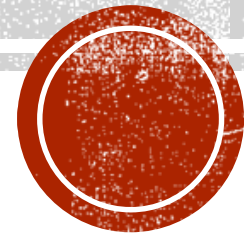
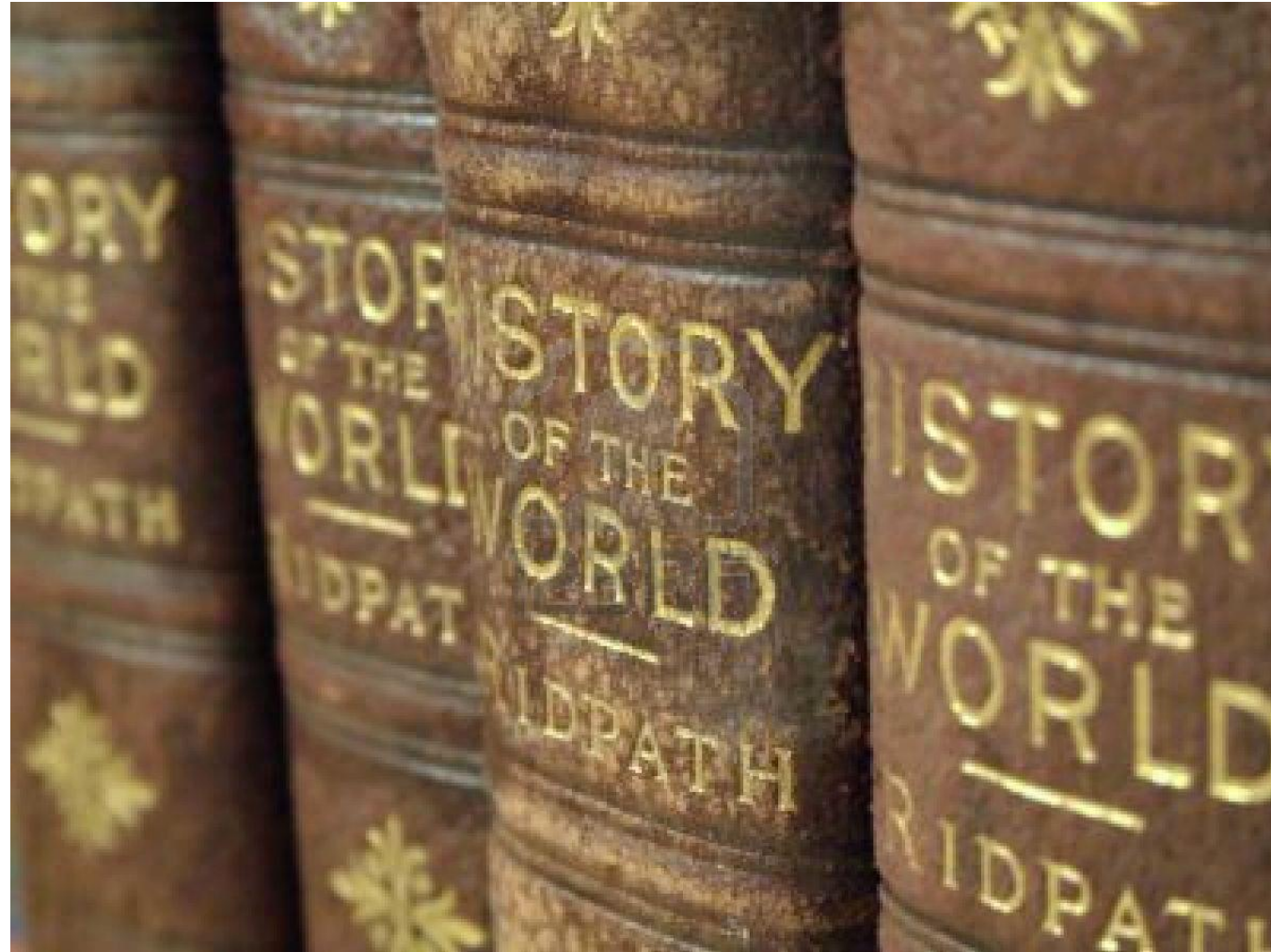


# LITTERING VS. ILLEGAL DUMPING WITH OPTIONS



An Overall Perspective from Fort Bend County

# LITTER IS NOT SOMETHING NEW











# **TEXAS LITTER ABATEMENT ACT**

**HEALTH & SAFETY CODE, CHAPTER 365**



# LITTER : THE DEFINITION (HSC 365)

- "Litter" means:
- (A) decayable waste from a public or private establishment, residence, or restaurant, including animal and vegetable waste material from a market or storage facility handling or storing produce or other food products, or the handling, preparation, cooking, or consumption of food, but not including sewage, body wastes, or industrial by-products; or
- (B) nondecayable solid waste, except ashes, that consists of:
  - (i) combustible waste material, including paper, rags, cartons, wood, excelsior, furniture, rubber, plastics, yard trimmings, leaves, or similar materials;
  - (ii) noncombustible waste material, including glass, crockery, tin or aluminum cans, metal furniture, and similar materials that do not burn at ordinary incinerator temperatures of 1800 degrees Fahrenheit or less; and
  - (iii) discarded or worn-out manufactured materials and machinery, including motor vehicles and parts of motor vehicles, tires, aircraft, farm implements, building or construction materials, appliances, and scrap metal.





# LITTERING V. ILLEGAL DUMPING

- **Sec. 365.012. ILLEGAL DUMPING; DISCARDING LIGHTED MATERIALS; CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**
- (a) A person commits an offense if the person disposes or allows or permits the disposal of litter or other solid waste at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, including a place on or within 300 feet of a public highway, on a right-of-way, on other public or private property, or into inland or coastal water of the state.
- (b) A person commits an offense if the person receives litter or other solid waste for disposal at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, regardless of whether the litter or other solid waste or the land on which the litter or other solid waste is disposed is owned or controlled by the person.
- (c) A person commits an offense if the person transports litter or other solid waste to a place that is not an approved solid waste site for disposal at the site.



**LITTERING IS ILLEGAL DUMPING !!!**

■ **SIZE MATTERS**



**CAUTION**  
**SIZE DOES**  
**MATTER**



**WHAT DOES LITTER LOOK LIKE TO YOU??**















# LITTERING FACTS IN TEXAS

- **LITTER FACT #1:** 1 in 4 Texans admits to littering in the past year.
- **LITTER FACT #2:** Approximately 435 million pieces of visible litter accumulate on Texas roadways each year.
- **LITTER FACT #3:** The most common forms of litter are food/organic material, cigarette butts, and small pieces of paper—receipts, gum wrappers.
- **LITTER FACT #4:** 71% of litter consists of microlitter that is not easily seen on roadways, such as cigarette butts, straws, and gum wrappers.



- **LITTER FACT #5:** Tobacco trash is the most common form of litter found on Texas roadways.
- **LITTER FACT #6:** You can be fined \$500 every time you litter in Texas. And, if what you toss weighs more than 5 pounds, you may have to pay up to \$2,000.
- **LITTER FACT #7:** Tire debris is the second largest component of litter and is pervasive across all areas of Texas.
- **LITTER FACT #8:** If every person in Texas picked up just two pieces of trash every month, our highways would be completely litter-free in just one year.
- **LITTER FACT #9:** 62% of Texas smokers admit to tossing their cigarette butts out of the window of their cars. Please keep your butts in the vehicle at all times. Thanks.
- **LITTER FACT #10:** Litter is trash that is not disposed of properly in a trashcan. Apple cores are litter too!



# WHY IS LITTER AN ISSUE?



UGLY



# MISCONCEPTIONS

- CONVICTS CLEAN IT UP AND IT DOESN'T COST ANYTHING
- IT WILL JUST DECOMPOSE AND DO GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, LIKE COMPOST AND MULCH
- IT WILL JUST BLOW AWAY AND NOT HURT ANYBODY





# HOW LONG UNTIL IT'S GONE?

Estimated decomposition rates of common marine debris items



Estimated individual item timelines depend on product composition and environmental conditions.

Source: NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), US / Woods Hole Sea Grant, US  
Graphics: Oliver Lide / Museum für Gestaltung Zürich, ZHdK





**REMEMBER, IF YOU  
ADD A FREE SIGN**



**IT'S NOT ILLEGAL DUMPING**





# WHAT ARE OUR OPTIONS?

- CLEAN IT UP OURSELVES
- GET SOMEONE ELSE TO CLEAN IT UP
- DON'T DO ANYTHING. IT'S JUST A LITTLE LITTER. IT ISN'T ILLEGAL DUMPING.



# **SURE, WE HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO DO!**

- Of course, we do what we can but we can't do it all.
- The road employees can put off those pesky road and bridge repairs a few more days just to pick up your trash. They love to do that for the citizens.







# FORT BEND ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

- **Adopt-A-County-Road Program**

The Fort Bend County Adopt-A-Road Program is a litter-reduction campaign designed to remove litter and debris from county roads and improve the quality of the environment. It requires utilizing volunteers, citizens and community organizations that take pride in their roads, and want to maintain a litter-free environment. Many county roads are available for adoption. For more information on the Adopt-A-County-Road Program, or other related questions, contact us at: 281-633-7578.



# **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY — TX DOT**

- Created and started in Tyler, Texas in 1984
- The idea of TxDOT Engineer James “Bobby” Evans and Spokesman Billy Black
- First participate was Tyler Civitan Club along US Highway 69

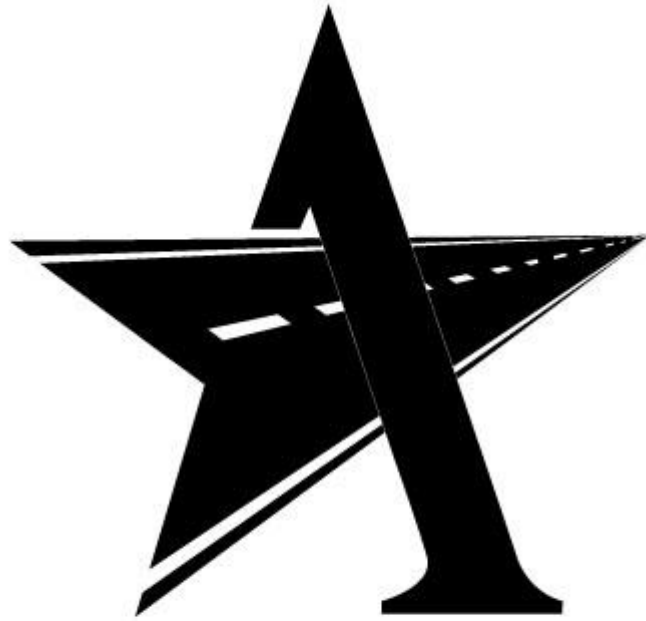






**Don't  
mess with  
Texas.**





**ADOPT A  
HIGHWAY**





TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

**ADOPT**™



**BEACH**

GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER







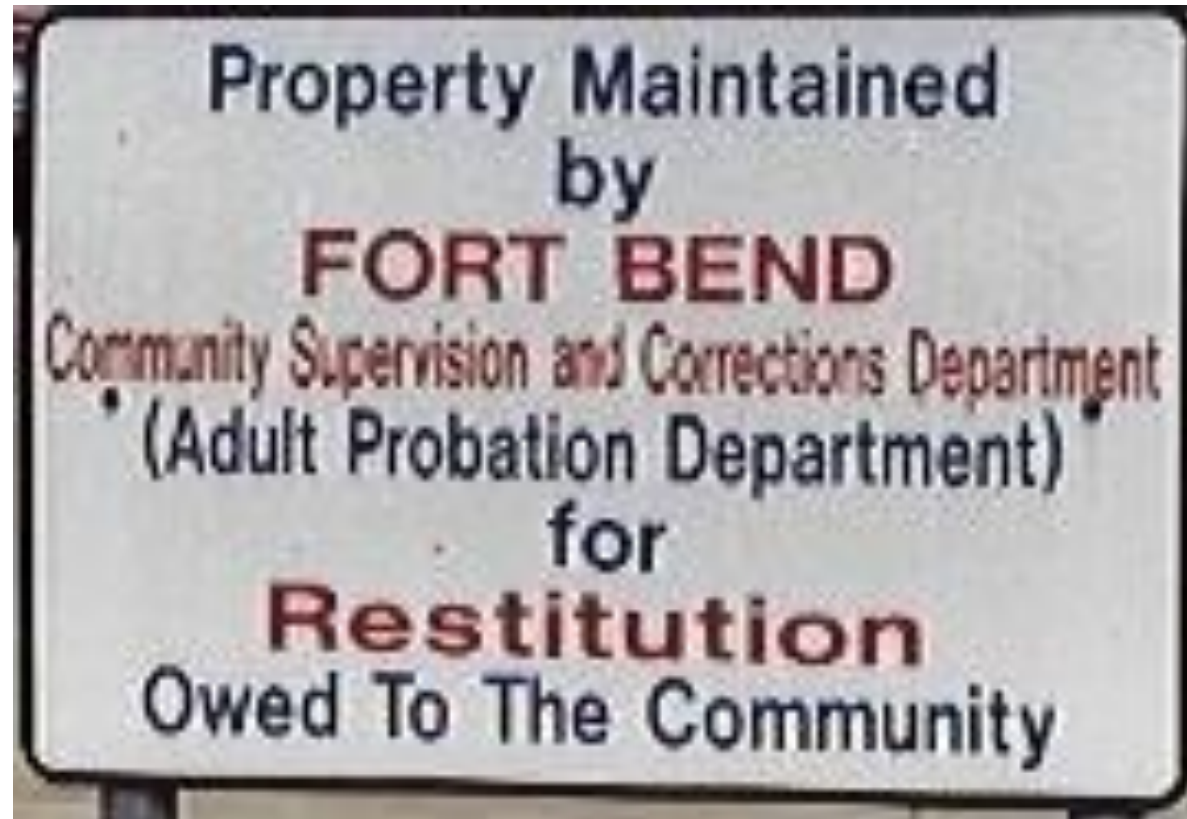


**MISSING  
IN ACTION**



# COMMUNITY SERVICE / PROBATIONERS





Community Service Restitution saves taxpayer dollars. From 2008-2012, offenders completed 780,158 hours in Fort Bend County. At the current prevailing wage, government and non-profit agencies realized a savings of approximately \$5,656,146,00 during this five year period.







# **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- **COMMUNITY CLEAN UP EVENTS**
- **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS**
- **CLUBS, CHURCHS, & SOCIAL GROUPS**











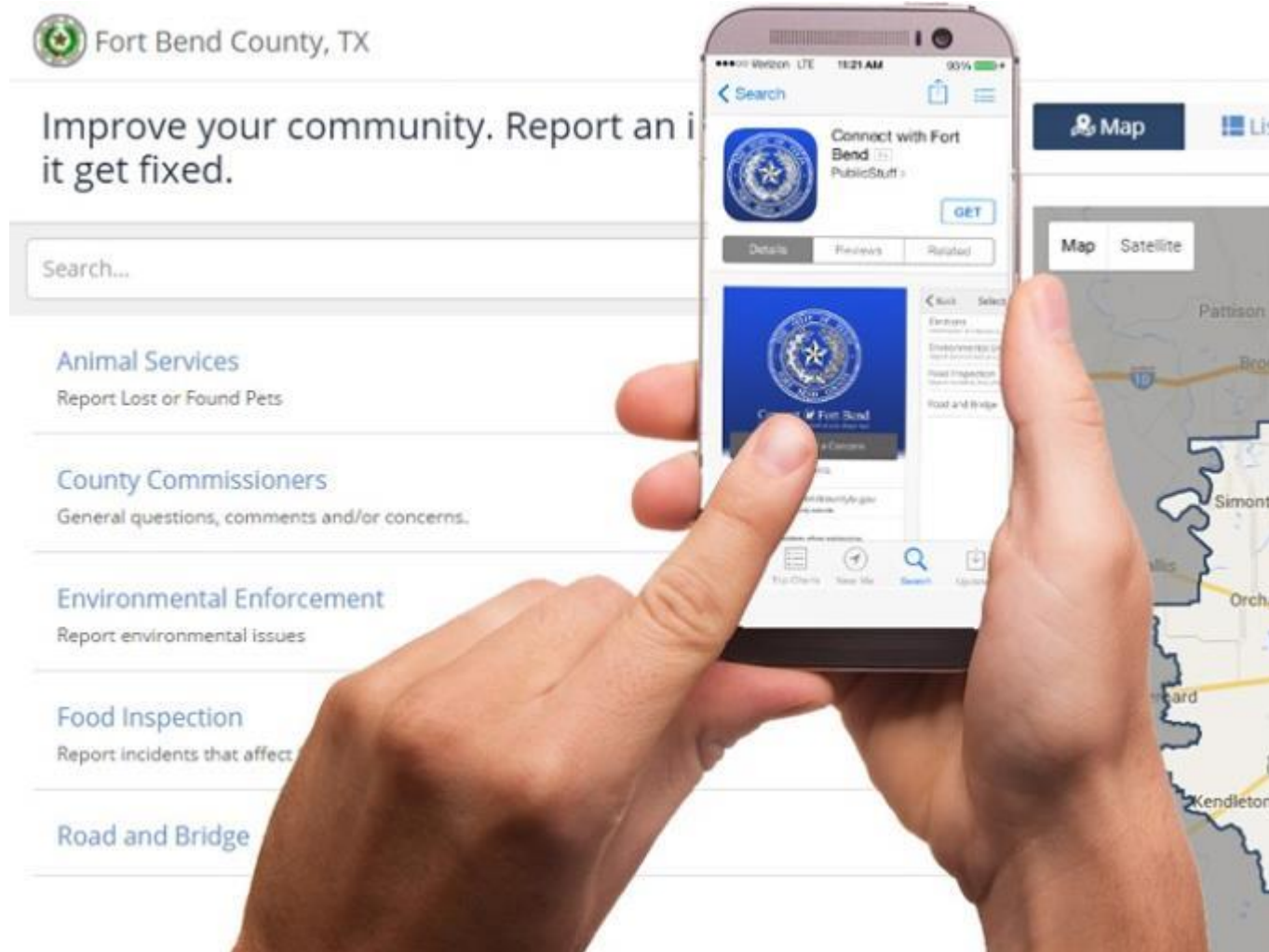
**TEAM UP**   
TO **CLEAN UP**



# TECHNOLOGY



# ONLINE APPLICATION





# **ENFORCEMENT**

- **CITATION**
- **EDUCATION**











DON'T **REINVENT**  
THE WHEEL JUST TWEAK IT  
TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS



[snailpacetransformations.com](http://snailpacetransformations.com)

