

Funding Still Available for Rent/Mortgage Assistance Under CARES Act

Funding still remains for rent and utility assistance and mortgage assistance for households financially affected by COVID-19. Applications for these City-managed emergency housing assistance programs are still being taken and the qualifications for them have been extended.

If your household has been behind in rent for at least one month since April 1 or behind in at least one mortgage payment since April 1, you qualify for assistance. Previously, the time frame was only between April 1 and June 30.

The rent and mortgage emergency housing assistance programs are funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/CARESHousingAssistance.

How's this for a New Year's Resolution?

Help keep Greensboro's streams free from litter and improve water quality by joining the City's Adopt-a-Stream program. Litter is a major pollutant that can impair water quality and harm aquatic life and other animals. The City provides the bags and gloves. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/AdoptAStream.



Plan to Improve Access to Affordable Housing Moves Forward

The City's 10-year plan to commit \$50 million in local funding to improve access to, and the condition of, affordable housing in Greensboro kicks off in a couple



of months. The implementation phase will address the creation of a preservation fund to be used to buy and rehabilitate multi-family properties and use them as affordable housing.

The Housing GSO plan outlines funding options over the next 10 years and aims to add up to 6,000 additional affordable units to Greensboro.

Another part of the implementation phase of the plan is to work with stakeholders to determine what needs exist in these neighborhoods. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/HousingGSO.

City Forms Committee on African American Disparities

The City's Human Rights Department is forming an Ad-hoc Committee for African American Disparities (AC-AAD) at the request of City Council. Through community feedback, research, and policy review, the committee will explore local policies, procedures, and regulations in an effort to identify barriers to success for African Americans, and present findings and recommendations to City Council.

Free/Reduced Cost Space Available at Greensboro Cultural Center

Creative Greensboro, the City's office of arts and culture, is accepting applications from

continued on back

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held at 5:30 pm on the first and third Tuesdays of each month unless otherwise noted. For the full schedule, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/CouncilMeetings.

Loose Leaf Program Set to End January 29

The second collection period for the City's annual Loose Leaf Collection Program ends January 29, weather-permitting. Learn the ins and outs of the program at www.greensboro-nc.gov/Leaves.



City Hosts African American/Black History Month Programs

Greensboro Libraries will offer a range of programs honoring African American/Black History Month in February. Check the library's website Events listings for more information at www.greensborolibrary.org.

Daylight Saving Time Begins March 14

On Sunday, March 14, clocks will be turned forward one hour to begin Daylight Saving Time. Also, change your smoke alarm batteries if they are more than a year old. Don't have working smoke alarms? Call the Greensboro Fire Department at 336-373-2576 for free equipment and installation.

Lake Higgins Hatchery Pond is Restocked

The Taylor Turner Hatchery Pond at Lake Higgins Park, 4235 Hamburg Mill Rd., is stocked with

continued on back

individuals and organizations to use the Greensboro Cultural Center space at free or reduced cost under its Creative Activation Partners (CAP) and Greensboro Residency for Original Works (GROW) programs. Learn more and apply at www.creativegreensboro.com.

Attention Pet Owners: Scoop that Poop

Uncollected pet waste contributes more E. Coli and fecal coliform during rain events than wildlife waste. The City's Water Resources Department staff remind you that pet waste left on the ground drains from surfaces into storm drains, which leads directly to our local waterways. Pick it up wherever it lands. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/PetWaste.



Library Offers Homework Help

Is your child -- or you -- stuck on a school work problem? Need guidance on a writing project? Free help is just a mouse click away. Brainfuse provides trained one-on-one tutors that cover all grade levels and all subjects. All you need is a library card to access this service. Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/Homework and click on "Brainfuse - HelpNow."

Be in the Know with these Greensboro Park Updates

Greensboro Parks and Recreation has put the finishing touches on Keeley Park's Up in the AIR (picture top of next column), the City's first fully accessible playground with wheelchair-accessible merry-go-round and tower, six slides, five spinning elements, three zip lines, cargo nets, and plenty of places to climb.

Paired with these other upgrades, Keeley is an outdoor retreat for all:

- ~ Thrive 450 outdoor fitness center with bars, ladders, and platforms for all manner of body weight exercises for the legs, core and upper body.



- ~ A corn hole court with scoreboard and swinging benches for spectators.

- ~ A community garden with raised flower beds to reduce bending and a 1,000-plus square foot deck for classes and gatherings.

Keeley isn't the only park with new places to play and workout.

- ~ To the east, Barber Park's new outdoor basketball court is named in honor of Ken Free Sr.

- ~ To the south, Westbury Park has a new play area and walking trail. The playground has a swinging seesaw and saucer swing built for a family, plus three spinners.

- ~ To the southwest, Hester Park has a new six-piece fitness center for adults. The cargo nets, wobbly bridge, climbing walls and monkey bars are both fun and function.

It's Time to Test Your Toilets

Toilets use the most water in a home and are the main source of water leaks, which waste water and cost you money. The City's Water Resources Department suggests you check your toilets by:

- ~ Monitoring water bills for unexplained changes in water use
- ~ Conducting an annual Toilet Leak Test (see graphic below)

- ~ Avoiding toilet tank cleaners, which break down internal components that may lead to leaks.

Also, replace older, high-flow toilets with low-flow models. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/Toilets.

trout and open for fishing 8 am to 4 pm Wednesdays through Sundays through February. This is not a catch and release opportunity. Learn more at www.greensboro-nc.gov/Trout.



Need a 2021 Calendar?

Trash/Recycling Schedule

Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/Trash and type in your home address in the My Schedule area of GSO Collects to link to your home's weekly collection schedule. Also visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/HolidaySchedule for holiday collection changes.

City Holiday Schedule

Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/CityHolidaySchedule for official City government holidays for 2021. City offices, facilities, and services are affected by government holidays. Questions? Call the City's Contact Center at 336-373-CITY (2489).

City Heritage Calendar

Visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/OEI to download the City's 2021 Heritage Calendar, which lists widely recognized holidays and awareness months for specific groups, cultures and causes. The calendar is intended to raise awareness and understanding for all.

