

Burrell Ellis, CEO

DeKalb County's GREEN FOCUS

Greenest Urban County in America

July 2013



DeKalb County Government
2009 Bronze Certification

Volume 2, Issue 4



Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center

DeKalb County's Sustainable Landscaping Management Policy

DeKalb County CEO Burrell Ellis recently signed the local government's first 2013 Executive Order for Sustainable Landscaping Management practices, supporting the county's commitment to be the "Greenest Urban County in America".

"I am honored to announce our new Sustainable Landscaping policy," CEO Burrell Ellis said. "This new practice will allow DeKalb County to continue leading the charge in innovative green initiatives."

The new landscaping policy endorses environmentally responsible and sustainable landscaping management practices including integrated pest management for the protection of the county's water supply and the enjoyment of these resources by DeKalb residents. Integrated pest management prevents and manages pests with minimal impact on human health, the environment and beneficial organisms.

Newly constructed and existing county facilities and grounds will use sustainable landscaping practices including the application of drought tolerant, locally adapted plants. The new policy also promotes a healthy landscape that will save water and require the use of fewer chemicals.

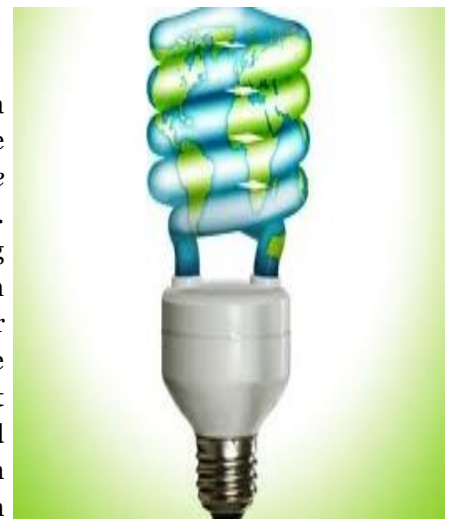
For more information on the Sustainable Landscape Management Policy and the county's programs that promote conservation and reduce environmental impact please visit DeKalb County's sustainability website Green Focus at: www.dekalbcountyga.gov/greenfocus.

Inside this issue:

- DeKalb County Government's Sustainable Landscape Management Policy & Georgia Power's Change A Light Program 1
- DeKalb County Government's Clean Air Campaign Partnership 2

Georgia Power's CHANGE A LIGHT Program

Through the County's partnerships with Georgia Power and EPA's Energy Star Program, employees are encouraged to take the *Change the Light, Change the World* pledge, during lunch from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 8 at the Clark Harrison Building and Thursday, August 15 at the Maloof Building. Each pledge participant will receive a *free* Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) and the benefits of energy conservation best management practices. Additional information will be on hand about Georgia Power's Refrigerator Recycling program and information on energy efficient practices for both the home and office.





Feed Your Piggy Bank. Not Your Gas Tank.

Have You Heard? DeKalb County Government is partnering with The Clean Air Campaign to offer Georgia Commute Options That Help You Get More by Driving Less.

Sometimes getting help from the region's network of commuting resources to change the way you get to work can pull you in many different directions. That's why The Clean Air Campaign is excited to announce the arrival of *Georgia Commute Options*, the one-stop shop for all of your commuting needs.

All of the programs and features you use to improve your commute can now be found in one place at www.GACommuteOptions.com.

Incentives:

- Current solo drivers can earn \$3 a day (up to \$100) for switching to a commute alternative
- Each time you log a green commute trip, you are entered to win a \$25 gift card in a monthly drawing
- If you're part of a carpool with three people you can earn \$40 monthly gas cards; carpools with four or more can earn \$60 monthly gas cards

Ridematching:

Access a database of tens of thousands of Georgia commuters interested in carpooling and vanpooling. You'll be matched with potential riders or drivers who live and work near you and have similar work hours.

Guaranteed Ride Home:

Worried you might not be able to get home if your carpool driver has an emergency and leaves early? Registered commuters qualify for up to five trips home or to their cars from work each year if an unexpected event occurs.

Clean Air Commuter Champion Program:

You've been diligently using commute alternatives and logging your trips; now it's time to get recognized! Clean Air Commuter Champions are recognized for singlehandedly keeping 25,000 and 50,000 pounds of pollution out of the air we all breathe.

Visit the www.GACommuteOptions.com today or call 1-877-9-GA-OPTIONS. You can also find more information on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

“By making the switch, you can earn \$3 a day up to \$100, and by logging your daily commute trips you have the chance to win \$25 monthly gift cards.”

Ways to Save Cash: 5 Days, 5 Ways

There are five days in a typical work week and five easy ways to green your commute. Coincidence? By choosing to carpool, vanpool, ride transit, bike or walk to work instead of driving alone, you are not only helping keep the environment clean, but you're also saving money on your commute. Instead of driving alone to and from work, you can share the gas expenses with carpool or vanpool partners. If you can walk or bike at least part of the way, you could save even more, not to mention burn more calories. By choosing to ride transit, you can catch up on reading or emails.

DeKalb County Government and The Clean Air Campaign offer Georgia Commute Options, including ridematching services to help you find a carpool partner near you. Additionally, you can earn cash and prizes by choosing alternatives to driving alone. By making the switch, you can earn \$3 a day up to \$100, and by logging your daily commute trips you have the chance to win \$25 monthly gift cards. Take the challenge and try something new – five days, five ways! Learn more at www.GaCommuteOptions.com.



Less traffic. Cleaner air.