



The Georgia Green Party

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Ecological Wisdom • Grassroots Democracy • Social Justice • Peace & Non-Violence
Decentralization • Community Based Economics • Feminism • Respect for Diversity
Personal & Global Responsibility • Future Focus on Sustainability

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Green Presidential Candidates Campaigning in Georgia Next Weekend

The Georgia Green Party's ballot access efforts are ramping up as two candidates for the Green Party's Presidential Nomination bring their campaigns to Georgia. Both Ralph Nader and Stephen Gaskin are expected to make Georgia appearances April 16th and 17th. Gaskin is expected to speak at the Athens Human Rights Festival at 8:00 pm, Sunday night. Nader will fly into Atlanta on Monday, April 17th and make a couple of afternoon campaign stops before heading to an event in Birmingham.

"We're still confirming a venue for a noon rally at a local campus, we plan to tour the Peachtree-Pine Facility and be at a Party reception for community leaders and petition circulators," said James Jones, spokesperson for the Georgians for Nader Committee. "We're inviting those Georgians who are ready to take our Government back to come learn how to put Ralph Nader and the Georgia Green Party on the ballot. Its a big project, but if folks are ready to turn apathy to action, we can vote for our candidate of choice this year."

The Party faces a 39,113 signature petition drive to see their Presidential slate on November's ballot. The validation process usually disqualifies half of all signatures submitted. "We need three hundred petition circulators collecting three hundred signatures each - just one hundred each month," said Hugh Esco. As canvas director for the party, Esco is charged with organizing its ballot access efforts. "We hope that with two good Presidential candidates still actively in the race, people are ready to come make it happen."

"I've told everyone I'm in it till the end," said Stephen Gaskin, who returns once again to the Athens Human Rights Festival. He and Nader split the Georgia delegates when the state party's convention was evenly divided during its presidential preference caucus. "The Denver Convention may nominate Nader/LaDuke, but I'm here to help build this Party whoever is nominated. My campaign is working for every delegate we can find in Denver. I'm out to register all the hippies. We're far stronger than the Perot movement ever was. As its nominee or as another citizen from Tennessee, I'm convinced that our future may very well depend on having a strong viable Green Party."

Georgians for Gaskin has participated in the petition drive to place the Georgia Party on the ballot. "Gaskin has been the only candidate speaking out about the insanity of this tax-funded war on drugs our government has waged on us. We're asking that our candidate be included in the campus forum that party activists are now planning," said Paul Cornwell, of Georgians for Gaskin, known to most as the Director of the Coalition for the Abolition of Marijauna Prohibition. "It's time Greens saw Nader and Gaskin face-to-face."

"We're excited to have a contested nominating process. Both the donkeys and the elephants ended their race when the last candidate with any money was left standing after Super Tuesday," said Rev. Zack Lyde, Chair of the Party. "But if we vote for them again, we'll be knocked off our feet, too and they will still have all the money. I invite everyone tired of that old game to come help us put our candidate on the ballot and offer our children a future worthy of our love for them."

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Tentative Itinerary -

12:00 noon - 1:00 pm	tentative campus rally
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm	Tour of Peachtree-Pine Facility corner of Peachtree Street and Pine Street hosted by Task Force for the Homeless
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Fundraising Reception, Meeting with Circulators Georgia Citizens Coalition on Hunger 9 Gammon Avenue SW Atlanta GA 30315
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Press Conference