



Milton Grows Green Committee Press Release January 8, 2009

Milton Grows Green Committee Brings the Chipper to Milton

The Milton Grows Green committee brought the statewide “Bring One for the Chipper” to the City on Saturday, January 3, coordinating a volunteer effort of citizens and the donated services and equipment of Freeman’s Tree Care, a local company. Volunteers included approximately two dozen students from local middle school Beta Clubs and Tag honor programs, some Milton and Alpharetta High Schools, scouts and some of the parents of the student volunteers. Approximately 400 trees were collected in the Saturday event and in the follow-up collection from the Crooked Creek neighborhood conducted by Waste Management, the subdivision’s waste hauler.

The volunteers and several MGG committee members braved the cool and drizzly day at the Birmingham Fire Station fortified by hot chocolate and good-natured revelry, greeting cars, trucks and trailers with cheery smiles and the donor’s choice of seedlings provided by the Georgia Forestry Commission. The mulch from the Christmas trees will be used by the City at that fire station, and at other city facilities.

“It’s really a win-win...win,” noted Marc Arrington, the MGG member in charge of the project. “We avoid sending these trees to the landfill, saving valuable space there and lengthening its useful life, we involve the citizens of Milton in a “hands-on project” that helps get them thinking about these issues, and we use the mulch at City properties, saving substantial tax revenues that had already been budgeted for grounds maintenance with pine straw.” Marc was also pleased with the environmental interest and volunteer spirit of the youth involved in the effort, because one of MGG’s stated areas of interest in education of the City’s residents, especially its youth.

Milton Public Safety Director Chris Lagerbloom was instrumental in bringing the program to MGG’s attention during his recent temporary service as interim City Manager, and was able to help coordinate the committee’s actions from application to the State to be chosen to oversee the program through the placement of traffic cones, making hot chocolate and delivering pizzas during the event.

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