

# KNB annual Spring Clean-up Blitz Saturday

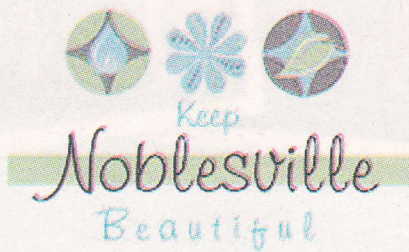
BY STEVEN FURLOW

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Keep Noblesville Beautiful kicks off its 2011 Spring Clean-up Blitz from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, this time focusing on the Lincoln Circle Neighborhood, bordered by 12th Street on the west, Hamilton on the north, 15th Street on the east and Roosevelt on the south.

The event will happen, rain or shine and volunteers are still needed. Work teams will disperse throughout the Lincoln Circle neighborhood until all the work orders have been completed.

Those looking to help are welcome to sign-up to help with the Blitz at the NHS Freshman Campus, 16th Street and Field Drive in Noblesville, West Parking Lot the day of the event or by e-mail-



ing [KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful@gmail.com).

There will also be an Indiana Blood Center Bloodmobile taking donations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers are asked to bring lawn care equipment such as gloves, rakes, pitch forks, pruners and loppers.

"This is an event where Keep Noblesville Beautiful can see an immediate impact from our work. Arbor Day is great and gets lots of trees planted but see-

ing the before and after on a Blitz gives a feeling of accomplishment," said Dan and Jami Gaither, organizing the event for KNB. "We have had so many people who are grateful for the help in projects. From a KNB perspective, we feel the education is the most important aspect. Once we show people which plants are best for their location or how to properly prune trees, we know they will continue and pass that information along to someone else."

This is the 6th KNB Blitz and takes place in cooperation with the Noblesville Street Department, City Hall, Hamilton County Master Gardeners and IDNR Tree Stewards. KNB has been assisted in organizing the event by

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the North Side Crime Watch group who canvasses the neighborhood to encourage homeowner participation. For this group, the benefits of the work done by KNB is clear.

"It's easier for residents to feel safe when they see a familiar face from the neighborhood at their door," said Brenda Cook of the Crime Watch team. "Our group covered most of the neighborhood. We have 11 work orders so far and the work goes from painting a garage to dog house & fence removal to mulching."

And all for free, noted Jami Gaither. The neighborhood was chosen on recommendation from KNB board members, neighborhood watch groups and others.

"We are removing some hazardous tree conditions and educating residents about proper tree care and landscaping. We hope to improve the sense of community as neigh-

bors work together with us in large numbers," the Gaithers said. "This event is a lot of fun and we have more houses than ever before on a one-day blitz. We will need as many people as we can get to help get everything done. Volunteers will be mulching, weed-whacking, planting flowers, cleaning gutters, painting, and moving wood. We are very excited to have Vine & Branch felling a couple trees for us but we'll need to do the clean-up."

They said in preparing for the neighborhood blitz, they have enjoyed working with residents finding out their needs, wishes and working to find success with both.

Other volunteer groups participating in the Blitz include Boy Scout Troop 183, Daisy Troop 1656, Cub Scout Den 211, Christ Community Christian Church, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day

Saints, Noblesville High School and Walgreens.

Donations are being made by local businesses with the Farmers Bank as KNB's first Diamond Sponsor; their funding supporting the event.. Also donating items are Alkota Power Washers, Barnett Forensics, Culver's, Domino's Pizza, Gatewood Vegetable Farm, Ginger's Café, GreenCycle, Home Depot, Lowe's, Meijer, Native Plants Unlimited, Noblesville Ace Hardware, Republic Services, Schwartz Trailer Sales, Sherman-Williams, Sunbelt Rentals and Walgreens.

"Many people know that receiving is great but giving is actually more fulfilling. It feels wonderful to get a job done and then see how happy the homeowner is with the finished project. There is so much gratitude that it really makes you feel wonderful for making a difference in someone's life," said the Gaithers. "It's

lots of fun and provides an opportunity to give back to our community." More information at [www.KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful.org). KNB is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that engages citizens in beautifying the city, improving the quality of the environment and fostering pride in the community.

"Educating our citizens about care for their landscaping and proper disposal of hazardous waste helps all of us. It beautifies, helps assure good stewardship of the environment and introduces us to our neighbors," said the Gaithers. "These activities help government, business and citizens work together to provide clean-up, neighborhood beautification and other services which help make our community healthier, safer, and provide a viable & sustainable impact on the lives of our residents."