



Judy Putnam, Communications Director  
770-609-8821 (Direct), [jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov](mailto:jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov)  
[www.peachtreecornersga.gov](http://www.peachtreecornersga.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/peachtreecornersga](https://www.facebook.com/peachtreecornersga)  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Peachtree Corners Receives ARC's Green Communities Certification**

**PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA, January 28, 2016** – Although it's just 3 ½ years old, the City of Peachtree Corners has earned a certification that only 20 other communities in the entire Atlanta metro 10-county area have achieved – the Atlanta Regional Commission Green Communities certification.

This is the city's first certification in the ARC's Green Communities program. The award is in recognition of the city's efforts to conserve energy, reduce waste and protect natural resources. Peachtree Corners was honored at ARC's January 27 board meeting for becoming a Bronze-certified Green Community.

"Being environmentally responsible and providing leadership in sustainable practices is a top priority for Peachtree Corners," said Diana Wheeler, the city's Community Development Director. "This award represents our long-term interest and commitment to the well-being of our community."

On hand to receive the Bronze Certificate were Councilmember Lorri Christopher, Green Committee members Emily Finn and Lorrie Backer, city staff members Diana Wheeler, Jennifer Howard and Alvenease Jackson.

To gain the certification the city:

- Now provides a public drop-off location for cell phones, household batteries and ink cartridges. The city's Green Committee also provides an updated database of local recycling opportunities for residents.
- Encourages businesses, such as Global Aviation, to redevelop aging buildings within the existing Technology Park and other under-utilized locations rather than build on undeveloped land.

- Encourages the recycling of a wide range of items by providing incentives for businesses to locate recycling facilities in the city limits. The city's zoning code allows recycling in areas zoned "light industry," the most common zoning district, resulting in a large number of properties suitable for this use.
- Adopted a 'night sky' ordinance to reduce excess light pollution and conserve energy. The city also provides incentives for sign lighting that is controlled by timers and uses high-efficiency LED lamps.
- Installed electric vehicle charging stations at City Hall.

The Green Committees Program was developed by ARC in 2009 to recognize local governments that invest in programs and policies that lead to a more sustainable region. The ARC program offers certifications in 10 categories, ranging from energy efficiency and green building to transportation and water efficiency.

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