

AT YOUR SERVICE

GREENSBORO CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS & INFORMATION

MARCH 2009

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Change fire alarm batteries

The Greensboro Fire Department encourages you to change your smoke alarm batteries twice a year. An easy way to remember is to change these batteries when you change your clock in the spring and fall. Replace old batteries with fresh, high-quality batteries to keep your smoke alarms ready to protect you all year.

Call the Fire Department's Community Services Office at 574-4099 or the Fire Prevention Bureau at 373-2177 for assistance with your smoke alarms or for battery replacement. Smoke detectors and batteries are provided free of charge.

April City Council meetings

The Greensboro City Council meets on Tuesdays, April 7 and 21, beginning at 5:30 pm at the Melvin Municipal Office Building, 300 W. Washington St.

Council meetings are open to the public. Free parking is available in the Greene Street parking deck after 5 pm.

Council meetings are also aired live on Channel 13 and through videostreaming online at greensboro-nc.gov.

Herb Fest slated for April 25

Fresh herbs can transform ordinary meals into extraordinary feasts. Want to know how to buy fresh herbs, how to store them or what herbs go best with what foods?

Visit the Greensboro Farmers' Market on Saturday, April 25 from 7 am to 2 pm for its annual Herb Fest, featuring displays and exhibits by the Herbal Thyme Herb Guild. For more information, call 373-2402.



Rental units must be certified

Did you know that all residential rental property in Greensboro -- occupied and vacant -- must be inspected prior to leasing to make sure it complies with the new Rental Unit Certificate of Occupancy (RUCO) ordinance?

The City's regulation, which makes sure housing is safe, sanitary and fit for human habitation, took effect January 1, 2009. Landlords who rent property without it first being RUCO-certified are subject to civil penalties.

To find out if an apartment, townhouse, condo or home you're interested in renting is certified, search the unit's address online at <http://www.softnet.tv/snBrowser/paWelcome.aspx>. Read more about the ordinance at greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Engineering/resident/renter/RUCO.htm.

Invest in your future, not a scammer's

If an investment sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't allow your savings to be stolen by a con artist.

Be skeptical of claims that promise a higher than average market rate of return, involve pressure to act now, make claims of insider information or involve off-shore banks and tax-free investing.

All investments carry risk, so do your research before writing a check to anyone. The Securities Division of the state's Department of the Secretary of State can help.

Call the division at 800-688-4507 before making any investment to verify that both the broker and the investment product are properly registered and that neither have any complaints filed against them. Also visit sosnc.com for more information.



Holiday schedule

City offices, buildings and facilities

Will be closed on Friday, April 10
in recognition of Good Friday.

Trash and recycling collection

There will be no collection on Friday, April 10.
Friday's collection will be on Thursday, April 9.
Thursday's collection will be on Wednesday, April 8.

Recycle your old telephone books

Are you finished with your 2008 telephone books?
The books can be recycled in your brown recycling
can or at any of the City's 17 recycling drop sites.
Call 373-CITY for drop site locations.

Keep Greensboro beautiful

The City of Greensboro is streamlining its
approach to eliminating graffiti in an effort to remove
it quickly and wants you to help. If you see graffiti,
even gang graffiti, report it to the City's Contact
Center at 373-CITY (2489). The only time graffiti
should be reported to the Greensboro Police
Department is if it is an
act in
progress.

Grffiti on
public and
private prop-
erty without
permission is
illegal.

For more
information
on how graffiti harms the community, visit graffiti-hurts.org.

Somewhat different from graffiti are shoes hanging
on overhead power lines, which can also be a sign of
gang activity. Report these cases to the City's
Contact Center also.



New loading zone ordinance now in effect

The Greensboro Police Department is now enforcing a loading
zone ordinance that names two new loading zones -- a 60-minute zone
for commercial trucks weighing 15,000 pounds or more and a 30-minute
zone for vehicles that are loading and unloading. Each zone is designat-
ed by street signs and street markings.

The ordinance was designed to provide parking for large commercial
delivery trucks so they don't have to park in the middle of the streets,
causing safety and traffic hazards. Violators of the new ordinance will
have their vehicles ticketed or towed at their expense.

Army Reserve learns from the City



The 422nd Civil
Affairs group of the
Greensboro Army
Reserve recently
toured the City's
solid waste man-
agement disposal
facilities to learn
about managing
waste. When the
group returns to
Iraq, it will manage
solid waste issues
there.

Highlights of the new McGirt-Horton Library

Construction is underway on the new 10,000 square-foot McGirt-
Horton Branch Library at the corner of Phillips Avenue and Woodbriar
Avenue. The building, expected to open in spring 2010, will be one of
the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified
(LEED) libraries in the state.

Ceiling heights will range from 12 feet in the children's area to more
than 25 feet in the adult and teen areas. Large windows will provide
natural daylight and reduce energy use. One wing of the building will
be designed for teens and will include a video lounge and multimedia
lab. The building will also feature a snack/vending area with seating.

HELPING YOU STAY INFORMED

Get updates on City services
on [Twitter.com/greensborocity](https://twitter.com/greensborocity)

Subscribe to *City Connections* e-newsletter
At greensboro-nc.gov, click on
blue and white box in upper right corner.

Call the City's Contact Center at 373-CITY
Get answers to questions and
help with concerns about City services.

Visit us online at greensboro-nc.gov

Watch public meetings

Go to http://greensboro.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

Greensboro's 'cold cases'

The Greensboro Police Department continues to try to solve old
cases, so-called "cold cases." Each month on its Web page -- greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Police/coldcases -- previously unsolved cases
like the one below are randomly highlighted. The police ask for informa-
tion and assistance in apprehending those responsible for these
crimes.



On June 16, 2007, 15-year-old Preston Angelo, a student at
Southern Guilford High School, was shot and later died at
Moses Cone Hospital. In addition to the \$2,000 Crime
Stoppers reward, the Governor's Crime Commission has
offered an extra \$5,000 for information that may lead to an
arrest of the person(s) responsible for Preston's death.

If you have information on this or any other unsolved case, call Crime Stoppers
at 373-1000. Crime Stoppers will pay a cash reward for information leading to
an arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible. All calls to Crime
Stoppers are confidential. No names are used and no calls are taped or traced.