



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Allison Barnett  
404-817-6760

## Park Pride provides communities \$500 for their park improvement projects

Atlanta, April 18, 2007 --Communities throughout Atlanta can receive \$500, for their self-initiated park and greenspace improvements, through the **Community Micro Grants Program**. For the fourth year, Park Pride is providing matching grants of up to \$500. "Throughout Atlanta, people are working with their neighbors to build a flower bed, plant some trees, install benches or paint dilapidated buildings in their community park," said George Dusenbury, executive director of Park Pride. "This is our way of saying 'thank you' and encouraging others to get involved."

Neighborhood groups must submit their applications by May 18 in order to receive a Park Pride Community Micro Grant. Awards will be announced June 1.

Every City of Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) is allocated \$500 annually through the Micro Grant program. Groups that have been funded in the past are eligible to reapply.

Park Pride has awarded dozens of grants over the past few years, which have been used for a wide-ranging scope of projects, including:

- Development of a tree survey
- Building a new playground
- Reclaiming a vacant lot as a public greenspace
- Addition of amenities such as a picnic table, fountain, lighting and planters
- Kudzu eradication
- Erosion control
- Creation of a nature trail

For some communities, Micro Grant is the launching point to bigger projects. One example is Collier Heights Park, led by Mrs. RR Harris and Barbara Leath. After receiving a Micro Grant in 2005 to install landscaping and a fountain at the Adamsville Triangle, the "Friends of Collier Heights Park" led the charge to further engage the community and raise \$150,000 to install a LifeTrail outdoor fitness system for seniors. Then, in fall of 2006, the group played a major role in developing their park to an even greater extent by completing the Park Pride Park Visioning process. "It was great to see the community's excitement when we received the Micro Grant to make improvements to the Park," said Mrs. Harris. "After that 'launching point, we've kept gaining momentum, with Park Pride's help, to make our park better and community stronger"

Community Micro Grants are possible through the generosity of the Cecil B. Day Family. For more information, and to download an application, visit [www.parkpride.org/micro.html](http://www.parkpride.org/micro.html), or call Allison Barnett, director of community relations, at (404) 817-6760, or email [allison@parkpride.org](mailto:allison@parkpride.org).

Community Micro Grant program and application guidelines are attached and can also be found on Park Pride's website.

Park Pride is a 501c3 nonprofit promoting more and better parks, with the vision of creating a world-class park system in Atlanta. In 2006, Park Pride coordinated more than 20,000 hours of volunteer work in Atlanta parks, developed new conceptual master plans for five parks, helped start more than a dozen friends of the park groups. Park Pride continues to work with community organizations and grassroot advocates to support the creation of the Atlanta BeltLine, which will create more than 1,000 acres of new parks and 33 miles of trails.

###