

## Good Neighbor Program Helps Those in Need

### Utility Bill Assistance for Eligible Customers

Your Own Utilities continues to help low-income and disabled residents with utility bill payments and home energy efficiency improvements. Through the Good Neighbor Program, qualified customers can receive assistance during the peak heating and cooling months when the need is greatest. Those eligible are:

- Low-income senior citizens age 65 and older
- Low-income families with children under the age of five
- Disabled persons living independently

Funds allocated for the program go toward immediate utility bill assistance and for weatherization and other efficiency measures. For bill assistance, the program covers 25 percent of the electric portion of participating customers' utility bills. Additional funds go to upgrading home insulation, repairing heating and cooling systems and providing other energy-saving items, up to \$500 each.

City of Tallahassee utility customers interested in the program should contact the Capital Area Community Action Agency at 222-2043 for applications and further information. Program details are also available online at [Talgov.com/YOU](http://Talgov.com/YOU).

## For Current City News, Get Social!

There are more ways than ever to interact with your local government online. Have a question about adopting a new pet? Tweet the Animal Service Center via @COTAnimals. Want tips on living a more sustainable and environmentally friendly life? Check out Facebook.com/GoGreenTallahassee. Looking for career info? The City is on LinkedIn. Need to know the latest City news? Not a problem. You can like the City of Tallahassee on Facebook and follow @COTNews on Twitter and Instagram. We'll keep you up-to-date on big City events, City Commission initiatives and more.

Whatever your preferred social media outlet, there's a good chance the City is on it, too. For a full list of the sites and pages that help you stay in-the-know about City services on social media, please visit [Talgov.com/communications](http://Talgov.com/communications).



## Cash for Trash Back for Spring Cleaning!

### Program Returns April 16



If you're serious about your spring cleaning activities, the City has a program for you. In addition to letting you turn in items that are too large for your garbage container, it also provides City utility customers with savings on your utility bill!

The City's twice-yearly Cash for Trash event returns Saturday, April 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. City residential utility customers who participate in Cash for Trash will receive a \$5 credit toward their City utility bill.

Items customers may bring include furniture, appliances, large toys and automobile tires (limit of two per customer; no commercial tires or customers). Residents may also bring household hazardous waste items and electronic items (including all computer parts) to Cash for Trash for disposal or to be recycled.

The event takes place at the City's Solid Waste Services facility, 2727 Municipal Way (off W. Pensacola St. near the Messer Field softball complex). Visit [Talgov.com/YOU](http://Talgov.com/YOU) for more information.

For more information on your City government,

TALGOV.COM



For all City of Tallahassee utility-related inquiries, including account issues or to report outages, please call Your Own Utilities at 891-4YOU (4968) or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).



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 850-891-8533 or visit the City's website at [Talgov.com](http://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.



MARCH 2016

# INSIGHT

## Music Blossoms in Capital City Amphitheater



Enjoy the natural beauty of Cascades Park by attending the Spring Concert Series.

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## It's Rain Garden Season!

Almost every home owner has occasionally been stumped about what to do with excess water washing across the yard during and after a rainstorm. Sometimes the water puddles in an inconvenient place beside the walkway or rushes off so fast that it carries the soil away with it. The moment has arrived to consider replacing some of that lawn with a rain garden.

A rain garden is a landscaped area designed to capture and hold excess water for a short period, allowing it to soak into the soil. The garden is planted with vegetation that prefers a slightly wetter environment but can tolerate dry times, too. Native plants make excellent choices for a rain garden because they are used to the wet and dry cycles on the locale. Rain gardens are easy to maintain, and most rain garden plants attract birds and other wildlife.

Each year, the City of Tallahassee TAPP program offers financial and technical assistance to encourage residents who want rain gardens. City utility customers who own their residence may apply for a grant worth up to \$175 to be used on plants, mulch or compost for the composition of a rain garden. TAPP will be holding workshops in early spring to demonstrate the process of building a rain garden and answer any questions people may have. TAPP will also connect grant recipients with knowledgeable gardeners and landscape professionals for assistance with design and planting. The Rain Garden Grant application is available on the website. For more information, visit [www.TAPPwater.org](http://www.TAPPwater.org) or call (850)891-8754.



# Music Blossoms in Capital City Amphitheater

## Enjoy Spring Concert Series

Thanks to a landscape highlighted with dogwoods, azaleas and camellias, springtime in Tallahassee is one of the most colorful times of the year. Enjoy the natural beauty of Cascades Park by attending one or all of the shows in the recently announced Spring Concert Series.

The concert series kicked off on February 27 with American rock-jam band O.A.R. and continues in April with Dawes (April 8), Jason Isbell (April 9) and Boz Scaggs (April 22). Ticket options include reserved seating or general admission. Prices vary by show.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.CapitalCityAmphitheater.com](http://www.CapitalCityAmphitheater.com).

Designed as the centerpiece of Cascades Park and taking advantage of the city's idyllic weather, the Capital City Amphitheater is a spectacular, 3,500-seat, outdoor venue perfect for an array of performances.



## Welcome Spring by Going Green

As spring comes to the Big Bend, the City of Tallahassee wants to help you welcome the green! Here are some green-living tips to help spring you into a healthier, more sustainable lifestyle:

- Make your own all natural cleaners. Vinegar is a great base for making natural, effective cleaners. A simple search online will pull up a variety of recipes for cleaning concoctions.
- Tackle dirty surfaces with microfiber or cotton cloths instead of paper towels.
- Fire your clothes dryer and hang damp clothes on a drying rack.

To learn more, visit [Talgov.com/EPER](http://Talgov.com/EPER) and join the City, Leon County and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at the Healthy Communities Festival on April 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cascades Park! You can also stay up-to-date by liking Go Green Tallahassee on Facebook.

## APRIL CALENDAR

- 12** Joint City/County Comp Plan Transmittal Public Hearing at 6 pm at the Leon County Courthouse, 301 South Monroe Street
- 13** City Commission workshop at 1 pm
- 13** City Commission meeting at 4 pm
- 18** Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency workshop at 9 am
- 27** City Commission meeting at 4 pm
- 28** Community Redevelopment Agency Board meeting at 9:30 am

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 and CenturyLink channel 13). The meetings are rebroadcast the following Thursday at 12:30 pm and 7:30 pm and the following Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 pm. City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Follow City news on Twitter @COTNews.