



**\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***

**VOLUNTEERS FROM HANDS ON NORTH TEXAS AND SPRINT  
HELP J. O. DAVIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL “GO GREEN”**  
*HandsOn Schools will create outdoor classrooms and help students learn  
about how they can help the environment*

**WHAT:** Volunteers will unite to create an eco-friendly learning environment at J. O. Davis Elementary School on Oct. 25, 2008 as part of *HandsOn Schools*, an innovative national program that aims to reestablish schools as the focal points of communities. This project will be an exciting opportunity for volunteers to partner together and demonstrate that communities *can* bring about positive change in their schools.

Hands On North Texas, a HandsOn Network affiliate, is leading a team of approximately 50 Sprint employees, alongside students and community members to construct an outdoor classroom and enhance the exterior of the school. These volunteers will paint outdoor benches, plant a community garden and decorate an outdoor canopy to cover an outdoor learning center, among other projects consistent with Sprint's green focus.

Beyond the project day, Sprint's engagement provides students and the J. O. Davis Elementary school community with easy to implement tips and resources to support the environment; hopefully inspiring a team of young environmental stewards that will help the school and neighborhood get energized about going green. This is one of 8 environmentally-focused Hands On Schools projects Sprint is supporting across the country.

**WHO:** Sprint volunteers  
Hands On North Texas staff and volunteers  
Local residents

**WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008, from approximately 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** 310 Davis Drive  
Irving, Texas 75061

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### **About Hands On Schools**

Founded on the belief that communities **can** make a positive change, Hands On Schools applies an innovative approach to school revitalization. By uniting the collective resources of parents, communities, and corporations, Hands On Schools aims to re-establish schools as the focal point of the community. Research indicates that schools with broad-based community involvement provide more dynamic learning experiences, resulting in higher student achievement. Hands On Schools seeks to cultivate community, school, and civic collaboration to transform schools into dynamic learning centers that foster student achievement and community engagement. To date, Hands On Schools has partnered with 63 public schools, served over 36,800 students, engaged 15,000 volunteers and generated nearly 107,000 hours of service.

### **About Hands On North Texas**

Hands On North Texas (HONT), a program of the Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT), helps individuals, families, corporations and community groups find creative and flexible volunteer opportunities at nonprofit agencies in Collin, Dallas, Tarrant and Denton counties. Hands On North Texas is an affiliate of the Hands On Network, a national civic movement that brings people together to tackle community problems through volunteer service, encouraging them to "be the change" in their communities. Hands On North Texas connects volunteers with volunteer service opportunities that make a meaningful, rewarding change in the North Texas area.

### **About HandsOn Network**

HandsOn Network is the activating, volunteer-focused arm of Points of Light Institute. The Network creates innovative, actionable models for citizen-centered problem solving, and direct, tangible tools and opportunities for people and organizations to apply their interests and passions to make a difference.

At the center of the Network are hundreds of HandsOn Action Centers that serve 83% of the American population and 12 international communities in nine countries. These affiliates act as community hubs-- places where people can get connected, get involved and make change happen in their communities. They focus on helping people plug into volunteer opportunities in their local community; helping nonprofits manage volunteer resources and developing the leadership capacity of volunteers. For more information about HandsOn Network, visit [www.HandsOnNetwork.org](http://www.HandsOnNetwork.org).

### **About Sprint Nextel**

Sprint Nextel offers a comprehensive range of wireless and wireline communications services bringing the freedom of mobility to consumers, businesses and government users. Sprint Nextel is widely recognized for developing, engineering and deploying innovative technologies, including two wireless networks serving nearly 52 million customers at the end of the second quarter 2008; industry-leading mobile data services; instant national and international push-to-talk capabilities; and a global Tier 1 Internet backbone. For more information, visit [www.sprint.com](http://www.sprint.com).