



DURHAM CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

News and Information from the City of Durham

FY 2008-2009 No. 4 - January - February - Public Affairs Office
101 City Hall Plaza - Durham, NC 27701 - Phone (919) 560-4123 - Fax (919) 560-4483

Join City Council For Coffee and Conversation

Community Meetings and Workshop on the 2009 - 2010 City Budget Set

In February and March, Durham City Council will host a series of community meetings entitled, "Coffee with Council." These face-to-face meetings with residents will be held throughout the city and are designed to give citizens the opportunity to provide direct input to council members on budget items for the upcoming 2009 - 2010 fiscal year.

New this year will be a Citizen Engagement Workshop on the budget. The workshop is set for Monday, February 23, 2009 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Community Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park, 1309 Halley St.

The workshop is intended to engage citizens in conversation about City government's budget priorities during these tight fiscal times.

This workshop is in addition to the Coffees with Council and will be more interactive. Space will be limited to the first 100 residents and reservations are required. Reserve a spot by contacting Mildred Rogers at mildred.rogers@durhamnc.gov or call 560-4111, ext. 284.

The Coffee with Council sessions will include an overview of anticipated revenues and expenditures and time to address citizen concerns that will be gathered in advance.

- **Saturday, February 14, 2009** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Irwin R. Holmes, Sr., Recreation Center at Campus Hills, 2000 South Alston Ave.

- **Saturday, February 21, 2009** from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Eastway Elementary School, 610 Alston Avenue.

- **Monday, March 9, 2009** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Durham County School Resource Center, 2107 Hillendale Road.

- **Thursday, March 12, 2009** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza.

- **Saturday, March 14, 2009** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Community Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park, 1309 Halley St.

Upcoming City Holidays

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - January 19

For information about City holidays, garbage collection schedules or any City service, call your local government customer service and information center.



Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The City's household hazardous waste facility at 1900 E. Club Blvd. is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call 560-4186, ext. 227, for more information.

The Citizens' Newsletter is published every other month with the water bill on a staggered schedule. Information can be dated for some receiving their bill at the end of the mailing cycle. For the most current information, visit the Web site at www.durhamnc.gov.

Contact the Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau for holiday schedules and events at 687-0288.

Non-City Agency Grant Applications Available

The City of Durham's 2009-10 Non-City (NCA) grant applications are now available on the City's Web site at www.durhamnc.gov/departments/bms/grants.cfm.

NCA grants fund operations between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. The deadline for application is March 13, 2009. For information, contact Melinda Squires-Nelson at

Melinda.Squires-Nelson@durhamnc.gov or call 560-4111, ext. 282/.



911 Center Installs Non-Emergency Number

Barking dogs, loud music, burglaries occurring hours or days earlier and vandalism to public or private property are just a few examples of the types of calls that can now be reported to Durham's new, non-emergency phone number.

The new number, (919) 560-4600, was established by the Durham Emergency Communication Center (DECC) to free up 911 lines for life threatening or in-progress emergencies.

Citizens' Financial Report Now Available

The 2008 version of the City of Durham's Citizens' Financial Report is now available at City Hall and online. The report provides a comprehensive review of the City's financial condition for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Copies of the report are available from the City's Finance office or the Durham One Call desk located in the lobby of City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza. The report is available online at www.durhamnc.gov/departments/finance/.

Watch "CityLife"

"CityLife" is a half-hour television show that informs citizens about Durham City government services, issues, and upcoming events. The program airs twice daily. Log onto www.durhamnc.gov, click on Public Affairs for times.

Tune In To "City Hall This Week"

A half-hour television show on Time Warner Cable channel 8, "City Hall This Week" informs citizens about what is going on in City Hall and important issues facing City Council. The program airs twice daily. Log onto www.durhamnc.gov, click on Public Affairs for times.

Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act

The City of Durham will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communications, or assistance to participate in a City program, service, or activity, should contact the office of Stacey Poston, Acting ADA Coordinator, Voice: 919-560-4197 x254, TTY: 919-560-4809; Stacey.Poston@durhamnc.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

Subscribe to the City Manager's Report

Receive the latest information and important City news via e-mail with the new City Manager's Report. The report from City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield highlights the latest happenings in Durham City Government. To subscribe, visit www.durhamnc.gov/departments/public/managers_report_signup.cfm.

Durham Toilet Rebate Program Now Available

The City of Durham Department of Water Management is offering rebates valued at \$100 when qualified water customers replace their existing toilets with EPA WaterSense labeled High Efficiency Toilet (HET) models.

Any toilet purchased MUST be a High Efficiency Toilet (HETs use an average of 1.28 gallons per flush) and MUST be on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense list to be eligible for the rebate. Any toilet meeting the criteria and purchased after January 1, 2008, will be eligible for the rebate. Rebates will be applied as credits to customers' water bills. To apply for the rebate/credit, residential customers will need to submit all of the following:



- the original dated sales receipt for your toilet
- a copy of your most recent water bill
- a completed Rebate Application Form

The rebate form, a link to approved toilets and more details are available from www.DurhamSavesWater.org.

Rebates will be offered on a first-come, first served basis, with one toilet rebate allowed per single family residential customer. Durham anticipates rebating approximately 3,000 toilets this year.

Toilet flushing makes up about 30 to 40 percent of all water used in homes; older, inefficient toilets may be responsible for most of the water wasted in homes. Recent advancements have allowed toilets to use 20 percent less water than the current federal standard, while still providing equal or superior performance. The WaterSense label certifies that the toilets meet rigorous testing for both performance and efficiency. With 3,000 toilet replacements, Durham can save nearly 21 million gallons of water per year! Individually, people can save 4,000 gallons per year with this simpler, greener choice.

For more information on Durham's Toilet Rebate program, visit www.DurhamSavesWater.org or call (866) 522-3806.