



# **DURHAM CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER**

News and Information from the City of Durham

FY 2009 - 2010 No. 3 - November - December - Office of Public Affairs

101 City Hall Plaza - Durham, NC 27701 - Phone (919) 560-4123 - Fax - (919) 560-4483

## **City Adopts New Water Shortage Response Plan**

On November 2, Durham City Council approved a Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP) that outlines the City's response to short-term water shortages, which may be caused by drought, extreme service disruptions, or facility operations.

This plan provides the framework to implement the City's updated water efficiency ordinance, which was also adopted by City Council on November 2. The new water efficiency ordinance, which replaced the 1981 water conservation ordinance, was written to update restrictions and requirements and to provide consistency across the region.

During the recent drought episodes, the lack of consistent terminology caused significant public confusion. Also, ordinances in neighboring utilities varied in the number of stages and types of restricted activities. In response, representatives from the cities of Raleigh and Durham, the Town of Cary, and the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) formed the Regional Conservation Work Group in March 2008. Staff from Triangle J Council of Governments, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources participated in this process, along with representatives from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. This group worked together to create ordinances and plans for their respective utilities that will work cohesively across the region.

Durham's new water efficiency ordinance has simplified the number of stages and includes irrigation requirements that align with those of neighboring water providers. The plan, developed in compliance with 2008 drought legislation, was approved by the state in September. The plan also includes triggers for moving into and out of the various stages, notification information, and revision requirements. Citizens can view the Water Shortage Response Plan by visiting [www.durhamsaveswater.org](http://www.durhamsaveswater.org). For information on the plan, tips on saving water, or information about the conservation program, call (919) 560-4381.

## **Durham JobLink Extends Northgate Mall Service Dates**

In an effort to reach out to the community and assist with the continued high volume of traffic at the Durham JobLink Career Center, the Durham JobLink Mobile Unit has extended its service dates at Northgate Mall through the end of 2009.

Durham residents can receive job leads, conduct job searches, and submit online applications at the Durham JobLink Mobile Unit via express service every Monday and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

through Dec. 29. The mobile unit will be located in the Sears parking lot of the Guess Road side of Northgate Mall.

If applicants are not currently registered with Durham JobLink, they should come prepared to receive this new “express service” after filling out a brief registration card.

Residents who need assistance with resume writing, career search information, assistance with job applications or unemployment insurance benefits should continue to use the Joblink Career Center at 1105 South Briggs Avenue. Durham JobLink satellite sites are also available at:

- W.D. Hill Recreation Center, 1308 Fayetteville St.
- Durham County Main Library, 300 N. Roxboro, St.
- Oxford Manor, 3633 Keystone Place
- Durham Technical Comm. College, 1637 Lawson St.
- Antioch Baptis Church, 1415 Holloway St.

For information, contact Tanya Spaulding-Hill, manager for the Durham JobLink Career Center, at (919) 560-6880, ext. 202 or via e-mail at [Tanya.Hill@ncmail.net](mailto:Tanya.Hill@ncmail.net).

## **Don't Forget To Return Your Citizen Satisfaction Survey**

Every two years, the City of Durham conducts a satisfaction survey to determine how satisfied Durham residents are with city services. It's an important part of the planning process to gather input from citizens on a wide range of issues that have an impact on our quality of life. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and is being mailed to randomly selected residents who live within the city limits of Durham.

“In addition to providing useful feedback about City services, the information that is gathered helps us make critical decisions about prioritizing City resources and helps set the direction for the future of our community,” said City Public Affairs Director Beverly B. Thompson.

Only a representative sample of homes has been randomly chosen to receive the survey. If you received one, please take the time to fill it out and return it. Findings will be provided in January.

## **Subscribe to the City Manager's Report**

Receive the latest information and important City news via e-mail with the 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/managersreport](http://www.durhamnc.gov/managersreport).

## **Durham ... Beyond the Headlines**

It's that time of year, when organizations are looking for speakers. The City of Durham is available to talk to you on a wide variety of topics about your city. For us, it's simple. We want to build strong partnerships with our residents by providing presentations on topics ranging from where your tax dollars go, our water quality, code enforcement in neighborhoods, to parks and recreation and the list goes on... Frankly, we want to be your best resource for getting answers to important questions about Durham. Call us at 560-4123 or email us at [speakersbureau@durhamnc.gov](mailto:speakersbureau@durhamnc.gov). We're waiting ...

## **Toilet Rebate Program Still Available**

The City of Durham is offering rebates valued at \$100 for qualified water customers who replace their existing toilets with EPA WaterSense labeled High Efficiency Toilet (HET) models. Any toilet that meets the criteria and is purchased after January 1, 2008, is eligible for the rebate. Rebates will be applied as credits to customers' water bills. For information and the rebate form, visit [www.DurhamSavesWater.org](http://www.DurhamSavesWater.org).

## **Your City - Your Channel**

DTV8 provides programming to keep Durham informed on the important issues and services involving citizens every day. City government produced programs include scheduled meetings of the Durham City Council and the Durham Planning Commission. The City also produces "City Hall This Week," a program dedicated to informing citizens on what is going on inside Durham's city hall, and "CityLife," a show featuring information on current City issues and upcoming events. For a programming schedule, or to watch DTV8 live on the Web, visit [www.durhamnc.gov/dtv8](http://www.durhamnc.gov/dtv8).

## **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 requiring 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, ext. 21254, TTY: (919) 560-4809; [Stacey.Poston@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Stacey.Poston@durhamnc.gov), as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.