

**Application for  
Green Initiative**

**Christmas in Kingsport**

**Judges' score - 8.3**

#### Detailed description of the event

Christmas in Kingsport is a collaborative event with the City of Kingsport, Visit Kingsport and Downtown Kingsport Association to provide events to raise Christmas spirit in Kingsport.

#### Detailed description of the environmental impact of the event, or of the initiative

100 trees were decorated to celebrate the holiday season in two of Kingsport's downtown parks. The trees garnered thousands of visitors through the month of December and various events were hosted within the parks to bring holiday magic to everyone. One of the most magical things about the trees is their use after all the tinsel, ornaments and decorations were removed. The trees then became a sweet treat for our Cement Hill goats! Through the summer and into late fall, there is a herd of roughly 120 goats helping the city to clear a future park site by eating down the kudzu and weeds. By using goats, it's safer than a city employee trying to bushhog on steep slopes and it negates the need for herbicides to clear the overgrown hill. One of the favorite winter treats for these goats are secondhand Christmas trees. So, in carrying on the holiday spirit, the goats that have helped the city to safely clear the hill (and fill their bellies!), received trees at their home farm for snacking and climbing! The residents love seeing the goats hard at work on the hillside, so much so that they have a dedicated webpage on [www.thisisKingsport.com](http://www.thisisKingsport.com) (<https://thisiskingsport.com/goats/>) so you can image the excitement that ensued when we announced we were treating those amazing goats to some Christmas trees! (see attached document) The trees that didn't make it to the goats were taken to the city landfill where they were ground up for mulch to be used by the city landscaping department.

#### Estimated number of attendees?

8000 attended the event; 20 goats attended the feeding

#### Testimonials or community feedback

The Kingsport community have embraced and loves the goats on Cement Hill. So much so that we're having a GOAT festival this spring. Stay tuned.

 **This Is Kingsport** ...  
Posted by Sara Nowell  
Jan 11 · 🌐

We may be sad that all the Christmas in Kingsport decorations have been taken down, but the goats sure are excited!

The goats who commonly reside on Cement Hill received some of the Christmas Trees from our parks. It was a tasty afternoon treat!



👍❤️ 181      12 comments   18 shares 

👍 Like      💬 Comment      ➦ Share

9,542 people reached >      [Boost post](#)

Someone shared the post commenting, "Taking going green to a whole new level".

Other comments included:

"Love!"

"They are so cute!"

"They got a late Christmas Present"

Others questioned what would happen to the remaining trees –they were broken down to be used as mulch around the city.

