



# Habitat Happenings

NW Metro Atlanta Habitat for Humanity

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## Yard of the Month Program Changes

Did you realize that something as simple as keeping your grass mowed and keeping shrubbery trimmed actually helps the value of your home and your neighborhood? If you ever decided to sell your home, a well maintained yard makes it more appealing to potential buyers and helps you get the best price for your home.

Most of our homeowners do a great job keeping up their lawns and with just a little effort everyone could have their yards looking great. We want to reward those people who are doing a good job and we want to motivate everyone else to get and keep their yards looking great year round. We will begin a new yard of the month program and we want everyone to have a chance so we're letting you know about this now, so you can have several months to get your yard ready for the spring.

Beginning in March 2010, we'll be awarding two \$50 gift certificates every month to our winners. We will pick one winner from our largest neighborhood at Hillcrest and the other winner will be selected from our other Habitat homes and neighborhoods around the county. Will pick new winners every month, through November, and no one will be allowed to win more than once.

We're not looking for perfection and you don't have to spend money on adding plants and flowers, we just want to see neatly mowed lawns and

neatly trimmed bushes. Of course if you have the budget to add more plants or flowers and if you really enjoy yard work, then feel free to make additions to your yard.

If you have any questions on maintaining your lawn, just send an email to [jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org](mailto:jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org). We will monitor the questions regularly and get you an answer as soon as possible. We will also be posting lawn maintenance tips on the Habitat Family Blog at [www.cobbbhabitatfamilies.wordpress.com](http://www.cobbbhabitatfamilies.wordpress.com).

You can also get more information on lawn and shrub care at:

<http://www.ugaextension.com/cobb/>

<http://www.walterreeves.com/>



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*For all the latest news, check out the NWMA Habitat Family Blog at:*  
<http://cobbbhabitatfamilies.wordpress.com>



Please send your current email address to: [jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org](mailto:jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org)

## Save the Date! - Christmas Party Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>

Can you believe the holidays are right around the corner? We'll be bringing the Habitat Homeowners Family Christmas Party back this year!

The party will be Sunday, Dec. 6th from 2pm—4pm at Marietta First United Methodist Church.



Mark your calendars now so you and your family can plan to be there.

We'll have lots of food and lots of fun with activities planned for children of all ages! Santa will be there for photos and to pass out toys for the Habitat children!

Keep watching your mail for the invitation with all the details.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

## Center for Family Resources and Family and Children Services Offers Thanksgiving and Christmas Assistance

The Cobb County Department of Family and Children Services and The Center for Family Resources along with Cobb Christmas will be accepting applications for their Thanksgiving Dinner Basket and Christmas Toy Programs.

Applications will be accepted for both programs on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am—4:00 pm at the Cobb Civic Center. The number of applications accepted each day will be limited. Registration may close earlier than 4 pm, depending on the number of people waiting to be screened.

Applicants must be low income and live in Cobb County. Cobb Christmas applicants must have dependant children living in the household with them. There will be no verification of benefits with DFCS.

All applicants must bring the following documents:

- Picture ID such as driver's license for the applicant
- Social Security cards or birth certificates for all household members
- Written verification of all household income fro the previous 4 weeks such as check stubs or letter from employer on letterhead
- Written verification of all unearned income such as TANF, unemployment, workman's comp, Social Security, SSI or child support, etc.
- Verification of residency in Cobb such as a lease, utility bill in your name, etc.

Any questions about either the Thanksgiving Basket or Christmas Toys Program should be directed to the Center for Family Resources at: (770) 428-2601.



## Toys for Kids!

Please sign-up now for your children to receive a new toy for Christmas. Deadline for sign-up is Friday, November 20th. Toys are only for children of homeowners that live in the NW Metro Atlanta Habitat communities. Children ages 17 and under are able to participate. The toys will be given out Dec. 6th at the Christmas Party. Contact Joyia Hull at 770-432-7954 or email [jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org](mailto:jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org). We need

## PENS

Check out what crime is happening in your area.

The **P**olice **E**mail **N**otification **S**ystem is maintained by Cobb Police to enhance communication between our five police precincts and the communities they serve.

The objective of the program is the establishment of e-mail contact with official representatives of Cobb's homeowners associations (HOA's) and business leaders on matters of safety and security.

- Public Information Releases as they pertain to each precinct
- BOLO (Be On Look Out) information
- Crime Updates
- Information on Crime Trends and Crime Prevention
- Rumor Control
- Observed suspicious persons or activity information
- Questions on Safety, Security and Crime Prevention
- To establish geographical location of the HOA's and businesses for dissemination of crime information specific to their area.
- To establish regular meetings between Precincts and PENS representatives to discuss this project, crime prevention and crime trends.
- To promote and coordinate this project with the **CCPD Neighborhood Watch Program**.

Go on-line to: <http://police.cobbcountyga.gov/pens/> Locate your precinct and then sign up to receive emails about crime trends in your area.