

TPD Creates Apartment Complex Neighborhood Watch



Geared to students and others who live in one of the many local apartment complexes, the Tallahassee Police Department recently introduced a new program to emphasize safety for apartment residents. The Apartment Complex Neighborhood Watch (ACNW) program encourages those who live in apartment complexes to become part of a virtual network that will provide up-to-date statistics within your apartment complex.

Developed by TPD's Community Relations Unit, ACNW also provides crime prevention tips addressing potential crime issues depending on the time of year or holiday season. The initiative will provide educational security measures that you can easily enact to make you, your home and your property safer while living in an apartment complex. Information includes:

- ▲ Robbery safety and awareness
- ▲ Auto and residential burglary prevention
- ▲ Identity theft prevention
- ▲ Holiday and vacation safety tips
- ▲ Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class information

The online site includes a list of apartment complexes that have teamed up with TPD. College students can also earn volunteer credits for your college transcripts by volunteering for the Tallahassee Police Department by participating in ACNW. For more information on the Apartment Complex Neighborhood Watch program or to join the ACNW online, please visit Talgov.com/tpd/acn-watch or call the Community Relations Unit at 891-4251.



For Current City News, Subscribe Online!

Here's an easy and convenient way to keep up with City of Tallahassee services – subscribe online and receive items of your choice via e-mail! Offerings include news releases, City Commission agendas, Planning Department notices, Parks and Recreation listings, major construction project updates, job openings and more. To register, simply visit Talgov.com and click on the E-Mail Subscription Service link.



24-Hour Online Options for Utility Customers

Your Own Utilities offers customers several convenient ways to conduct business 24 hours daily. Utility customers may visit the City's website at Talgov.com/YOU and perform a variety of online transactions, including:

- ▲ Initiate new utility services
- ▲ Reconnect, disconnect or transfer services
- ▲ Pay utility bills online, including the free and paperless SmartBill option
- ▲ Request payment extensions
- ▲ Report a missed solid waste pick-up
- ▲ Register for a free residential energy audit
- ▲ Request information or publications
- ▲ Report electric outages
- ▲ Review account information, including utility usage

The Talgov.com/YOU site also includes a variety of energy-efficiency tips, through the City's Energy Smart Plus (e+) initiative, allowing you to save energy, save water and save money! In addition to online services, customers may also call Your Own Utilities at **891-4YOU (4968)** and use a self-service, automated phone system to select from a menu of services.



INSIGHT is published monthly by the City of Tallahassee's Department of Communications to inform citizens

about City services and related items of interest. For more information, call 891-8533 or visit the City's website at Talgov.com. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least 72 hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



AUGUST 2009

INSIGHT

Save Energy, Save Money! Ceiling Insulation Grants



and Free Home Energy Audits



ENERGY SMART PLUS

**Two important programs
that can help you save
energy and money!**

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Students – Welcome to Tallahassee!

Whether you're a returning student or are in your first year of studies at FSU, FAMU or TCC, the

City of Tallahassee welcomes you! As you acclimate yourself to living here, we want you to know that your City government offers a variety of services and programs geared to students. The easiest way to find out about them is to visit our website at Talgov.com. But here's a quick summary of services you may find helpful:

-  Utility account information, including online payments
-  Your solid waste pickup schedule (remember, you must pull your garbage and recycling containers to the street on your scheduled collection day – **and** return them back to the house by that evening)
-  Complete information on StarMetro bus routes, including fare-free student routes
-  A pilot program offering free mediation on landlord-tenant disputes

For more information on these and lots of other student-friendly City services, please visit us at Talgov.com. And again, welcome!

Participate in Your Government! Citizen Advisory Boards and Committees

If you'd like to be involved with your community, the City of Tallahassee may have a role for you. The City has over 30 citizen advisory boards and committees dealing with a variety of issues. The boards and committees are comprised of over 200 citizen members, with membership terms between two and four years. Opportunities to serve occur throughout the year due to term expirations or resignations.

For a list of City boards and committees, an application or additional information, please visit the City's website at Talgov.com/treasurer/boards or call 891-8130. Completion of an application does not guarantee board membership. The Mayor and/or the City Commission must approve all appointments to boards and committees.

Save Energy, Save Money!

Ceiling Insulation Grants and Free Home Energy Audits

Here are two important programs from Your Own Utilities that can help you save energy and money!

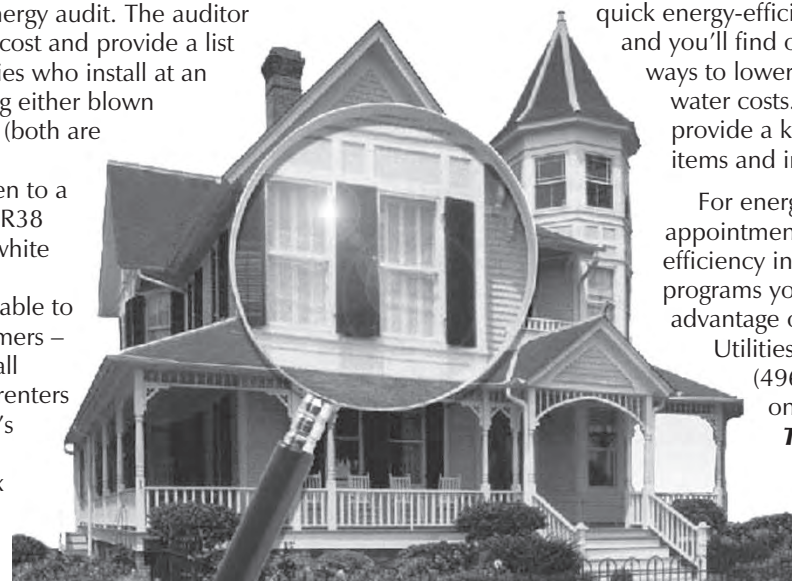
Ceiling Insulation 80% Grants – Bulk up your attic insulation for summer and winter energy savings.

- The City's *Ceiling Insulation Grant Program* pays 80% of the installation cost, up to a maximum City contribution of \$400.
- Begin with a quick energy audit. The auditor will calculate the job cost and provide a list of insulation companies who install at an agreed price, installing either blown fiberglass or cellulose (both are good products).
- Insulation level is taken to a very efficient level of R38 (about 15" of blown white fiberglass).
- These grants are available to all City electric customers – homeowners and small businesses as well as renters (with property owner's permission) in single family, duplex, triplex and quadraplex housing.

- *For lower-income households:* A version of this ceiling insulation program pays 100% of the installed cost. Income-qualified households can get up to \$500 of additional ceiling insulation in a program that pays 100% of the cost.

Free Home Energy Audits – Call 891-4YOU (4968) to schedule an appointment. Your home receives a quick energy-efficiency checkup and you'll find out about more ways to lower your energy and water costs. We'll also provide a kit of energy saving items and information.

For energy audit appointments, energy efficiency information and programs you can take advantage of, call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968), or visit us online at Talgov.com/YOU.



CALENDAR

- 7** **Labor Day holiday;** administrative offices closed (City solid waste collection schedules change during holiday weeks – please visit Talgov.com/YOU for information on schedule changes during Labor Day week)
- 10** City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm, including FY 2010 proposed budget public hearing at 6 pm (meeting on Thursday to avoid conflict with County Commission budget public hearing on September 9)
- 21** Community Redevelopment Agency Board meeting at 11:30 am

- 21** Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency meeting at 1 pm
- 21** Blueprint 2000 Intergovernmental Agency meeting at 5 pm, including FY 2010 proposed budget public hearing at 6 pm
- 23** City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm, including final FY 2010 proposed budget public hearing at 6 pm

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live on WCOT, the City's government access channel, Comcast Cable channel 13, and replayed the following Thursday at noon and 7:30 pm, and the following Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm. The broadcasts are also indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com.