

300 Shchekinoazot Employees Partook in Saturday Cleanup Party

They tidied up Platonovskiy Park in Tula and Lesnaya Polyana Park in Shchekino.

By Tatyana Alekseyeva.
Photos by Aleksey Piryazev.

Saturday, 15 May, brought good weather. Tula citizens were eager to take part in the subbotnik announced by the Governor of Tula region Alexey Dyumin.

Shchekinoazot always participates in voluntary community work on Saturdays. The subbotnik on 15 May was not the first one for the company's employees this year. First cleanup marathons were declared as soon as the snow melted. The territory adjacent to the plant was improved, the roads cleaned and debris swept away. The cemetery in Kochaki was tidied up and litter removed from it.

More than 100 Shchekinoazot employees came to Platonovskiy Park. The labour force was headed by the General Director of Shchekinoazot Anatoliy Surba.

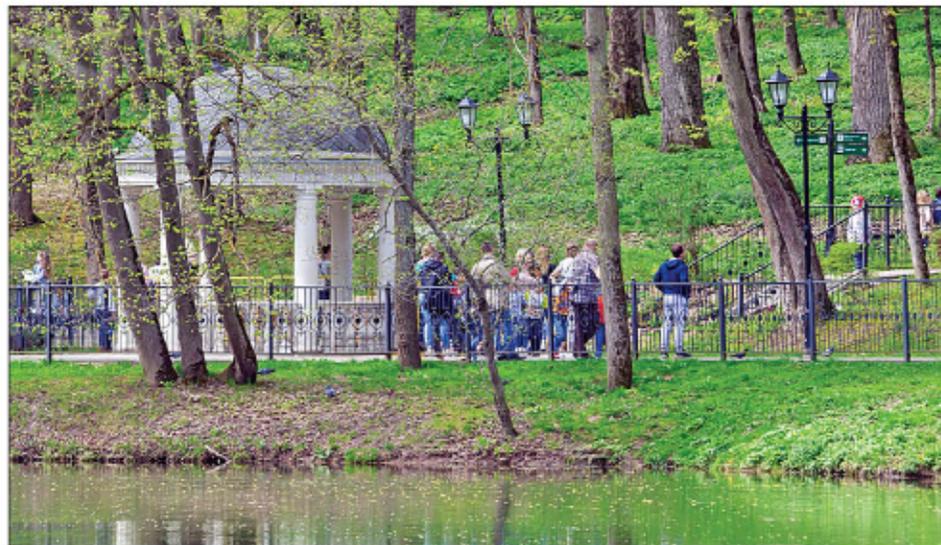
Another subbotnik site was Shchekino Park where more than 200 people under the guidance of Dmitriy Kozhenkin, the plant's trade union leader, came for a cleanup.

Platonovskiy Park became a proper park and a very popular recreation area thanks to Shchekinoazot. Five years ago it was but an untended area, essentially a wild forest.

According to Irina Podchufarova, Director for Human Resources and Social Development of Shchekinoazot, Platonovskiy Park is in fact more than 100 years old, but it was reborn five years ago, when the Shchekinoazot, always a socially responsible company, took up its restoration. Boris Sokol, President of the company, supported the initiative of Alexei Dyumin, the governor, who had drawn attention to the disrepair in the park and suggested that a comfortable and modern recreation area be set up there for the locals, adults and children alike. In just 5 years, the park underwent a transformation; a colossal amount of work was carried out here. Over 400 truckloads of waste were removed, a colonnade, fountain and rotunda were built, and the forest and ponds were cleared of deadwood. Recreation and relaxation zones, areas for sports



Irina Podchufarova



The most beautiful and striking place in Platonovskiy Park is the rotunda on the big pond, the favourite place for taking selfies among newlyweds.



In Platonovskiy Park, 100 people took part in the subbotnik.



The park has beautiful paths for Nordic walking and cycling.



Over 200 Shchekinoazot employees cleaned up the Lesnaya Polyana Park in Shchekino.

and public events and corners for enjoying nature were created.

"All this was done by the Shchekino chemists. No one ever needs to be persuaded to participate in the clean-up days. The employees are always enthusiastic to participate in such campaigns. In these clean and beautiful parks, our company always has venues for arranging festivals, creative and athletic competitions," says Irina Podchufarova.

"Our company is the city-forming enterprise for Shchekino. Our main efforts are always aimed at improving the territory of Shchekino and the settlement of Pervomayskiy. Over the past few years, a great amount of work has been done here to repair the courtyards, public areas, roads and athletic facilities. The pond in Pervomayskiy has also



Vyacheslav Kurganov

been cleaned," says Vyacheslav Kurganov, Deputy General Director of Shchekinoazot, manager of the project. This is the third time he has taken part in a subbotnik in Platonovskiy Park. "I live nearby, my son comes here for walks, and we train our dog in the wonderful dog park, also created by our company at the request of the locals".

Shchekinoazot has big plans and a complex vision of the park's future. The big idea is the harmony of nature and man, as well as the careful attitude of people to the green heritage.

"All of us, from the top brass to blue-collar workers, participate in tree planting, not only in the parks but also in Yasnaya Polyana. There is nothing like green spaces to improve the environment".

For Shchekinoazot, sustainability has been a development priority for decades. This work is carried out in two directions. Firstly, it is industrial safety, investment

in the modernisation of production facilities, and the use of cutting-edge technologies.

Secondly, it is the ecology of life itself. In this area, the company sees its mission in introducing the younger generation to a healthy lifestyle, sports, and creating a comfortable environment for the life and development of both children and adults.

Viktor Falkin, an employee of Shchekinoazot, came to the subbotnik with his youngest son Anton, a first-form pupil.

"This is the first time my son has taken part in the cleanup party. He volunteered for it. We live nearby, and we walk and exercise here all the time. These days, it is a wonderful place for recreation".

On the plot, the Shchekinoazot staff cleared from branches and deadwood,

a café with all the utilities will be built. This was another frequent request by the locals who come to walk in the park.

"The plan for the near future is to extend the outdoor activities area. It will span all the way from the children's sports ground and playground to the dog park, which have already become very popular. Earthworks are currently underway. There will also be tennis tables and new athletic grounds for children. The biggest problem, however,

is repairing the weir and cleaning the big pond," says Irina Surova, park manager.

On 15 May, the employees of Shchekinoazot also improved the Lesnaya Polyana Park in Shchekino. It also lies within the company's area of responsibility.

This time, the chemists tidied up the footpaths, removed broken trees, wood chips and litter, and collected deadwood.

Changing the world for the better is not that difficult. The main thing is desire and consistency. Also needed is great love for one's homeland.



Irina Surova



Victor Falkin