INSIGHT



APRIL 2021



UTILITY BILL PAYMENT

The COVID-19 pandemic has created immense challenges for many in the community. Recognizing the need for relief, the City of Tallahassee was one of the first utilities in the state to suspend utility disconnects for non-payment in March 2020. This spring, over a year later, disconnects for non-payment will resume as more federal aid becomes available to residents in our community.

If you or someone you know is currently behind on their City Utilities bill, call our specially trained customer care team at 850-891-4968. Representatives are available from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week. Our team can help connect you to available federal funds and local community resources, as well as help establish a payment agreement that works for you. If you are significantly behind on your bill, it is imperative that you contact us immediately.

The City of Tallahassee is proud to have implemented a variety of initiatives during the past year to support utility customers who are facing financial challenges and is committed to helping customers connect with available federal and local resources for assistance. Learn more at *Talgov.com/YOU*.

PROJECT SHARE

For some residents, it can be a struggle to pay their City Utilities bill, especially with the current economic impacts caused by COVID-19. Fortunately, the City has a long-standing program – Project Share – that allows you to help your neighbors in need.

Project Share is funded through generous donations by City Utilities customers. Donations of all amounts help. You can provide a one-time contribution or set up a recurring donation. Your donation will be noted and included on your City Utilities bill.

The program is administered locally by the Capital Area Community Action Agency to ensure donations are distributed to those truly in need.

The City's Project Share program began in 1986, and since then has aided thousands of Tallahassee utilities customers needing assistance. It is only possible with your help.

Visit *Talgov.com/ProjectShare* or call 850-891-4968 if you would like to make a contribution or would like information about how to apply for assistance.

MEETINGS IN MAY

Visit **Talgov.com** for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at *Talgov.com*. Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.

Safe[®] Healthy



Access the latest information from local, trusted health experts about vaccines, testing and ways to keep yourself and our community safe and healthy.

Visit SafeAndHealthyBigBend.com for more information.

STAY INFORMED

TALGOV.COM/COVID19



GROW YOUR RAIN GARDEN

TAPP (Think About Personal Pollution) is once again offering rain garden grants! Landscape your yard with a rain garden to slow the flow of water during and after a storm, which helps reduce water pollution in our lakes, sinkholes and streams.

Because rain gardens are so important to our water quality, we are offering grants and assistance to help property owners in Tallahassee build their very own rain gardens.

Before applying, homeowners are asked to read Rain Gardens: A How-to Manual for Homeowners, Your Personal Contribution to Cleaner Water, which is available online at tappwater.org. All candidates must submit a general information page, rain garden sketch and checklist before the May 31, 2021, deadline.

For more details about rain gardens, the application process and how to get assistance with the application, visit tappwater.org.



NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH

The City of Tallahassee supports fair housing and recognizes April as National Fair Housing Month. It is illegal to consider race, color, national origin, religion,

sex, familial status or disability in housing decisions. If you have been denied your housing rights, you may have experienced unlawful discrimination. For more information, please visit *Talgov.com* or call 850-891-8290.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 850-891-4968 or visit *Talgov.com*.

TALGOV.com f Doin @CityofTLH

INSIGHT is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. 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 seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



CELEBRATE EARTH MONTH

Each April, the world celebrates Earth Month, but at the City of Tallahassee, we constantly take steps to better protect the environment and preserve our natural resources.

Through innovation and dedication, the City is making significant strides toward its goal of moving the organization and community to 100 percent net renewable energy by 2050.

Today, investments in alternative and sustainable energy sources and transportation options can be seen all around town, from the largest airport-based solar farm in the world at Tallahassee International Airport to StarMetro's electric buses.

By implementing forward-thinking solutions, the City's Electric Utility emits approximately 19 percent less CO2 today than in 1990, even with 57 percent more customer demand, and it has exceeded the CO2 reduction targets of both the 2020 Paris Accord and the Kyoto Protocol.

The City has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation for 28 years in a row as a "Tree City USA." Our Fleet Management Department earned the 2020 Green Fleet Award, which evaluated the City on fleet composition, fuel emissions, fleet policies and education. These are some of the many honors earned by the City for its sustainability and environmental efforts.

With progress toward long-term goals well underway, the City of Tallahassee is committed to maintaining a clean, healthy environment - now and for future generations. Learn more at *Talgov.com/Sustainability*.



Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible in the summer. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your overall cooling bill will be.