

Avondale Action invites you to celebrate the Earth during the week of April 18 thru 25

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN AVONDALE ESTATES: CONNECT, CREATE, COMMIT

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### CONNECT     A Self-Guided Walking Tour for Earth Day Week in Avondale Estates

Come out and discover the lovely sights, sounds and smells of SPRING in our city! Please fully explore our city's public spaces; however, respect private property by enjoying the sights at residences from the sidewalk and NOT entering any yards. Wearing a mask and physically distancing will keep us all safe.

1. **Avondale Estates Town Green** is a work in progress between North Avondale Road, Franklin, Oak and Lake Streets. Check out detailed plans at [avondaleestates.org/2446/6579/Ongoing-Projects](http://avondaleestates.org/2446/6579/Ongoing-Projects)
2. A spectacular Willow Oak is visible above the roof at **6 Lakeshore Plaza**. This 2011 Atlanta Champion Tree soars over 113 feet, spreads its crown across 126 feet, has a trunk over 18 feet in circumference and is appropriately named "Good Golly Miss Molly!"
3. Keep looking up to the roof tops for diverse examples of solar panel installations @ **1208 Berkeley, 18 Berkeley, 3135 Majestic Circle**, and **1005 Viscount Court**. Georgia Power offers a solar energy support program to customers without roof installations, and what about **solar tubes**?
4. At **Avondale Elementary School** note new landscaping and art bordering Covington Highway. A work in progress sponsored by the AES students, teachers, and both the Avon and Avondale Estates Garden Clubs, complete with totems and personalized brick hardscape.
5. **41 Clarendon's** yard facing Kingstone features native and pollinator plants. Dedicated organic gardening uses no herbicides, no fertilizer except compost, and is replacing grass with micro clover, a low maintenance ground cover, to support pollinators. A survey counted over 20 butterfly gardens and many native plants gardeners, including Steve Sanchez @ **3232 Wiltshire**, whose garden contains over 350 species, half of which are natives, some of which he is developing for commercial sale.
6. The Live Oak at **1 Berkeley**, a Kentucky Coffee tree at **26 Berkeley**, and a Persian Parrotia near **55 Berkeley** are among 30 trees that the Arboretum Board has selected to receive granite markers along Historic District curbs. The complete list of over 1000 street trees, to be posted soon, awaits certification as a city-wide Arboretum (Collection of trees). This fall you may join a Tree Walk, sponsored by the AE Garden Club, posthumously honoring member Bonnie Phelps, who initiated these walks.
7. **Lake Avondale** is rightfully a jewel in the city's crown of natural delights, featuring a handicap accessible walk way, freshly landscaped Avondale Community Club, and Beth Walker Park. Future improvements planned for the woods north of the lake are posted online at [avondaleestates.org/2446/6579/Northwoods-Project](http://avondaleestates.org/2446/6579/Northwoods-Project). Meanwhile enjoy watching the young goslings from a distance: geese parents are very protective.
8. Take a cut-through path: the city is home to public right-of-ways that pass between private residences where roads were never built. **A)** The path beginning at 64 Clarendon and ending between 71 and 73 Lakeshore Drive. Note: it starts with a marvelous oak at Clarendon and split rail fencing at the other end. **B)** Cross Wiltshire at 121 Berkeley to find a paved path through to 1066 Berkeley along the west side of our bird sanctuary. **C)** Starting at 1 Lakeshore Plaza, a mulched playground and Fletcher Park continue to a

mulched cut-through path to 1026 Lakeshore Drive, where homeowners have replanted hosta, ferns and grasses along the shady path. **D)** A public path, soon to be paved, cuts between the end of Banbury Cross and 1106 Berkeley Drive.

9. Homeowners have gone above and beyond to beautify their verges (the area between the sidewalk and street) at **7, 20 and 28 Fairfield Drive** and at **3125 Kensington**.
10. **A)** Rain barrels, **B)** dry stream beds, and **C)** permeable pavements at residences are highly recommended in the Storm Water Master Plan, found at [avondaleestates.org/2459/6666/Stormwater-Master-Plan-Process](http://avondaleestates.org/2459/6666/Stormwater-Master-Plan-Process). Check out some innovative property ideas at **A)** 1122 Banbury Cross hosts a landscaped water collection system along the left side of the home that provides enough irrigation for a large vegetable garden in back; **B)** 2 Lakeshore Plaza showcases a lovely rock lined dry stream bed complementing the shrubbery on its side yard; **C)** Over 20 survey respondents created water runoff solutions like the diagonal drain cutting across the concrete drive facing Stratford Road at 3137 Kensington.
11. Small pocket parks provide safe run-around spaces for pets and children: **A)** Windsor Terrace and Oakham Place border a small playground park; **B)** Fletcher Park at the end of Lakeshore Dr. has acquired a Chimney Swift Nesting Tower, Myles McArthur's Eagle Scout Project.
12. Stroll down **N. Carter Street** just outside the city's western border to see some giant old trees with spectacular crowns and trunks: at 1050, 1062, 1080, 1096, 1166, and 1173. Take a right on Columbia Drive to City of Decatur **Legacy Park, 500 S Columbia Drive**. This meadowy park has paths through its urban forest and circles a small lake.
13. Two sections of Georgia PATH walk and bikeways border Avondale. **East Decatur Greenway** runs from Columbia Dr via Katie Kerr to Craigie, across Derrydown to the Cortland Apartments on Covington. From N Clarendon you can bike all the way to Stone Mountain on the aptly named **Stone Mountain PATH!**
14. The steps leading to the residence at **18 Exeter** are built from bricks taken from the original historic Loews Theater where *Gone with the Wind* premiered in 1937! Definitely an Earth friendly reuse.
15. Noticeably improved: the median on **Fairfield Plaza**, by joint effort from Avondale Estates Public Works personnel and volunteers with Gardeners for the Common Good. These cooperative groups also combined efforts to plant the new Willow Oak at Willis Park near **51 Dartmouth**.
16. Founder's Oak descendants, affectionately known as "Willies," planted at **29 Berkeley** and **17 Kingstone**, were lovingly nurtured from acorns taken from the mature tree before it succumbed to age and disease. The original tree, named the George Willis Oak in 1955, stood on Covington Highway beside the old credit union, and was deemed worth preserving by virtue of its age.
17. Lovers and others can catch a kiss under the mistletoe cluster hanging from the large oak at the corner of **Coventry Close and 33 S Avondale Road**.
18. A plant sale at the **Community Club, 59 Lakeshore Drive**, will be sponsored by the Avondale Estates Garden Club on Saturday, April 18. Tuesday - Saturday, visit our new **Avondale Garden Center at 2832 Washington** to find something to green up your yard.
19. An Art Yard Sale sponsored by **Little Tree Studios on Franklin Street** will be held on Saturday, April 24. **The Avondale Farmer's Market at Pine and N Avondale Road**, on Sundays, April 18 and 25, and all of the Main Street businesses offer delights to those out strolling and connecting with nature and community.
20. Wildlife lovers nurture birds, squirrels and chipmunks with food, water and shelter; over 20 certified habitats are scattered throughout the city, notably at **6 Kingstone** and **1064 Hess Drive**.

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## CREATE- an UPCYCLE Challenge!

Upcycling is the new rage in environmental action: taking waste materials and using them to make something with greater value. For example: use old newspaper to fold small flower pots for growing seedlings. Take used cardboard and or plastic containers to create an original art work. Let your passion be your guide. Then share your creation with a photo uploaded or posted to Facebook or Instagram captioned with the hashtag: #upcycleavondale. Alternatively, display your object where it can be viewed from the street during the week's self-guided walks. We can all enjoy browsing these creative works April 18 - April 25 by searching #upcycleavondale.

## COMMIT

Joining an organization that contributes to a healthier planet can multiply one's energy and effectiveness. Commit to continue your celebration of Earth Day.

*Avondale Action*- a progressive political action group; contact [bruce@cbjohnston.com](mailto:bruce@cbjohnston.com)

*Avon Garden Club*- stimulating interest in home gardening and community beautification. [Cskno1@aol.com](mailto:Cskno1@aol.com)

*Avondale Estates Garden Club*- the city's oldest garden club whose first project was the planting of the abelia hedge along South Avondale Road in conjunction with the New Deal's Works Progress Administration! Contact [patriciaacalcagno@bellsouth.net](mailto:patriciaacalcagno@bellsouth.net)

*CHaRM*- for hard to recycle items, 1110 Hill St. SE Atlanta 30315 Phone: 404-600-6386

*Citizens Climate Lobby- Bipartisan* political group advocating carbon control legislation: [atlanta@citizensclimatlobby.org](mailto:atlanta@citizensclimatlobby.org) Endorse the Bill Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act [energyinnovationact.org](http://energyinnovationact.org)

*Compost Now*- picks up kitchen waste in convenient containers for a monthly fee. [Compostnow.org](http://Compostnow.org)

*Earthday 2021*- Restore our Earth; connect with a cleanup near you. [Earthday.org](http://Earthday.org) #GreatGlobalCleanup

*Gardeners for the Common Good*- Avondale volunteers who want to grow connections among gardeners; nurture community pride; weed out negative perceptions of overlooked spaces; cultivate quality of life by protecting the natural environment; fertilize friendships gardening together. [susan.deiters@gmail.com](mailto:susan.deiters@gmail.com)

*Georgia Audubon Society*- Bird fest April 18 to May 16 [georgiaaudubon.org](http://georgiaaudubon.org) or 678-973-2437

*Keep DeKalb Beautiful*- support for local clean ups. 404-294-2010

*PATH*- connecting communities across Georgia with over 300 miles of trails. [path@pathfoundation.org](mailto:path@pathfoundation.org)

*Sierra Club*- Sierra Club Georgia Chapter 743 E College Ave. Ste B Decatur GA 30030; 404-607-1262

*Wylde Center*- classes/plants 435 Oakview Rd Decatur; [wyldecenter.org](http://wyldecenter.org); 404-371-1920