavins
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CRESTVIEW — The City of Crestview is excited to announce the 2nd annual Keep Crestview Beautiful clean-up initiative. The initiative will run from April 18 to April 30. Like last year, we will be providing manned dumpsters around the city for our citizens to use for free. We will also have volunteer opportunities for members of our community looking to join us in the clean-up effort.

"Even though last year was our first, we had a fantastic turnout from the community," Mayor JB Whitten said. "It speaks to our citizens' love for our city, and I know we will have an even greater turnout this year."

Last year's effort produced 52 volunteers giving 144.5 hours of labor and 50 tons of garbage collected at the dumpster sites. A considerable part of that included over 1000 tires, many abandoned mattresses, and large amounts of varying types of plastics.

"Reducing blight is an important step in crime reduction," Police Chief Stephen McCosker said. "When criminals see that our community is cared for, they know that our citizens will not tolerate crime or the perception of crime."

The dumpster locations will be Old Spanish Trail Park on Stillwell Blvd, Allen Park, located at 895 McClelland St., and Wildhorse Dr. between 114 and 122 Wildhorse. Employees will be stationed at these locations from 9 am to 7 pm each day.

This year we will be more selective on what people can bring to the dumpsites. Mattresses, tires, general household items, small appliances, and electronics are the types of items we will be accepting. We will not be taking hazardous materials like paint, fluorescent lighting, chemicals, car batteries, construction debris, or yard waste.

We want to remind citizens that large appliance disposal, furniture disposal, and yard waste pickup are part of the weekly garbage service provided by Waste Pro. For more information on our refuse service, please visit https://www.cityofcrestview.org/418/Solid-Waste-Garbage-Information or call 850.682.1560.

If citizens need to dispose of hazardous waste such as paint, chemicals, or car batteries, they can do so at Okaloosa County's drop-off site located at 1759 S. Ferdon Blvd. For more information, you can visit https://myokaloosa.com/pw/environmental/hazardous-waste or call 850.301.2013.

For those interested in volunteering or if you know of individuals that could use assistance, please get in touch with the Crestview Police Department at 850.682.3544 ext. 7.

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