

# Total Home

## Getting involved encourages pride and improvement

From page 16

• You can join the planting and cleaning of the grounds at the Markham Museum (Highway 48 north of 16th Avenue) or the Milne Dam Conservation Park (south of Highway 7 off McCowan Road) on April 23. There will also be cleanups at Pomona Mills Park, in Thornhill and Austin Drive Park, in Unionville on April 30.

• The Friends of Little German Mills Creek are cleaning up Huntington Park (east of Leslie Street, south of Highway 407), Thornhill, on April 30.

• To encourage neighbourhood pride and improvement efforts, Town of Markham encourages people to nominate outstanding front lawns for the Susie Awards. Offering five different categories, including the Eco Susie for environmental friendly gardens, the awards have been around since 1994. You can submit the nominations of gardens that are a source of beauty and pride for their owners and neighbours by June 15. Every-

one can view the nominees between July 3 and 18. Presentation of the awards takes place in September at a Markham Council meeting.

• To promote the efforts to reduce pesticide use, Markham Waste Management will give away free compost on Saturday, April 23, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., to Markham residents only. It is an attempt to promote environmental friendly gardening methods to homeowners.

• Part of getting involved in the community is to lead by example. To reduce vehicle emissions, the Commuter Challenge asks residents to leave their cars at home and find an alternate route to work. Between June 5 and 11, opt to walk, jog, cycle, take the bus or carpool to save the environment. The Town of Markham wants to hear what option you chose and how far you travelled to help reduce harmful emissions.

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