

# Parks and Recreation Seeks Community Input To Revise Master Plan

With a growing population, annexation, and changing trends in recreation, Durham Parks and Recreation (DPR) will revise its master plan to reflect residents' desires for new facilities and programming over the next decade. DPR is seeking feedback from residents to help create a plan that embodies the unique character of the Durham community.

Participants can visit Durham's new Mind Mixer website, a virtual community meeting that will allow them to share ideas with key city leaders and staff from wherever they access the internet. The new site, [www.PlanToPlayMoreDurham.com](http://www.PlanToPlayMoreDurham.com), is a forum where res-

idents can share ideas, second other ideas, expand upon existing ideas, give feedback on initiatives and collaborate with their neighbors on a variety of parks and recreation topics.



The second way DPR is gathering information is through a written survey that will be distributed to a random sampling of Durham residents. Several thousand residents will receive surveys including various open-ended questions to gauge community attitudes on various key topics.

The third way residents can offer input is through a series of community meetings in October and November led by the Master Plan Steering Team. The 12-member team is made up of a mix of long-time Durham residents and relative newcomers selected on the basis of their knowledge about parks and recreation, their willingness to commit to 10 months of work on the committee, and their local networks of community and recreation groups.

[See Parks on page 2](#)

### Upcoming City Holidays

Thanksgiving - Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23, 2012

For information about City holidays, garbage collection, or other City Services, contact Durham One Call.



#### Waste Disposal and Recycling Center

2115 E. Club Blvd., Durham

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - noon / Closed Sundays

**Accepting old electronics, appliances, tires, yard waste, and other recyclables.**

Contact the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau for public events and non-City holiday schedules at (919) 687-0288.

*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 website at [www.durhamnc.gov](http://www.durhamnc.gov).*

### Water-Saving Toilet Rebate Program Begins 4th Year

The Department of Water Management launched the High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program in September 2008. Through the end of 2011, the program has been a great success in terms of the amount of water saved and has received much praise from residents and businesses participating in the program so far.

There is no planned end date, but residents and businesses who have not taken advantage of the program are encouraged to do so. To apply, here are some

[See Rebate on page 2](#)

# City Briefs

## **Early Voting Begins Oct. 18**

The Durham County Board of Elections reminds residents that early voting for the Nov. 6 general election will begin on Oct. 18 and continue through Nov. 3. Durham County has seven locations for early voting. For locations and times, visit <http://www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/elec/> or call the Board of Elections at (919) 560-0700.

## **Big Sweep Cleanup in October**

Join volunteers from across the state to clean litter from our waterways as part of NC Big Sweep. Lead a cleanup in your neighborhood or join an existing group. Cleanups will be held throughout October. To sign up or for information, call Jennifer Brooks at (919) 560-0558 or visit <https://sites.google.com/site/durhambigtsweep/>.

## **Holiday Event Dates Set**

Mark your calendar now for these annual holiday events sponsored by Durham Parks and Recreation:

### **Holiday Fun Fest**

Saturday, Dec. 1 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Durham Central Park, 201 Foster St.  
For information, call (919) 560-4355

### **Senior Holiday Party**

Tuesday, Dec. 11 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel, 3700 Emperor Blvd.  
Tickets available beginning Nov. 6  
For information, call (919) 560-4355

### **Kwanzaa Celebration**

Sunday, Dec. 30 from noon to 6 p.m.  
Holton Career and Resource Center, 401 N. Driver St.  
For information, call (919) 354-2750

## **Find Us on Facebook and Twitter**

The City now has a new Facebook page and Twitter feed, making it even simpler to stay up-to-date on what's going on with your City government. Simply "like" the City's Facebook page at <http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC> or follow the City's Twitter feed at <http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>.

## **Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act**

A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in city government activities by contacting the ADA coordinator, voice (919) 560-4197, fax 560-4196, TTY (919) 560-1200, or [ADA@durhamnc.gov](mailto:ADA@durhamnc.gov), as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.

## **Parks from page 1**

The feedback given at the community meetings will help guide the Master Plan Steering Team as it collects and assesses the community's priorities. The end result will be a master plan with recommendations that will be presented to the city manager and City Council for review and implementation.

"We strive to help residents discover, explore and enjoy life through creative and challenging recreational choices that contribute to their physical, emotional and social health," says Rhonda B. Parker, Parks and Recreation director. "We need input from as many participants as possible because public opinion is crucial so that priorities accurately reflect the public's vision and desires."

## **Rebate from page 1**

things you should know:

- Applicants must have a current water account and receive water directly from the City of Durham.
- Applicants must provide a copy of their most recent bill when submitting their high efficiency toilet rebate application.
- Toilets can be one piece (tank and bowl as one unit) or two pieces (tank and bowl) to be fitted together for a complete unit.
- Each new toilet must replace an existing high water use toilet.
- The rebate (\$100 for each toilet replaced) will be in the form of a credit applied to your water bill.

For details, including application and toilet information, visit [www.DurhamSavesWater.org](http://www.DurhamSavesWater.org).

## **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. Call us at (919) 560-4123 or email us at [speakersbureau@durhamnc.gov](mailto:speakersbureau@durhamnc.gov). We're waiting ...

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

Receive the latest information and important City news via email with the **City Manager's Report**. To subscribe, visit [www.durhamnc.gov/managersreport.com](http://www.durhamnc.gov/managersreport.com)