



DeKalb County has retained Park Pride—the only metro Atlanta nonprofit working with communities to improve local parks—to provide volunteer coordination services and guidance to a network of Friends of the Park groups. Park Pride has a strong history of partnerships in Atlanta’s neighborhood parks and is recognized nationally for hosting the annual Parks & Greenspace Conference at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Now, Park Pride is here for you in DeKalb County. Learn more at www.parkpride.org.

Park Pride will work closely with the DeKalb County Natural Resources Management Office (NRMO) and the Parks and Recreation Department to encourage neighborhood involvement in building and maintaining DeKalb’s green inventory of more than 140 parks.

**Citizens interested in forming a Friends of Park group may contact
NRMO at (404) 371-2540 or
Ayanna Williams at Park Pride at (404) 723-3116.**

FRIENDS OF THE PARK GROUP PRIMER

A Friends of the Park group is formed as a first step in creating positive long-lasting change in a public park. Friends of the Park groups may start as a committee of a civic association or school or simply a group of concerned energetic citizens.

A “Friends of the Park” Group has the following characteristics:

- ❖ a group
- ❖ of park users (often neighbors & community leaders)
- ❖ actively working
- ❖ to improve one or more parks (usually one)
- ❖ in a defined geographic area (usually a neighborhood)

Park Pride supports DeKalb County Friends of the Park groups through an array of programs and services.

Park Pride Tool Shed

Park Pride maintains a collection of tools that it makes available to community groups conducting volunteer work days in their parks. We have enough tools to accommodate groups of up to 50 volunteers.

Corporate & Civic Volunteers

Many corporations and civic organizations come to Park Pride seeking volunteer opportunities in parks. Park Pride works to connect these volunteers with needs identified by our Friends of the Park groups. The best way to get help is to work with our Community Builder to develop a scope of work for a volunteer work day in your park.

Friends Raising

This is the foundation for all of Park Pride's programs. Our Community Builder will help your community group get organized around your park – or develop goals and a plan of action for existing groups. The trainings are supplemented by how-to guides, an annual check-up, and templates for surveys, solicitations, etc.

Fiscal Partners

Park Pride can serve as the nonprofit fiscal agent for communities looking to raise money for a playground, pavilion or any park improvement. For a small fee, Park Pride will accept donations, track donors, and write thank-you notes.

Park Design Clinic

Every September, Park Pride hosts a park design clinic at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. The clinic helps community groups develop landscaping plans for park gateways, beauty spots or other prominent locations. Residents can register for the clinic by submitting an application that includes a map and pictures of the site.

Annual Parks and Greenspace Conference

Every spring, Park Pride brings national park and Greenspace experts to Atlanta to join state and local park leaders for a stellar, one-day park and Greenspace conference.

CURRENT DEKALB COUNTY FRIENDS OF PARK GROUPS

-  Friends of Summergate Park
-  Friends of Longdale Park
-  Friends of Kittredge Park
-  Friends of Lynwood Park
-  Friends of Dearborn Park
-  Friends of Lou Walker Park
-  Friends of Ashford/Georgian Hills Parks
-  Friends of Chapel Hill Park
-  Friends of DeKalb Memorial Park

~ Want to join this list? Call Park Pride today and form your own
Friends of Park group for your local park. ~
(404) 723-3116