



# Friends Raising 2011

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more & better parks... all over Atlanta



# Friends of the Park Program

*Park Pride views effective and engaged Friends of the Park groups as the foundation of its efforts to create a world-class park system in the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County.*

# Attributes of Successful Group

- Strong leadership that is recognized by community
- Ability to identify annual group priorities
- Willing to engage community leaders, parks department staff and elected officials in enjoying and improving the park
- Increase positive group activities in the park

# Friend of the Park Groups in Action



# Tips for Growing the Group

- Officially register group and renew membership annually
- Invite your neighbors and other park users to join the group
- Hold regular public meetings (at least quarterly)
- Provide people with opportunities for many levels of involvement
- Identify projects that can be done by volunteers and host student or corporate volunteers
- Host one community fun day, festival or similar event

# Engaging Student Volunteers



# Community Volunteers Children and Adults



# Build Relationships With Park Staff

- Have a site visit with key parks department staff
- Submit plans for volunteer projects 30 days in advance
- Communicate priority projects and ideas for physical park improvement to increase opportunities for partnership
- Invite leadership in parks department and elected officials to community events
- Attend meetings and speak up about your passion for parks

# Award Winning Government and Corporate Partnerships



# 2010 Friends of the Park Program Highlights

- 42 Friends of the Park groups choose membership
- Expanded to serve DeKalb County parks with 17 registered groups
- More than 15,000 volunteer hours with new volunteer coordinator, John Ahern
- 18 community gardens in City of Atlanta parks with new coordinator Amanda Martin

# Enjoy Your Park!





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