



City of Yakima

# **News Release**

**Subject: Community Clean Up Days**

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**Release Date: Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

## **Second Yakima Community Clean Up Event This Saturday**

Results from the 2012 Yakima Citizen Survey clearly revealed an expectation that the City of Yakima should be more proactively involved in improving the overall appearance of the community. As part of its multi-pronged approach to meet that expectation, the City is spearheading a series community clean up events this year.

The first community clean up event on March 9<sup>th</sup> in the West Valley area yielded nearly five tons of debris.

This year's clean ups will rotate between each of the Yakima's four City Council districts. This Saturday's event will target District 2, which is primarily south of Tieton Drive between 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. A free drop off site will be open from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Yakima Valley Community College parking lot off 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West Nob Hill Boulevard. Residents from District 2 can bring unwanted items to the drop off site at any time during those hours.

Additional community clean up days this spring include Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in District 3 (primarily the northeast and southeast sections of the city), and Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> in District 4 (primarily north of Tieton Drive between 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Street).

Clean up days scheduled for later in the year include Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in District 1, Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in District 2, Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> in District 3, and Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> in District 4.

District 2 residents can pick up free bags at the drop off site this Saturday and are urged to separate household refuse from yard debris. Recycling bins will also be available to handle paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and milk jugs. The drop off site will not accept hazardous materials such as paint and chemicals, but will handle old tires for disposal.

The clean up events are designed to give not just individuals the opportunity to get rid of junk around their houses, but to create a chance for volunteers to step forward as well.

"We hope neighbors will join together to not only clean up their property, but to improve the appearance of nearby alleys, streets, and sidewalks," said Yakima Refuse Division Code Compliance Officer James Scott. "The clean up events also provide a wonderful opportunity for community groups to donate time and really make a difference in the way Yakima looks."

Any individuals or groups interested in becoming involved in the Yakima community clean ups should contact Yakima Refuse Code Compliance Officer James Scott at 576-6745.

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