



CITY OF DURHAM DIGEST

Durham Digest en español:
bit.ly/espanol-jan2022

JAN. 2022

Quarterly Updates from the City of Durham ★ durhamnc.gov

City Transitions to New Leadership



On December 6, Mayor Elaine O'Neal (pictured at left) was sworn in, becoming the first Black woman to serve in this role for Durham. In addition, re-elected Ward I Council Member DeDreana Freeman, re-elected Ward II Council Member Mark-Anthony Middleton, and new Ward III Council Member Leonardo Williams were sworn in to office.



Also in December, Police Chief Patrice Andrews (pictured at right) was installed to lead the Durham Police Department. Chief Andrews began her law enforcement career in Durham in 1997, and returns after five years as chief in a nearby town.

Improving Language Access for Our Community

Did you know that 19.6% of Durham residents speak a language other than English at home (*Census, 2015-2019*)? As part of the City's commitment to effectively communicate with all members of our community, we're working to reduce the communication gap for these residents.

Through our Language Access Plan (LAP), residents can:

- Request interpretation and translation services free of charge when engaging with City services or programs
- Receive translation of vital documents and emergency communications in Spanish, the largest identified limited English proficient language in Durham
- Submit complaints of language discrimination or failure to adequately provide language support

★ **LEARN MORE:** Visit durhamnc.gov/languageaccess.

WE HAVE INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE!

LANGUAGE ACCESS AVAILABLE!

CITY OF DURHAM

Live Tree Disposal Options



The City has seven free drop-off locations for residents to dispose of live trees between January 3–February 5. Curbside collection of trees will ONLY be available for yard waste and exempt customers between January 10–February 4. All trees should be free of decorations, should not be placed in bags, and must be cut in half if taller than six feet.

★ **LEARN MORE:** Find complete details at durhamnc.gov/tree.



Tips & Reminders from Our Water Management Department

Winterization Tips

Inside Your House

Frozen water can crack and damage plumbing and backflow systems.

To prevent this:

- Wrap pipes with insulation, especially in unheated areas like your garage and crawl space. Hardware stores sell pipe wrap that can be cut to fit.
- Open cabinet doors underneath kitchen and bathroom sinks. This allows warm air to circulate around the plumbing.
- Allow faucets to drip slowly so that water can't pool inside exposed pipes.

Outside Your House

Outdoor fixtures face greater risk of exposure. Here are some preventative steps:

- Disconnect, drain, and properly store garden and sprinkler hoses.
- Close foundation and crawl space vents.

Help Protect Our Sewers: Don't Pour Grease Down the Drain!

Durham is known for delicious food. Unfortunately, preparing savory dinners can create excess fats, oils, and greases (FOGs), which can clog our sewer system. Instead of pouring these items down the sink, scrape or pour cooled grease into a container with a resealable lid. Then place the lid on the container and dispose of it in the trash.

★ **LEARN MORE:** Call Water Management at (919) 560-4381 or visit DurhamSavesWater.org.

This newsletter provides a quarterly snapshot—visit durhamnc.gov for the latest news.



Easily access the links in this issue by scanning the QR code or visiting bit.ly/english-jan2022

UPCOMING CITY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

- ★ Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 17
- ★ Good Friday, April 15

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CITY BRIEFS

Help Shape Durham's Future Through the Comprehensive Plan

The next phase of engagement for Durham's Comprehensive Plan ends January 31! The plan decides what can be built in Durham and where. Learn about the types of places residents want to see in their neighborhoods, why they're important, and how you can get involved in shaping these places and the future of our community.

★ **LEARN MORE:** Check out durham.mysocialpinpoint.com/comprehensiveplan to share your feedback and learn about the Resident Engagement Toolkit.

Police Department Shares Home Safety Tips

- Know your neighbors. Don't open the door for anyone you don't know.
- Don't display gifts or valuables where they can be seen from outside.
- Break down boxes and put them in your garbage cart or take them to a recycling center instead of setting them by the curb.
- To deter forced entry, install single or double cylinder deadbolt locks. Two locking devices per door/window are recommended.
- Make sure your dwelling is well-lit and that exterior lights are working. Motion sensors with lights help detect and ward off would-be intruders.
- Lock doors and windows when you leave home, even if it's just for a few minutes. Use timers to turn on lights.
- If you have a firearm, always keep it locked in a secure location.
- If something looks questionable, such as a broken window or open door, do not go in. Call the police from your cell phone or a neighbor's house.

Start a Rewarding Career with the City of Durham

Join the City's team to make a difference in the community, earn competitive pay and benefits, and advance your career. From 911 call takers to engineers, lifeguards to police officers, building inspectors to mechanics, explore job openings across our diverse departments.

★ **LEARN MORE:** DurhamNC.gov/Jobs

Play More with Durham Parks & Recreation (DPR)

Get the whole family ready for fun and fitness in 2022!

Health & Wellness in 2022

Purchase a DPR Wellness Package and work out at any recreation center or take a fitness class for an affordable monthly price. For details about the packages or the fitness programs available, visit DPRPlayMore.org.



Durham Senior Games & SilverArts 2022

Registration starts February 1; Kick-off April 11; Events run April 12–May 9

This Olympic-style event brings together mature adults (ages 50 or better) for competition in a wide range of events including arts, croquet, table tennis, basketball shooting, swimming, shuffleboard, pickleball, and more! Most events will take place in various outdoor venues around Durham. Find additional information at DPRPlayMore.org.

Durham Senior Holiday Fling

Tickets on sale February 21; Event takes place April 8

Mature adults from across the Triangle will be on hand to celebrate life, friendship, and enjoy a meal together. The party-goers are diverse, but they all have one thing in common—the desire to be entertained and enjoy the company of long-time friends in a fun atmosphere. This event will be like our Annual Senior Holiday Party but in Spring! Visit DPRPlayMore.org for details.

Save the Date for Earth Day 2022: April 24

Join DPR to Celebrate Earth Day in Durham with a fun day filled with an eclectic mix of music, great food, hands-on environmental education activities, and much more!

Plan Now for Summer Camp for Ages 5 to 18

Registration starts March 7, 2022

DPR offers a safe and inclusive environment where all children and teens are encouraged to participate at a variety of traditional, specialty, and teen camps. We're committed to the development of life skills through exposure to diverse activities and recreational experiences. Visit DPRPlayMore.org for dates, details, and pricing.



★ **LEARN MORE:**

- Learn about these programs and more at DPRPlayMore.org or (919) 560-4355.
- Follow @dprplaymore on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

Durham One Call is Here to Help

Get assistance with water bills, garbage collection, and other City services:

Submit Online
at durhamnc.gov/OneCall



Call (919) 560-1200
(English or Spanish)



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