

March 2005

In 2004 Collin County continued its aggressive approach in maintaining and upgrading its 763 miles of county roads which are located primarily in the northern and eastern parts of the county. Listed below is the annual summary of the activities of our Public Works Department for 2004:

- 20 miles of county roads upgraded from rock to asphalt
- 42 miles of county roads reconstructed/seal coat
- 68 miles of county rock roads resurfaced
- 2,207 miles of county roads graded
- 1,334 miles of county roads oiled
- 391 culverts installed
- 1,307 miles of right-of-way sprayed for weed control
- 2,675 miles of right-of-way mowed
- 2,249 signs repaired, replaced or newly installed
- 12 bridges repaired
- 108 miles of ditches cleaned for better drainage
- 12,340 tons of asphalt mix laid
- 279 culvert inspections and permits
- 72 utility permits issued
- 94 soil conservation lakes mowed
- 248 traffic counts taken

Curtailling illegal dumping is another priority for Collin County. The first Saturday of every month from 8.00am until 3pm Collin County residents can bring their junk and debris to the 121 landfill to dispose of these items free of charge. However, the landfill requires that all loads be covered with a tarp. The landfill also takes tires and non-drained freon appliances. In 2004, Collin County collected the following:

- 2,240 tons of debris and junk
- 4,386 car tires
- 134 truck and tractor tires

In December 2004, Collin County began its first recycling program with assistance from a grant issued by the North Central Texas Council of Governments. With this funding, recycling containers have been placed at 5 locations throughout the county. These sites accept newspapers, magazines, junk mail, paper bags, glass, office paper, cardboard, soft cover books, catalogs,

plastic bags, aluminum/tin cans, and plastic containers. Listed below are the site locations:

- 121 Regional Disposal Facility, 7934 Hwy. 121 North, Melissa (Normal Operational Hours)
- Branch VFD, NW corner of FM 546 and FM 982 (Open 24/7)
- City of Nevada, 424 FM 6 beside City Hall (Open 24/7)
- Blue Ridge Service Center, 200 E. Heap Street (Open M-F 8am-5pm)
- Weston Storage Facility, FM 545@FM 3356 (Open M-F 7am-3pm)

Even with these activities illegal dumping still remains a problem not only in Collin County, but also throughout North Texas. Sadly, we still have over 200 sites within our county which are regularly dumped on within a 30-90 day cycle. If you see illegal dumping taking place please do not hesitate to call 911. Only through citizen eyes and actions can we be successful.