

NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications

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FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Fulton County Partners with City of Atlanta and Citizens for Community Clean Up



Fulton County District 5 Commissioner Emma I. Darnell (center) talked with Fulton County Public Works Director Angela Parker (left) and Environmental Education Coordinator Sharon Smith (right) at the cleanup.

The official 2010 Earth Day campaign kicked off on April 22, 2010, however Fulton County got an earlier start. The April 17th English Avenue Vine City clean-up was a joint effort between Fulton County, the City of Atlanta Mayors Office, English Avenue/Vine City Community, Citizen Volunteers, and the Weed and Seed Code Enforcement Staff.

Over 150 community volunteers joined a team of county and city staff to tackle 60,000 pounds of solid waste and scrap 12,000 pounds of discarded tires. They also cleaned up Proctor Creek, removing barrels from the water.

The team worked their way through English Avenue and Vine City with officials arranging for the collection and disposal of waste materials and scrap tires and providing heavy equipment to clean Proctor Creek along with supplies such as glue boards, rat bait and traps, and mosquito repellent.

“This collaboration was vitally important to the English Avenue/Vine City Community”, stated Fulton County Commissioner Emma Darnell who represents a portion of the English Avenue Community. “These materials, if left un-removed threaten the health and safety of people. A major approach to the reduction of health disparities must be the elimination of air and water pollution.”

The Earth Day Network organization (www.earthday.org) has counted nearly 31.5 billion “acts of green” where citizens are taking action to better their communities and the environment. Fulton County Environmental Health Services will be returning to the English Avenue/Vine City Community on Saturday April 24, 2010.

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Description	Responsible Party	
	Fulton County	City of Atlanta
Code Enforcement		
Issue and enforce code violations		X
Community Outreach		
Education (schools, community health centers, libraries, senior centers, website, etc.)	X	X
Brochures, Handouts, Printed materials	X	X
Community Involvement Projects	X	X
Media Outlets (radio, TV, newspapers, etc.)	X	X
Crime/Law Enforcement		
Gang Activity		X
Drug Trafficking		X
Prostitution		X
Crime (Burglaries, Murders, etc.)		X
Health/Human/Behavioral Services		
HIV/Aids	X	
Substance Abuse	X	
Homelessness	X	X
Unemployment	X	X
Solid Waste/Illegal Dumping		
Proctor Creek		X
Boone/Simpson/Elm Street		X
Cairo/Jett Street		X
Vegetative Overgrowth		
Boone/Simpson/Elm Street		X
Rodent Control	X	
Mosquito Control	X	



Fulton County Department of Health Services
Environmental Health Services Division
English Avenue Update Complaint Log

Complaint	Location of Complaint	Update of Complaint	Date of Action	Staff Assigned
Barrels in Proctor Creek	Proctor Creek	<p>The Environmental Health Services team met with Fulton County Public Works and the City of Atlanta Code Enforcement Department to coordinate clean-up of the barrels by April 17, 2010.</p> <p>City of Atlanta activities include issuance of a permit to close a section of Proctor Street for the April 17th cleanup event; donation of gloves and bags for the volunteers who participated in the 17th litter pickup on Proctor and adjacent streets; and providing a roll off waste container to support the volunteer litter pickup.</p> <p>Fulton County Public Works along with volunteers from the community cleared barrels and tires from the creek. The Environmental Health Services Team distributed rodent control information, mold information, and mosquito repellent. The team was also prepared to handle any complaints from citizens.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April 5, 2010</p> <p style="text-align: center;">April 17, 2010</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson Monica Robinson</p>

Complaint	Location of Complaint	Update of Complaint	Date of Action	Staff Assigned
Vegetative Overgrowth	Joseph E. Boone and Elm Street	The Environmental Health Services Team issued a legal notice to the owner of the property. The notice expires on April 12, 2010. If no action has been taken by the owner, then a court citation will be issued for April 20, 2010.	April 6, 2010	Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson
Vegetative Overgrowth (Continued)	Joseph E. Boone and Elm Street (Continued)	The owner of the property failed to pick-up the court citation. The team has noticed activity on the lot consisting of vegetative overgrowth and debris. We can surmise that the owner of the property is responding to the legal notice that was issued on April 6, 2010. The team also noticed a real estate sign that was not there before. Staff will contact the owner through the information provided on the sign and continue to pursue court action.	April 12, 2010 April 22, 2010	Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson Barney Harmon Kevin Jones
Solid Waste	Cairo and Jett Street	The Environmental Health Services Team issued a legal notice for solid waste, rat control, and nuisance. The notice expired on April 1, 2010. No activity had taken place on the property as of April 1, 2010. Consequently, a court citation was issued for the April 20, 2010 court date. The Fulton County Marshal was unable to serve the citation for the court date set for April 20, 2010. During the interim period Fulton County Public Works cleared the site. The Environmental Health Services Team will continue to pursue the owner in the hope that restitution to the County will be provided.	March 25, 2010 April 1, 2010	Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson
			April 17, 2010	Cecily Simmons Larry Hudson