

Schertz & Comal County Citizens Join Hands for “Don’t Mess With Texas Trash Off” Weekend



The “Don’t Mess With Texas Trash-Off” weekend (April 4th thru 6th) saw North Schertz and Comal County citizens joining together in their on-going campaign to maintain the pastoral beauty and historic importance of the two mile stretch of Highway 482 that passes through the Comal Settlement community (now Schertz, Texas).

Highway 482 at Comal Settlement is the latest piece of real estate on the North side of town to be brought into the Schertz governing inventory. The highway is a part of the historic El Camino de los Tejas national trail system that traces its beginnings well before the arrival in Texas of Spanish missionaries. The trail became the strategic route for trade and travel in the 18th and 19th century. It is one of the oldest and most significant routes traversing Texas.

The participants in the weekend cleanup event are members of the Comal Settlement Association that is made up of a number of area families who have relationship ties to the original settlers of Comal Settlement. Some of the participants in the weekend cleanup effort are seen in the above photo. Charlene Fey, organizer of the Association’s Adopt-A-Highway program (far left of photo) and a descendant of one of the original immigrant families (Schaefer) to settle Comal, brings the volunteers together as needed to collect the trash that accumulates along the two mile stretch of highway. Charlene reports that the Trash-Off weekend effort produced at least ten large (50-60 gallon) trash bags full of debris. But the effort also produces some interesting finds along the way. Charlene notes that the most recent effort discovered several items of interest such as the following: one debit card (un-activated); one Medicare identity card; one stone knife sharpener; and, one deer heard skeleton. Charlene indicates that Comal Settlement is a beautiful area with lots of historic sites along Highway 482 as designated as such by the Schertz Historic Preservation Committee and the State of Texas.