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Did You Know?

Christmas Trash/Recycling Schedule

City offices, buildings and facilities are closed Monday, December 26, and Tuesday, December 27, in observance of Christmas. No garbage, recycling, bulk trash, yard waste, and appliance collections take place on December 26. That day's collections take place on Tuesday, December 27, and Tuesday's collections take place on Wednesday, December 28.

Enjoy a Night Out While GYC Watches the Kids

Do you need to finish your holiday shopping? Do you need a night out without the kids? The Greensboro Youth Council has you covered from 5:30-9:45 pm Friday, December 16, at the Greensboro Sportsplex, 2400 16th St. For a small

City Connections

An e-newsletter from the City of Greensboro www.greensboro-nc.gov (336) 373-CITY (2489)

City Council Recap

New City Council and Mayor sworn in

At its December 6 meeting, the newly elected Greensboro City Council was sworn in, including Mayor Robbie Perkins who begins his ninth term on the council and first as mayor. Incumbents T. Dianne Bellamy Small (District 1), Jim Kee (District 2), Zack Matheny (District 3), Trudy Wade (District 5) and Nancy Vaughan (At-Large) returned to the Council for another term, while newcomers Marikay Abuzuaiter (At Large) and Nancy Hoffmann (District 4) were elected for the first time.

Former mayor and long-time councilmember Yvonne Johnson returned to the dais as an At-Large representative and was voted by Council to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

City Council will next meet on Tuesday, December 13, at 5:30 pm in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, 300 W. Washington St. It is the last Council meeting of 2011. To view past meetings, visit City Council's video archive page.

E-Waste Collection Service Starts December 19

Next-day service begins for e-waste collection

fee (see below), GYC volunteers provide safe babysitting services that include games, movies, arts and crafts, pizza, and fun. Ages five to 12 can participate. Registration deadline is today. Visit the GYC website and click on the Parents' Night Out link for the registration form.

Cost:

\$15 for one child \$25 for two children \$35 for three children

Second Phase of Loose Leaf Collection Program Underway

The second phase of the City's annual Loose Leaf Collection program is underway. Leaves curbside by December 19 will be picked up by January 27, 2012. Leaves that were curbside by November 14 will be picked up by December 17. To determine your leaf collection status, view the interactive map.

Singing Seniors Present Two Holiday Concerts

The Singing Senior Ambassadors presents two free holiday concerts on Thursday, December 15. The performances are at 10 am at Smith Senior Center, 2401 Fairview St., and 7 pm at St. John's United Methodist Church. 1304 Merritt Dr. The choral group will sing a variety of traditional holiday favorites. Canned food donations will be accepted to benefit the Greensboro Urban Ministry. For more information, please contact the Greensboro Seniors'



Beginning December 19, Greensboro and Guilford County residents can use a new call-in service to have old electronics picked up and taken to the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Center. Or, residents can take electronic items to the HHW Collection Center at 2750 Patterson St. themselves. At the center, e-waste products are dismantled and their parts are recycled.

Call 373-CITY (2489) to schedule next day collection service for the pickup of computers, monitors, laptops, televisons, VCR's, stereos, copiers, fax machines and microwaves.

Electronic items were banned from North Carolina landfills in July to protect groundwater from the toxic metals they contain. Household items to be disposed of at the HHW Collection Center include certain paints, cleaners, varnishes, car batteries, motor oil, and pesticides. Collection Center hours are Wednesdays through Fridays, 10 am to 6 pm and Saturdays, 8 am to 2 pm.

For more information about items that can be disposed, go to <u>HHW</u> <u>Collection Center</u>, or call 373-CITY (2489).

Police Department Earns Re-accreditation

City Police Department recognized for continuous service

For the eighth time since undergoing the process to achieve recognition for professional excellence, the Greensboro Police Department (GPD) was awarded accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA). During the annual CALEA conference, GPD received the commission's Meritorious Accreditation for 15 or more years of accredited service. The department is the first agency in NC to become accredited and continuously accredited since 1986.

In August, a team of assessors conducted an exhaustive evaluation of GPD's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services. After extensive scrutiny, assessors found the agency to be in full compliance with the commission's more than 350 standards. CALEA prepared a comprehensive report of its findings for the full commission, which then awarded re-accreditation to the Greensboro

program at 375-2237.

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Police Department in November. CALEA accreditation is voluntary and is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

Townsend Dam Renovation Scheduled for Completion in 2012



Greensboro's main water source gets a face lift

Townsend Dam, Greensboro's major water supplier, is getting a much needed facelift. Anticipated completion date is early 2012. The 1,635-acre water source has

supplied 70 percent of the City's water since the 1960s. The dam is also used for recreational boating and fishing. Signs of structural distress became evident in 1980 due to Alkali-Silicia Reactivity (ASR), which made renovations a necessity. If left unaddressed, the chemical reaction of ASR would eventually threaten the stability of the dam.

In 2007, temporary repairs were not successful, making replacement and expansion of the spillway necessary for public safety and compliance with new regulations. The new material used in the dam is an equal mixture of cement and "fly ash," which prevents cracking and other problems that occurred in the old dam. If properly maintained, the structure is expected to last 100 years.

The new zig-zag design brings added benefits that include lower maintenance costs and fewer labor requirements for plant operators. Additionally, the new dam will have one operational gate instead of 10 gates used previously. The \$35 million dollar project cost is nearly 30 percent less than the original estimated cost.