OFFICIAL APPLICATION

Applications must be received by online submission or postmarked by April 4, 2015, Midnight (CST).

The 2015 Don’t mess with Texas® Scholarship, sponsored by Forestar and in partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful, recognizes the achievements of high school seniors who have taken leadership roles to prevent litter in their schools and/or communities. Any high school senior planning to attend an accredited Texas college or university next year and currently attending public, private, or home school in Texas may apply. One $6,000 scholarship and two $2,000 scholarships will be awarded this spring to students planning to pursue a two- or four-year degree at an accredited university or college in Texas.

Please fill out each item in this form. Only applications that are fully completed will be accepted.

Last Name _______________________ First Name _______________________

Phone Number (  ) ______________ Email Address _______________________

Name of High School _________________________________________________

School Counselor Name ______________________________________________

School Counselor Phone Number _________________________________________

School Counselor Email Address _________________________________________

School Address _______________________________________________________

City ______________________ State ________ ZIP Code _______________________

Where in Texas do you plan to attend college? _____________________________

Proposed Field of Study ________________________________________________

How did you find out about this scholarship?

☒ Guidance Counselor/Your High School ☒ Don’t mess with Texas Website ☐ Social Media

☐ Other __________________________

Eligibility/Exclusions: Scholarship applicants must be current residents of Texas. Employees and their immediate families (spouses, parents, siblings, children, and each of their respective spouses or people living in same household of each) of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB), Forestar, and Sherry Matthews Advocacy Marketing are not eligible to participate. By submitting the application, essay, and supporting documentation, you acknowledge and understand that the work will become the property of TxDOT/KTB upon submission. Furthermore, you grant permission to TxDOT/KTB to use the application, essay, and supporting documentation for any purpose associated with the Don’t mess with Texas anti-litter campaign. No obligation or liability is assumed by TxDOT in connection with any scholarship. Don’t mess with Texas® is a registered service and trademark owned by the Texas Department of Transportation.
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ESSAY GUIDELINES
Since 1986, Don’t mess with Texas has reminded people to keep litter off Texas roads. Litter is defined as items that have been thrown away improperly and are lying on the ground in a public place or on a roadway. The most commonly littered items are wrappers, packaging, cans, and cigarette butts. These littered items create an unsightly mess that is costly to clean up.

In 300 to 350 words, describe how your activities support the Don’t mess with Texas litter prevention message. How did you identify a specific litter-related problem in your school or community? What creative and/or sustainable solution did you develop to address the problem? How did you become involved in an effort to prevent litter and encourage anti-littering behaviors? Please include any statistics or results that show the impact of your effort.

You may submit a handwritten or typed essay along with this application. You may also provide up to three additional documents that support your essay.

Winners may be asked to participate in a brief video describing their litter prevention project.

CERTIFICATION
In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give permission for my school counselor to be contacted as a reference if I am a finalist.

For verification purposes, please include the names and phone numbers of at least two adults (over the age of 18) who helped you and were a part of the efforts you describe in your application essay.

Name of Adult #1 __________________________________________________________________
Phone Number for Adult #1________________________ Email ________________________________

Name of Adult #2 __________________________________________________________________
Phone Number for Adult #2________________________ Email ________________________________

Applicant Signature ___________________________________________________________ Date __________

Mail completed application to:
Don’t mess with Texas Scholarship
Sherry Matthews Advocacy Marketing
200 South Congress Avenue
Austin, TX  78704

For more information or questions, please contact scholarships@dontmesswithtexas.org or call 1-800-CLEAN-TX.