

# The Bandera PROPHEET

June 8, 2023

Wharton's Dock Road cleanup provides a model

Contributed

A cleanup along Wharton's Dock Road on June 3 serves as an example of what can be accomplished with coordination among local residents and neighborhood organizations.

Dan Wethor has seen trash accumulate along a four-mile stretch of Wharton's Dock Road for two decades. He decided to do something about it and approached Mike Stiborik and Janus Olive, board members of a new nonprofit in the county called Don't Mess With Bandera. Don't Mess With Bandera designed flyers describing the plan, mapping the route and distributed them by email and social media throughout the county to sign up volunteers.

Wharton's Dock dump manager Maggie Schneider allowed free dumping for whatever trash was collected in the volunteer effort.

Thirteen volunteers gathered 81 45-gallon bags of trash.

The Texas Department of Transportation has facilitated volunteer efforts with its Adopt-a-Highway program along state-owned roads for four decades. Fifty-two local groups are listed as currently responsible for two-mile segments in Bandera County.

Encouraged by the volunteer effort of Bridlegate residents, Bandera County has developed its own Adopt-a-County-Road program similar to that of TxDOT. Local groups and individuals can adopt a segment of a county road and receive signage recognizing their work. Businesses in the county are urged to take part. Supplies will be provided by the county and Keep Texas Beautiful, a statewide nonprofit.

For more information on planning a cleanup, go to [www.dontmesswithbandera.org](http://www.dontmesswithbandera.org).

Contact Mike Stiborik to help plan and organize a cleanup of a roadway. He can be reached at 713-922-7976 or [Mike@RecoveryPartner911.com](mailto:Mike@RecoveryPartner911.com).