



CITY OF ATLANTA

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NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF ATLANTA CELEBRATES EARTH DAY 2010

The City of Atlanta, along with many organizations and individuals across the globe, will observe Earth Day 2010, during the week of April 18-25. The City will celebrate many recent achievements as it seeks to engage and inform the more than 7,000 city employees about how they can create more sustainable lifestyles both at home and in the workplace.

The City will mark Earth Day on Wednesday, April 21, by honoring the achievements and contributions of the following organizations in making the City of Atlanta a more sustainable place to live and work:

- Sustainable Lakewood
- Peachtree Hills Civic Association
- Atlanta Police Department and Atlanta Fire and Rescue
- Johnson Controls International
- Southface Energy Institute
- Sustainable Atlanta

Sustainable Lakewood- Mayor's Phoenix Award, for its efforts to combat the illegal dumping of tires and other debris. Sustainable Lakewood is dedicated to reshaping the Lakewood Heights community in East Atlanta.

Peachtree Hills Civic Association- Mayor's Phoenix Award, for its commitment to ensuring that all residents has the resources to take reduce energy and water consumption in their homes, as well as for the ongoing "Greening Peachtree Hills" effort.

Atlanta Police Department and Atlanta Fire and Rescue – Plaque and certificate recognizing the U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

certification for the new Public Safety Headquarters building. The building is the first LEED-Gold certified facility under city operation. LEED recognizes residential and commercial structures that employ sustainable elements, from recycled materials to low flow fixtures, in their design.

Johnson Controls, Inc. - Certificate of Recognition for its technical resource contributions to making the John Birdine Neighborhood Facility in Neighborhood Planning Unit-Y (NPU-Y), Energy Star Certified.

Southface Energy Institute - Certificate of Recognition for its contributions to the construction of the LEED-certified Atlanta Public Safety Headquarters.

Sustainable Atlanta, Certificate of Recognition for its commitment to developing policies and programming, strategy and best practices that make Atlanta, its citizens, businesses and other organizations more bottom-line efficient, environmentally responsible and more competitive when attracting employers and jobs.

On this Earth Day, the City of Atlanta will focus on ways that its workforce can reduce its carbon footprint and energy consumption. Sustainable Atlanta's "Ways to Think Green" tip sheet will provide employees with information on inexpensive and realistic ways to incorporate more sustainable lifestyle practices into their daily lives.

To encourage energy-conscious commutes, Atlanta offers discounted transit passes to over 1,200 employees, in addition to providing fuel-efficient fleet vehicles through the City Car Share service for intra-office employee use thus helping to reduce its carbon footprint. "This year, we decided to focus on what we can and should be doing locally; our employee base is indeed a community whose impact on the environment through daily operations is significant," says Director of Sustainability Mandy Mahoney. Employees who drive alone are also encouraged to try alternative commutes during Earth Week.

About Earth Day

Around the world, Earth Day is observed in more than 190 countries. More than 1 billion people participate in Earth Day activities, making it the largest secular civic event in the world. The Earth Day celebration will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the City Hall Atrium, 55 Trinity Avenue. Awards and acknowledgements will begin promptly at 11:45 a.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

About City of Atlanta – Division of Sustainability

The Division of Sustainability is focused on implementing environmental protection practices in Atlanta city government. The Division is aimed at improving the city's environmental programs and policies, such as water and energy conservation, solid waste and emissions reduction and recycling. For more information, visit www.atlantaga.gov/mayor/sustainability.aspx

For the 2009 City of Atlanta Municipal Carbon Footprint, visit http://www.atlantaga.gov/mayor/sustainability_ghg_031209.aspx