INSIGHT MARCH 2024



PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST



Neighborhood leadership, neighborhood safety, neighborhood beautification – if it has to do with neighborhoods, the City of Tallahassee is engaged. Through its Neighborhood Affairs division, in collaboration with other departments, the City provides a variety of programs, grants and support that strengthen local neighborhoods and empower residents.

For example, leading up to hurricane season, the City offers Neighborhood PREP (Plan for Readiness and Emergency Preparedness) workshops during which participants learn what supplies to have on hand, steps to protect their homes and resources available that can help them and their neighbors organize before and after a storm. Check Talgov.com in mid-April for dates and more information.

Another popular program is the City's Neighborhood Leadership Academy. Each fall, a cohort of residents gets a first-hand look at the breadth and depth of City

services through this multi-week program. Applications typically open in August.

To aid resident-led initiatives, the City offers support for neighborhood planning through the Neighborhood First process and for special projects through the Vibrant Neighborhood Grants program. Help is even available to organize a neighborhood cleanup!

Every neighborhood has unique needs and goals, and residents are actively engaged across the community. To celebrate the individual achievements of neighborhoods and neighbors each year, the City hosts a Neighborhood Awards program. Applications typically open in spring.

To help neighborhoods access these offerings and more, each neighborhood within the City of Tallahassee's boundaries has a Neighborhood Services Coordinator (NSC) assigned to it. It is the role of NSCs to serve as liaisons between neighborhoods and the City, helping residents effectively access City services and get issues resolved. Not sure who your NSC is? Call 850-891-8795 or email Neighborhoods@Talgov.com. For more information, visit **Talgov.com/Neighborhoods**.



Schedule a free energy audit by calling 850-891-4968. This can help you identify places to save energy, water and money at your home.

GROW YOUR GARDEN

Just in time for spring, rain garden grants are again available through the City's Think About Personal Pollution (TAPP) program. A rain garden is a landscaped area that is designed to capture and hold excess rainwater for a short period of time, allowing it to soak into the soil and recharge the groundwater. They help slow the flow of water from a yard during and after a storm, which helps reduce water pollution to area waterbodies. Grant applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Only owners of property located within the Tallahassee City limits are eligible, and first-time applicants will receive priority. Access the application and more information at TAPPwater.org.



STAY INFORMED AND ENGAGED WITH THE CITY



Informed, engaged residents help create strong, vibrant communities. Here are six ways that you can stay connected with the City of Tallahassee.

• Visit Talgov.com: The City's official website has

everything you need to know about services the City provides.

- Use Digital Subscriptions: The City's email subscription service connects you to City news. To subscribe, from the Talgov.com homepage, click the green bar labeled "Sign Up to Receive City News."
- Join a Board: Citizen advisory boards aid the City with program and policy development. To learn more, go to the Talgov.com homepage and click the tab labeled "Our City." From the drop-down menu, select "Citizen Advisory Boards." Go to the tab labeled "Vacancies" to view open board positions.
- Watch WCOT: WCOT is the City's government access channel, which airs on Comcast Cable Channel 13 and online at Talgov.com/WCOT. Programming includes live coverage of City Commission meetings, fitness classes and much more.
- Get Utility Alerts: Keep your City Utility account contact information current to ensure that you receive important service information, as well as emergency alerts. Update your contact information at Talgov.com/Update or call 850-891-4968.
- Follow CityofTLH on Social: Connect with the City on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and YouTube by following @CityofTLH.

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

TALGOV.com FX in P@CityofTLH

Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or **Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com**. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.



GAS METER CLEARANCE



Natural gas customers should keep their gas meter accessible and clear of obstructions so that City staff can conduct meter reading, inspection, repair,

testing and exchanging when needed.

Be sure to keep the landscaping near the meter trimmed for accessibility, too.

Know that City gas employees may need access to the meter even if it is enclosed behind a fence.

For more information about the City's award-winning Natural Gas Utility, visit **Talgov.com/YOU** .

BECOME A LIFEGUARD OR SWIM INSTRUCTOR



The City of Tallahassee is looking for great lifeguards. In partnership with the American Red Cross, the Aquatics Division offers lifeguard training classes for those interested in protecting the safety of swimmers. Swimming instructors are needed, too. For details, visit **Talgov.com/Aquatics** or call 850-891-4903.

MEETINGS IN MARCH

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 X (formerly Twitter) for City news.