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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **THE THRILL IS GONE**

ATLANTA (August 31, 2009) – Restaurants and caterers seem to have a passionate love affair with landfills: Did you know that 1 in every 8 pounds of material in a landfill is created by food?? Well, the landfill love affair is over at **Affairs to Remember Caterers**, and the delicious divorce was swift.

Affairs to Remember was designated Atlanta's very first Zero Waste Zone Caterer by the Green Foodservice Alliance in May, 2009 - a program that has helped this off-premises caterer to reduce their on-campus landfill waste by over 83%. This number is shocking given that, in just one month, Affairs to Remember generated 8.5 tons of material that would normally have headed straight to our landfills. The Affairs to Remember team of catering and culinary staff embraced this designation and diverted around 14,238 pounds of recoverable material from our ever-expanding landfills just last month.

Affairs to Remember Caterers has implemented a few thorough and fun initiatives, helping them achieve these ground-breaking numbers. They just don't throw anything away that can be recycled. That means all food residuals and organic matter is separated and sent to Greenco Environmental in Barnesville, GA, to be turned into compost; all common recyclables are separated and recycled; their spent grease is donated to Refuel Biodiesel to be turned into biodiesel fuel; and they donate their unused prepared food to Atlanta's Table. At the end of the day...the landfill doesn't see much from Affairs to Remember anymore!

The off-premises caterer has taken their green initiative even further. They have planted a chef's garden outside of their new Midtown facility, and they use Greenco Environmental compost to keep it thriving. Their trash is also considered their treasure! When produce is not abundant in their garden, they often turn to Destiny Produce, Georgia's sole organic food distributor.

Affairs to Remember has made strides while greening their on-premises operations, and will soon take these initiatives to all of their off-premises events.

Divorce can be a dirty, drawn out process – but Affairs to Remember had no problem ending their landfill love affair. The papers are signed and the separation is final...they are pursuing a new love interest and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with our environment!

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