



NEWS RELEASE

City of Austin PO Box 1088 Austin, Texas 78767

For Immediate Release

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Watershed Protection

AUSTIN'S FIRST GREEN NEIGHBORHOOD!

The Copperfield neighborhood in northeast Austin is the City of Austin's first Green Neighborhood! Situated along the northern end of Walnut Creek, Copperfield homeowners took up the Watershed Protection Department's Green Neighbor -- Clean Creek Challenge to help protect and preserve our waterways.

The program allows both individuals and groups to earn points for their earth-wise behavior. Copperfield exceeded the required 50 points by distributing Green Neighbor booklets (also available at all Austin libraries) to fellow residents, sponsoring a stormdrain marking event and planting trees. They also provided a history of upper Walnut Creek, written by former resident, Richard Fry, and offered a photo documentation of their area. They are working with the Parks and Recreation Department to clean up and improve their greenbelt. Links to the materials and more information about the neighborhood can be found at http://www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/greenneighbor/gn_copperfield.htm.

As award winners they will receive City Council (July 26) and website recognition, a two-hour landscape design for a neighborhood common area, Green Neighborhood signs, and a Scoop the Poop box. Most importantly, they are rewarded with the knowledge that they have given back to their community.

For questions, please call Kathy Shay at 974-2446 or visit <http://www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/greenneighbor/>.

Story Ideas:

- Interview with neighborhood leader, Alice Penney
- Interview with scientist on the health of Austin's creeks
- Volunteerism
- Creek Cleanups, Keep Austin Beautiful



