

## Georgians keep 74 tons of old computer equipment out of landfills

*Two local nonprofits to benefit*

by Chuck Boelkins, Resource Recovery Specialist

July 12 was a typical mid-summer day in Atlanta: sweltering hot, very humid, not a breeze to be felt. It was also the last stop on Dell Computer Corp.'s 15-city "No Computer Should Go to Waste" recycling tour.

Between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. about 500 vehicles of every imaginable type came to the Alexander Memorial Coliseum parking lot at Georgia Tech. They brought in almost 150,000 pounds of old computers (would you believe some Kaypros, Commodores, and Tandys?), printers (daisy wheel, dot matrix, inkjet, and laser), keyboards, scanners, mice, speakers, and cables.

Some 70 volunteers labored mightily in the heat to direct traffic and unload the unwanted equipment. They put everything on pallets and wound heavy-duty stretch wrap around the six-foot high stacks to hold them together. It took six tractor-trailers to haul away the 74 tons of materials—the third largest amount collected on the tour.

The computers and accessories were shipped to Texas where Dell will



*P<sup>2</sup>AD Director Bob Kerr helps a collection participant unload a computer monitor.*

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## P<sup>2</sup>AD celebrates a decade of environmental leadership

by Kim Ragozzino, Communications Manager

On September 15, P<sup>2</sup>AD marks its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a leader in creating a sustainable Georgia. For more than a decade, P<sup>2</sup>AD's staff of dedicated specialists and engineers has worked with private and public organizations throughout the state to accomplish its pollution prevention goals. To mark the occasion, special guest speakers and environmental leaders Bernie Marcus and Jeff Swanagan of the Georgia Aquarium will join P<sup>2</sup>AD in its celebration.

The event will highlight successes of the past 10 years, as well as the organization's vision for the decade to come. Part of P<sup>2</sup>AD's plan for the future is the launch of a more rigorous Partners program. At 10 a.m. on the 15th prior to the luncheon, P<sup>2</sup>AD will hold a workshop for current P<sup>2</sup>AD clients and those who are interested in becoming a P<sup>2</sup>AD Partner.

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# DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

by G. Robert Kerr

In 1993, the Georgia Legislature decided that the answer to Georgia's hazardous waste disposal problems was a new incinerator, but a new program to help industries reduce their wastes at the source. Through this action, P<sup>2</sup>AD was created in October 1993 as a new, non-regulatory division of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and industries had a place to turn for assistance. By working with dozens of companies over the years to assess their operations and educate them about pollution prevention practices, P<sup>2</sup>AD has helped prevent thousands of tons of hazardous and solid waste from entering Georgia's air, water, and landfills.

Here we are in 2003, celebrat-

ing the successes of the past decade and looking to new approaches to expand those successes in the next 10 years. While our P3 Program in recent years recognized many Georgia companies and institutions and encouraged them to reduce wastes, we feel that in this new decade, we need to better reflect the national/international move beyond waste reduction to the bigger picture of environmental sustainability. Our recognition program also needs to be compatible with EPA's National Performance Track program, to reduce the paperwork burden on companies seeking recognition nationally as well as in Georgia. After many months of preparation and anticipation, it is finally time to unveil the

new P<sup>2</sup>AD Partnership Program.

The P<sup>2</sup>AD Partnership Program encompasses all that we do at the Division and provides a framework for recognizing our current clients as well as new partners wishing to become better environmental stewards. It requires continual environmental improvement, and for meeting this goal, it rewards Partners with recognition and access to a growing network of sustainable business leaders in Georgia. Partners will also have access to competitive funds for implementation of P2 projects, and for regulated Partners, the program will provide regulatory flexibility through a partnership with EPA and Georgia EPD. We are excited about this new program, and hope that your business or institution will join us as a partner.

In this issue of *From the Source*, we introduce our readers to the basics of the new P<sup>2</sup>AD Partnership Program, and highlight some of the larger ongoing projects of the Division. You will read about the success of the computer recycling event we co-sponsored this summer (page 1), and we celebrate another important anniversary – five years

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**from the source**  
A Publication of the Georgia Pollution Prevention Assistance Division

*From the Source* is a quarterly publication of the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division (P<sup>2</sup>AD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). P<sup>2</sup>AD provides free, confidential, technical assistance in the areas of pollution prevention, resource conservation, waste reduction, by-product reuse, and recycling. Our clients include manufacturers, commercial businesses, institutions, military and government facilities, agricultural operations, consultants, and the citizens of Georgia.

Please contact us with address corrections, inquiries, and opinions. Articles in *From the Source* may be reprinted with permission from P<sup>2</sup>AD. Limited hardcopies of this publication are available upon request, and the full version of this edition as well as back issues are available online at [www.p2ad.org](http://www.p2ad.org).

For more information about P<sup>2</sup>AD's services, contact the Division at (404) 651-5120, (800) 685-2443 (outside Atlanta), or via email at [info@p2ad.org](mailto:info@p2ad.org).

**Editor:** Suzanne Burnes  
**Technical Reviewers:** Chuck Boelkins, Bob Donaghue, Susan Hooper, and Iva Walls

# Partnership celebrates five years of military P2 success

by Vanessa Freeman, Information Manager

More than 50 military representatives and environmental leaders gathered in June at the Atlanta Sheraton Hotel to witness the signing of a new charter for the Georgia P<sup>2</sup>AD/DoD Pollution Prevention (P2) Partnership.

Since forming in 1998, the Partnership has succeeded in its goal of reducing waste from Georgia's military bases.

"The military leaders in Georgia are to be commended for their commitment to the reduction of the amount of waste generated by military installations throughout the state," said Bob Kerr, director of P<sup>2</sup>AD. "The Partnership has proven effective in helping Georgia's military installations become better stewards for the environment."

The new charter builds on the successes of the first five years of the Partnership while expanding its mission to include the concepts of sustainability and stewardship. As

with the original charter, the Partnership also seeks to ensure mission readiness and the long-term viability of DoD facilities in Georgia.

During the meeting, P<sup>2</sup>AD presented an award to the Partnership for "5 Years of Environmental Excellence."

George Carellas, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations & Environment (ASAIE), accepted the award on behalf of the Partnership.

The Partnership also donated a tree through Trees Atlanta in honor of George Carellas' instrumental role in the development of the Partnership, his visionary leadership, and devotion to protecting

Georgia's natural resources. Mr. Carellas was also honored by Brigadier General (Ret.) Phillip Brown- ing, Jr., U.S. Army, Executive

Director of the Georgia Military Affairs Coordinating Committee, for his service to the installations of Georgia.

The

Partnership also honored Linda Larson, Robins Air Force Base, and Bruce Ramo, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, for their unwavering commitment to the Partnership over the past five years by donating trees to Keep Warner Robins Beautiful Crepe Myrtle Beautification Program and Cobb Trees Program, respectively.

**"The military leaders in Georgia are to be commended for their commitment to the reduction of the amount of waste generated by military installations throughout the state."**

*-Bob Kerr, P<sup>2</sup>AD Director*



Members of the Georgia P<sup>2</sup>AD/Department of Defense P2 Partnership gather at the signing of the new Partnership charter.

# Have you ever thought about recycling...your hair?

by Marci DeSart, Pollution Prevention Specialist

“It will grow back,” I told myself. With that thought, I held my ponytail out, took a deep breath, closed my eyes, and after a few cuts, what took years to grow was now dangling in my hand—12 inches of hair! Cutting my hair off wasn’t nearly as unnerving as I thought it would be, and the experience gave new meaning to the term “light-headed!” I was overdue for a change and finding out about *Locks of Love* provided me with the motivation I needed to follow through.

*Locks of Love* is a nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under the age of 18 with medical hair loss. These custom-fitted hair prosthetics are provided free of charge or on a sliding scale to children whose families meet the *Locks of Love* guidelines.

Since 1997, the organization has helped over 1,100 children, most of whom suffer from an auto-immune condition called alopecia areata, which causes the hair follicles to shut down and for which there is no known



cause or cure. Others have suffered severe burns, undergone radiation treatment, or have dermatological conditions that resulted in permanent hair loss.

Donated hair is evaluated for its usefulness according to the following guidelines:

- ♥ The donated hair must be at least 10 inches in length (preferably 12 inches).
- ♥ It must be bundled in a ponytail or braid.
- ♥ It must be free of hair damaged by chemical processing.
- ♥ The hair must be clean, dry, and placed in a plastic bag.

If your hair meets these requirements and you would like to donate it, mail it in a padded envelope to:

Locks of Love  
2925 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, Suite 102  
Lake Worth, FL 33461.

**For more information on Locks of Love, visit [www.locksoflove.org](http://www.locksoflove.org), call 1-888-896-1588.**

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The P<sup>2</sup>AD Partners Program is open to any organization that operates in Georgia. Eligible organizations include commercial businesses, manufacturers, service companies, military institutions, schools, universities, cities, counties, federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, environmental groups, and community groups.

There are four levels of P<sup>2</sup>AD Partnership – Blue Ribbon, Red Ribbon, Yellow Ribbon and White Ribbon. The White level is open to non-governmental agencies, environmental groups, and others that provide services and support to the other levels as they work toward their pollution prevention goals. Each level provides Partners with incentives to improve their performance and advance through the Partnership levels.

During the upcoming workshop, P<sup>2</sup>AD will discuss the

Partner’s Program and provide attendees with a description of what is required at each Partner level. P<sup>2</sup>AD staff will be on hand to answer questions about the program requirements.

P<sup>2</sup>AD Partners are also eligible to participate in an annual awards program recognizing businesses and organizations that demonstrate outstanding leadership and commitment to Georgia’s environment through innovative pollution prevention efforts. Formerly known as the Governor’s Awards, this recognition program is being revised and will be formally re-launched in 2004.

If you or a representative of your company is interested in attending the Partners workshop or learning more about the Partners Program, please call us at (404) 651-5120 or visit us on the web at [www.p2ad.org](http://www.p2ad.org).

# Team Conservation Tillage highlights P2 successes at Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition

by Julia Gaskin, Land Application Specialist



It's Sunbelt time again. This annual exposition in Moultrie has become one of the largest farm shows in the country, and provides the Agricultural Pollution Prevention (Ag P2) Program an opportunity to educate Georgia's farmers about the latest ways to conserve

**Conservation tillage helps farmers become more profitable while being a good environmental steward.**

resources and prevent pollution in the field.

On October 14-16, the Ag P2 Program, sponsored by P<sup>2</sup>AD at the University of Georgia (UGA), will participate in Sunbelt as a part of Team Conservation Tillage.

Conservation tillage is a crop production system that minimizes soil disturbance. This means farm-

ers don't plow or harrow the soil, but plant seeds or seedlings directly into a cover crop. Research has shown that conservation tillage systems reduce soil erosion, save energy by reducing the number of trips over the field with farm equipment, improve water use efficiency, and improve water quality. These systems help farmers become more profitable while being a good environmental steward.

The Ag P2 Program has partnered with all the major players in conservation tillage research and education to develop the Team Conservation Tillage exhibit. These partners include the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Georgia Conservation Tillage Alliance (a farmer-led group), Auburn University, the Agricultural Research Service, the Georgia Wildlife Resources Division of DNR, and the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension

Service. These groups are planning displays that describe the impact of conservation tillage systems on wildlife, soil quality, profitability, irrigation, and quality of life. The displays will also instruct farmers on how to get started with implementing a conservation tillage system. The displays will include interactive educational opportunities for children, as well as information on conservation tillage equipment from various manufacturers.

Team Conservation Tillage is a wonderful example of how collaboration can leverage funds and create unique opportunities for education and the Ag P2 Program is proud to be a part of the team.

*For more information about Ag P2 or conservation tillage, contact Dr. Gary Hawkins, Crop Pollution Prevention Specialist at [ghawkins@tifton.uga.edu](mailto:ghawkins@tifton.uga.edu) or (229) 386-3377, or Julia Gaskin, Land Application Specialist at [jgaskin@engr.uga.edu](mailto:jgaskin@engr.uga.edu) or (706) 542-1401.*

# Hike Inn steps out as a national leader in green building

by David Freedman, P.E., Georgia DNR Parks and Historic Sites Division

What do the Hike Inn, Emory University, Hines Interests, and the General Services Administration all have in common? As the only Georgia participants in the LEED™ Existing Buildings (EB) Pilot Program, they are all working to “green” the operations of existing buildings.

The U.S. Green Building Council, a national coalition of leaders from the building industry, developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) program to promote and certify buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work. Until recently, the LEED™ Green Building Rating System was geared towards development of *new* high performance sustainable buildings. With the addition of the EB Pilot Program, LEED™ also sets performance standards for the sustainable operation of existing buildings.

The Hike Inn is owned by the Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites Division of DNR, and is a unique facility in many respects. Located in the north Georgia mountains near Dawsonville, the inn is accessible only by foot. Environmental features, designed before the LEED™ program was in

place, include odorless composting toilets, solar energy panels, and rainwater collection barrels. Nearly all food and waste is composted with red worms (called vermiculture).

The vermicomposting has resulted in an average of 74 pounds of waste per month being diverted from landfills.

There are more than 70 buildings nationwide in the LEED™ EB program, including the Hike Inn.

The system addresses such items as whole-building cleaning and maintenance issues including chemical use, indoor air quality, energy efficiency, water efficiency, recycling programs and facilities, exterior

maintenance programs, and systems upgrades to meet green building energy, water, indoor air quality and lighting performance standards. As can be seen from the list of criteria, the designers and operators of the Hike Inn had these considerations in mind before LEED™ was even



*The Hike Inn's design reflects the building's connection with the beautiful North Georgia mountaintop where it is located.*

developed. It is therefore a natural fit for the Hike Inn to participate in the LEED™ EB pilot program.

Participation in LEED™ EB requires a significant amount of documentation. In order to accomplish this a team of professionals from varying backgrounds met at the Hike Inn to study the facility. This team included the author; Jack Weeks, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Landscape Architect; Joe Martin, National Parks Service Architect; Teresa Shiflett and Suzanne Burnes with P<sup>2</sup>AD; and Dagmar Epsten and Sandra Estrada with The Epsten Group, architects and LEED™ consultants.

The LEED™ EB team worked very closely with and received tremendous support from Heather McKee, Meredith Hill, and Eric Graves of the Hike Inn staff. Teresa Shiflett, sustainable building spe-

***LEED™ EB sets new performance standards for the sustainable operation of existing buildings.***

**See Hike Inn, page 9**

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# New Clean Air Act rule amendment recognizes value of P2

## Regulatory relief provided for alternative approaches to reducing hazardous air pollutant emissions

Reprinted from an EPA Press Release, May 15, 2003

On May 15, 2003, EPA announced proposed Clean Air Act rule amendments that are designed to encourage and promote pollution prevention (P2). The proposed amendments would provide regulatory relief to facilities that use P2 to achieve air emission reductions. These amendments are proposed in direct response to the perception that the current rule discourages the development and implementation of P2 measures after a maximum achievable control technology (MACT) level of control has gone into effect, by mandating that a facility must continue to comply with specific source MACT requirements.

Reducing hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions to the MACT level of control or a better level, required under applicable National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs), qualifies under this proposal.

The proposed amendments offer two options as alternatives:

1. If a facility uses P2 to completely eliminate all HAP emissions from all sources regulated by the NESHAP, it could request to no longer be subject to that NESHAP.
2. If a facility uses P2 to reduce HAP emissions either to the level required by the NESHAP or below, it could request "P2 alternative compliance requirements."

These "P2 alternative compliance requirements" would include monitoring, recordkeeping, reporting and/or other requirements that match the P2 measures implemented by the facility. If approved, the "P2 alternative compliance requirements" would replace specific requirements in the NESHAP.

EPA proposes these amendments to encourage and promote P2, and reduce HAP emissions with alternative approaches that achieve results in innovative and sustainable ways. EPA is also proposing additional incentives specifically designed for, and only available to, facilities that are members of the National Environmental Performance Track program. The Performance Track program recognizes and encourages top environmental performers; those who go beyond compliance with regulatory requirements to attain levels of environmental performance and management that provide greater benefit to people, communities, and the environment.

Public comment was received on the proposed amendments through July 14, 2003. According to an EPA representative, comments received were overall supportive of the new rules. EPA will be working with the Natural Resources Defense Council in the coming months to address their concerns about the proposed amendments impacting the role of

public participation in the permitting process. EPA also intends to address more fully how the new rules will interface with the Title V process.

The full text of the proposed amendments can be found in the Federal Register (68FR26249) online at [www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/). EPA anticipates promulgation of the new rules by Summer 2004.

*Look for additional guidance from P<sup>2</sup>AD on how your business may benefit from this regulatory flexibility at that time. For further information, please contact Steve Fruh, EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-2837 or Paul Matthai, EPA Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics at (202) 564-8839.*



# Interagency cooperation results in 3-ton landfill diversion

by Alec Smith, Georgia Building Authority

Earlier this summer, the Georgia Building Authority (GBA) was called on to oversee a renovation in the state Department of Transportation (DOT) building and seized yet another opportunity to divert materials otherwise headed for the landfill.

Early in the design phase of the renovation project, GBA recognized that asbestos-containing floor tiles currently in the building would need to be removed. GBA contacted the Agency for Removal of Hazardous Material (AFROM), the entity that is routinely used by state agencies for removal of asbestos-containing materials. Mike Denny, AFROM Supervisor, suggested his staff could perform other demolition of non-hazardous materials to speed the project, which was on a fast-track for completion.

Auditorium seating in the new board room of the DOT building was selected for removal by AFROM. Though old, with deteriorating fabric, it seemed they might be candidates for reuse. Chuck Boelkins, resource recovery specialist of P<sup>2</sup>AD worked with GBA to locate a buyer/recycler for the material. However, when a taker was not found quickly enough to meet the tight schedule, GBA turned to the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) for a solution.

DOAS stores surplus materials in a GBA-owned warehouse, where they are held for use by other government agencies and occasionally offered to the public by auction. Steven Ekin manages disbursement of surplus equipment and materials for DOAS. When first told of these chairs, Mr. Ekin commented, "When I first started here, I'd have told you to dump them. Given the stuff I've seen move through here since then, I say bring them on." Optimistic that another home could be found for the chairs eventually, GBA decided to surplus the chairs with DOAS.



Mike Denny of AFROM helps unload the DOT surplus chairs at the DOAS warehouse for short-term storage.



Chairs being disassembled by AFROM staff.

Having decided what to do with them, the tough job that remained was removing the chairs and transporting them to the storage facility. This is when true interagency cooperation kicked in. AFROM and GBA provided labor to load the chairs, AFROM and DOAS supplied the trucks, and all pulled together to unload. DOAS put the materials up for auction less than one month after they were received, and they sold for \$200. This sale will help fund additional DOAS surplus operations.

GBA would like to thank DOT Project Manager Gordon Jett, without whose cooperation the project would not have been possible.

For more information on GBA's other recycling and reuse efforts, contact Alec Smith at [Alec.Smith@gw.gba.state.ga.us](mailto:Alec.Smith@gw.gba.state.ga.us).

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Hike Inn LEED™ EB Project Team discusses criteria over a hearty meal during the site visit.

cialist with P<sup>2</sup>AD, who also serves on the LEED™ EB committee, will be producing the final documentation to send to the U.S.

Green Building Council. Adrienne Thorpe, civil engineering student at Southern Polytechnic State University, will provide assistance to the project team during the development of the final documentation.

The LEED™ EB program consists of a scorecard where points are earned in different

categories. The categories include sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation and accredited professional points. Based on the point total, different levels of certification can be achieved from the minimum certification to the highest level of platinum. The Hike Inn is expected to fall into the gold category, slightly below platinum.

The benefits of this program

are many. It gives the Hike Inn national recognition and demonstrates DNR's commitment to sustainability, conservation, and resource protection. It also provides the Hike Inn an opportunity to further its environmental education and outreach program by setting an example with respect to sustainability. Most importantly it sets standards and guidelines for the environmentally responsible operation and maintenance of the facility for years to come. Thanks to all those that have contributed to this process.

*For more information on the Hike Inn, visit [www.hike-inn.com](http://www.hike-inn.com). For information on the LEED™ EB Program, contact David Freedman at (404) 656-6531 or [DavidF@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:DavidF@dnr.state.ga.us). David is a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Green Building Council – Atlanta Chapter.*

## GW&PCA creates new award for industrial water conservation and reuse; solicits abstracts for conference

The Georgia Water and Pollution Control Association (GW&PCA) is now accepting nominations for its 2003 Industrial Awards. Categories include:

- Pollution Prevention
- Wastewater Treatment
- Groundwater Remediation
- Land Application.

GW&PCA is adding a new award this year for Water Conservation and Reuse. The nomination

deadline is December 31, 2003.

GW&PCA is also currently accepting abstracts for its 2004 Industrial Conference to be held at the Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta, March 10-11, 2004. This conference is one of the largest of its type in the country, and typically attracts more than 500 attendees. Conference sessions will include a wide range of topics including waste reduction, environmental manage-

ment systems, wastewater treatment, energy and water efficiency, and health and safety. Abstract submittals are due October 31. Only a few sentence description is required.

*For more information about GW&PCA's Industrial Awards, email George Patrick at [gcpatric@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcpatric@bellsouth.net). For information about the awards or conference, visit [www.gwpc.org](http://www.gwpc.org).*

# Six local governments receive \$7,500 radon grants for 2003

by Marci De Sart, Pollution Prevention Specialist

As part of its on-going effort to increase Georgia citizens' awareness and understanding of the potential health threats associated with radon exposure and encourage radon testing, P<sup>2</sup>AD has established the Radon Grant Program. This program provides six \$7500 one-to-one matching grants to governments and community-based organizations to establish and maintain local


DeKalb counties will use the grant funds to maintain and build upon already established and successful radon programs. The other four grantees are first-time recipients who will use the funding to get radon programs up and running in their communities.

Karin Zarin, executive director of KSSNFB, is enthusiastic about adding a new dimension to her

program. "We are looking forward to educating our citizens about radon and providing them with radon test kits," she said.

In general, grantees will be conducting various

## Quick Radon Web Links



- [www.p2ad.org/radon](http://www.p2ad.org/radon)
- [www.epa.gov/iaq/radon](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/radon)
- [www.southface.org](http://www.southface.org)
- [www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/housing](http://www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/housing)

programs addressing radon. Any local government entity, university, institution or nonprofit in Georgia that responds to inquiries or distributes materials to the public on matters relating to public health and/or the environment is eligible to apply.

P<sup>2</sup>AD is pleased to announce the Radon Grant recipients for 2003: Cobb County Board of Health, DeKalb County Board of Health, Douglas County Board of Health, Gwinnett County Division of Environmental Health, Keep Sandy Springs/North Fulton Beautiful (KSSNFB), and Thomas County Board of Commissioners. Cobb and

radon outreach and educational activities targeted at homeowners in their communities, providing a limited number of short-term radon test kits and as necessary, serving as a resource for homeowners needing more information about radon testing and mitigation.

"Because Gwinnett County lies within the EPA's radon 'Zone 1' designation, its citizens are subject to the highest potential for exposure to this potentially harmful, colorless gas," said Ferrell Curlee, manager of Gwinnett County's Division of Environmental Health. "We are happy to participate in a program that helps homeowners determine if

remedial measures are needed to lower radon concentrations in their residences to acceptable levels."

Applications for the next round of grants will be available in March 2004.

*For more information about P<sup>2</sup>AD's Radon Program, contact Marci De Sart at (404) 657-5204, or [marci\\_desart@p2ad.org](mailto:marci_desart@p2ad.org).*

## Director, continued from page 2

of our P2 partnership with Georgia's military (page 3). We also highlight two multi-agency successes in this issue: Team Conservation Tillage (page 5), and the latest Georgia Building Authority material reuse project (page 8).

Finally, on page 7 we review a recently-proposed Clean Air Act amendment that provides regulatory relief for P2. Note that some of the proposed incentives provided by EPA will only be available to members of its National Performance Track program, who will be admitted into the new P<sup>2</sup>AD Partners Program. We hope that by closely aligning these programs, our Partners will benefit from the synergy.

We thank all of our past clients for their commitment to preventing pollution in Georgia, and invite all of our readers to join us in partnership as we forge an environmentally- and economically-sustainable Georgia.

# Staples begins toner cartridge recycling program

by Chuck Boelkins, Resource Recovery Specialist

Staples — which recently partnered with Collective Good to provide in-store battery and personal electronics recycling to customers — has started another partnership to encourage printer cartridge recycling at its 1,100 stores.

On July 22 at the Georgia State Capitol, Staples announced the beginning of the Georgia “Staples Recycles for Education” program that will raise money for Georgia educators by recycling used inkjet and laser toner cartridges. Staples will donate \$1 for every eligible cartridge returned to any of its 33 Georgia stores. The Georgia Association of Educators will use the money to fund scholarship grants to veteran and aspiring

teachers. Nationwide, Staples’ goal is to raise \$5 million for public education.

Staples recycled 534,000 cartridges in 2002, and is “closing the loop” by also selling its own remanufactured cartridges. The company notes the difficulty in keeping up with consumer demand for recycled printer cartridges. With an estimated 80 percent of used ink cartridges **not** being recycled, there is still potential to increase recycling rates to meet this growing demand.

In announcing its program, Staples has made a serious commitment to the environment by keeping millions of reusable products from becoming waste. The company is



demonstrating a new level of corporate stewardship that we hope will be an example for other retailers to follow.

*For more information on Staples’ recycling program and its other environmental commitments, visit [www.staples.com/products/centers/recycle/hsr.asp](http://www.staples.com/products/centers/recycle/hsr.asp).*

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determine which can be reused. Computers meeting select performance standards will be sent back to the Atlanta area and given to the local Boys & Girls Club of Brookhaven and the Tools for Life ReBoot program — both partners in the National Cristina Foundation (NCF). Each group will receive a donation of five complete computer systems.

NCF provides computer technology and solutions to give people with disabilities, students at risk and economically disadvan-

tagged persons the opportunity, through training, to lead more independent and productive lives (see [www.cristina.org](http://www.cristina.org)).

P<sup>2</sup>AD was well represented among the volunteers. Ten of us, including Director Bob Kerr and Assistant Director Bob Donaghue, helped make the event a success.

Other local community partners for Atlanta’s recycling event included Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory Recycles, City of Atlanta, Georgia Recycling Coalition, U.S. EPA-Region Four, Georgia

Soft Drink Association, Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), GCI Group, Matlock Public Relations and Advertising, and 100 Black Men of Georgia.

*For more information on how your business can recycle old electronic equipment, visit [www.p2ad.org](http://www.p2ad.org), or contact Chuck Boelkins at (404) 651-5585. Individual consumers can also find computer recycling information at DCA’s website, [www.dca.state.ga.us/environmental/electronicrec.html](http://www.dca.state.ga.us/environmental/electronicrec.html).*



# Calendar of Events 2003

- Sept. 18 Georgia Tech EDI hosts **Understanding ISO 14001**, an eight-hour course examining the ISO standard in detail. For more information on this and all EDI environmental management courses, visit [www.industry.gatech.edu/environment/environment\\_training.html](http://www.industry.gatech.edu/environment/environment_training.html).
- Sept. 23-25 **Southern States Environmental Conference & Exhibition** will be held at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi, MS. For more information, visit [www.ssec.msstate.edu](http://www.ssec.msstate.edu) or contact Tamra Swann at (662) 325-8877.
- Oct. 5-8 **13th National Radon Meeting** will be held in Nashville, TN. For more information, visit [www.crcpd.org](http://www.crcpd.org) or contact Denise Southgate at [dsouthgate@crcpd.org](mailto:dsouthgate@crcpd.org).
- Oct. 19-22 The American Institute of Hydrology presents the 2004 Annual Fall Conference, **Achieving Sustainable Water Resources in Areas Experiencing Rapid Population Growth** at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Atlanta. For a full agenda and registration information, visit [dnrnet.dnr.state.ga.us/aih](http://dnrnet.dnr.state.ga.us/aih) or call (651) 484-8169.
- Oct. 22-23 **E-Scrap 2003 North American Conference**, will be held in Orlando, FL. The focus of the conference will be environmentally-responsible management of obsolete electronics. For a full agenda and registration information, visit [www.resource-recycling.com](http://www.resource-recycling.com).
- Nov. 4-5 **Industrial Byproducts Beneficial Reuse Summit** will be presented by U.S. EPA and the Southern Waste Information eXchange Inc., at the Wyndham Atlanta Hotel. This workshop will bring together regulators and generators of large-volume, non-hazardous wastes to discuss barriers to beneficial uses. For more information, visit [swix.ws/upload/Brochure.pdf](http://swix.ws/upload/Brochure.pdf).