



# THE GREENBELT BULLETIN

## FY 2012 BUDGET SUMMARY

The Greenbelt City Council approved the budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) on June 6th. A proposed budget was presented on March 28, 2011. Over the subsequent two months, the Council reviewed the budget at ten work sessions and held two public hearings.

The adopted budget of \$25,472,200 is \$603,300 or 2.4% higher than the FY 2011 budget. The budget continues to reflect the difficult economic times, though there are signs the economy is improving: property tax receipts appear to have stabilized, income and hotel/motel tax receipts are increasing, and the State restored a portion of Highway User Revenue (gas tax).

In adopting the FY 2012 budget, the City Council noted that the budget funds core city services and avoids the use of layoffs or furloughs for classified city employees, though one vacant position in the Public Works department will be eliminated. In the past three years, over six positions have been eliminated.

The Council supported the refinancing of the city's existing debt which will save the City over \$400,000 per year for the next six years, though the term of the debt will be extended. The Council increased the contribution to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, provided funds for an organizational efficiency study, restored the full contribution to Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATE), and provided a 1% pay bonus to employees instead of the proposed 2% pay increase. The Council also directed that an additional \$232,100 be set aside to reduce the city's debt in the future.

While the FY 2012 budget reflects tough economic times, the next two fiscal years (FY 2013 and 2014) could be even more trying. Over 60% of the city's revenue comes from property taxes. The drop in the real estate market over the past few years means that real property taxes will likely be

flat for the next few years. This situation will severely limit any growth in city revenues or expenditures.

On the other hand, throughout this budget process and in past budgets, the Council and staff have taken steps to ensure the City can provide excellent city services and has appropriate reserves to handle any unanticipated problems or downturns. A copy of the adopted budget can be viewed on the city's website, Greenbelt CityLink, [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).

### FY 2012 BUDGET REVENUES



Property Taxes	Other Taxes	Service Charges	Lic. & Permits	Other Agen.	Fines	Misc. & Transfers
67.1¢	12.3¢	8.0¢	5.1¢	3.6¢	2.7¢	1.2¢

### FY 2012 BUDGET EXPENDITURES



General Govt.	Planning & C.D.	Public Safety	Public Works	Gbelt CARES	Recreation & Parks	Misc. & NonDept	Fund Transfers
10.4¢	4.2¢	39.7¢	11.6¢	3.4¢	19.4¢	6.6¢	4.7¢

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2011



### NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available in the City Clerk's office, 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 22, from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 22, THROUGH MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011.**

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000, or e-mail [cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov).

## GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL TASK FORCE INTERIM REPORT



After many meetings, visits, conference calls, three public hearings, and other information gathering, the Middle School Task Force made the following recommendations in its Interim Report to the City Council:

1. Work with the Board of Education and the County Council to purchase (for "a minimal fee") part of the Greenbelt Middle School after its renovation. The rest of the building should be demolished.
2. Use the renovated part as a comprehensive community center managed by the City.
3. Provide a wide range of needed community services, including a neighborhood center, in partnership with a variety of private and public agencies.

The City may have a one-time opportunity to acquire a renovated portion of the Greenbelt Middle School. In return, the City would have the opportunity to offer expanded services to Greenbelt residents (especially those in Greenbelt West) and to maintain the renovated historic Greenbelt High School and other historic parts of the school.

The City Council held its first worksession on the report on July 13.

The entire Interim Report is on the city web site at [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/boards\\_committees/MSTF\\_Reports/index.html](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/boards_committees/MSTF_Reports/index.html).

## RECREATION BROCHURE

**The Greenbelt Recreation Fall Brochure will be posted on line by mid-August. Please be sure to download the Recreation Brochure at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).**

**Registration for Fall classes begins on Monday, August 8th, for Greenbelt residents! Registration for non-residents begins on August 29th.**

## GREENBELT LABOR DAY FESTIVAL

**September 2nd-September 5th.  
Visit <http://greenbeltlaborday.com>  
for a complete schedule of events.**

## VOTER REGISTRATION

Greenbelt residents are reminded that to participate in the 2011 City Council election—whether as a voter, a candidate for City Council, or a signer of a petition for a candidate—you must be registered to vote in Prince George's County.

To register to vote in Prince George's County, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America
- Be at least 18 years of age as of November 8, 2011
- Be domiciled within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt as of the date of registration
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability
- Not have been convicted of buying or selling votes
- Not have been convicted of a felony or, if you have, you have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation for the conviction.

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, call 301-430-8020. Voter registration forms may be downloaded from the City website, [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov), or picked up at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, or the Library at 11 Crescent Road. All forms must be received by the County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 10.

If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete a Voter Registration Application to have this information changed.

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or [cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov).



The 75th Anniversary Committee, appointed by City Council, has been hard at work planning events, programs, and activities for the year long celebration to take place in 2012. The committee's goals are not only to commemorate the past but also to celebrate the city's current diversity and to look towards the future. Events will take place throughout

greater Greenbelt. The committee is seeking volunteers to serve on any of the nine subcommittees which have formed.

The subcommittees include: advertising and public relations, museum activities, fundraising and sponsorship, finance, art exhibitions, events planning and coordination, symposium, gala dinner dance, and product merchandise.

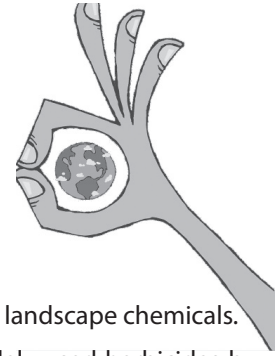
If you are interested in helping or for more information, call Megan Searing Young, staff liaison to the 75th Anniversary Committee at 301-507-6582, by email at [museum@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:museum@greenbeltmd.gov), or Committee Chair Dave Mills at 301-504-1200 or email [greenbelt75@gmail.com](mailto:greenbelt75@gmail.com).

**ACTIVE AGING WEEK** is Sept. 25 through Oct. 1. Look for lots of free intergenerational programs during this week. The programs are designed to keep individuals of all ages active and healthy. For more information, call 240-542-2054.



# GREEN STEPS

Stepping Together Towards a Sustainable Society



## CITY OF GREENBELT QUARTERLY PESTICIDE REPORT

The City will launch a pesticide and fertilizer study via Survey Monkey later this summer. The survey will include questions seeking information about why citizens do or don't use cosmetic landscape chemicals.

We have conducted an informal information search on Glyphosate which is one of the most widely used herbicides by commercial and private applicators on both terrestrial and aquatic weeds (USDA, 2009). This chemical has a high rate of use by consumers, commercial landscapers, and commercial nurseries (Huber, 2010). Research indicates that this chemical and the surfactants added to enhance its efficacy have had negative effects on plants. In his 2010 study, Don Huber of Purdue University writes, "The widespread use of glyphosate that we see today in agriculture in the United States can significantly increase the severity of various plant diseases... Ignoring potential non-target detrimental side effects of any chemical, especially ones used as heavily as glyphosate, may have dire consequences for agriculture, such as rendering soils infertile, crops non-productive, and plants less nutritious. To do otherwise might well compromise not only agricultural sustainability, but also the health and well-being of animals and humans" (Huber, 2010).

Results of the survey will be reported in a future newsletter.

## GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS



**FREE BABYSITTING COURSE:** Wednesday, August 17, 2011, from 10:00am – 1:00pm in the Municipal Building. Students will learn about the rights and responsibilities of watching children.

**FALL GED COURSE:**

Registration for the Fall Session GED course will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, from 10:30am – 12:30pm. Students will be placed in either GED I or GED II. GED I is held from 10:30 – 12:30. GED II is held from 1:00 – 3:00pm. The first actual class will be held on Thursday, September 15. Course is free to Greenbelt residents. A textbook (\$35) and calculator (\$10) are required.

**Call 301-345-6660 to enroll or learn more about these programs.**

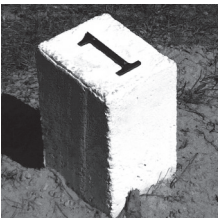
**ANGER MANAGEMENT TRAINING: THE DRAMA CLUB**

**(Dispute Resolution And Managing Anger):** Beginning Monday, September 19th, for nine weeks (no class Oct 31st) from 7:00pm – 8:15pm at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. \$25 fee for workbook; Adult Group, Ages 18 & up.

**\*CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP:** A support group for caregivers of older adults with major physical or mental impairments that require a significant amount of care. Held the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 6:15pm – 7:45pm at the Municipal Building, Council Room, 2nd Floor, 25 Crescent Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

**\*DISCUSSIONS WITH JULIA:** A discussion group for Greenbelt adults suffering from significant health or mental health concerns that cause major changes in their lives. Held the 4th Tuesday of the month from 3:00 – 4:00pm at Green Ridge House, Community Room, 22 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770.

\*You must call Julia Frank at 301-345-6660 to sign up in advance for these programs.



## Buddy Attick Park/Greenbelt Lake Path Emergency Mile Markers

If you have walked, jogged, biked, etc. around the Greenbelt Lake Path recently, you may have noticed new mile markers placed periodically around the path. These new mile markers are the result of a new Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) program, designed to improve emergency response times and safety at Buddy Attick Park.

The Emergency Mile Marker program provides reference points to users of the Lake Path, allowing them to provide information to emergency personnel that will direct them to the emergency situation.

The Mile Markers are easily recognizable as small, white, concrete blocks with a number 1 - 10 on top. Each marker's GPS coordinates have been determined by the Greenbelt Police Department and entered into their computer aided dispatch system. As part of the program, informational signage pertaining to the Mile Markers will be posted at the Lake Path entrances soon.

In the event of an emergency while at the Attic Park, persons should contact 911 for all medical and fire emergencies, and contact 301-474-5454 for any police emergency

# Postal Customer

CITY OF GREENBELT, DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION  
25 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD 20770  
COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE: 301.397.2208



## NATIONALS BALL GAME TRIP

JOIN US AS WE WATCH THE NATIONALS TAKE ON THE PHILLIES!

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 20th

4:30pm - 11:00pm  
Residents: \$40 Non-Residents: \$50  
(Ages 60 and older get a \$5.00 discount)  
Ages 13+ (Children 12 & Under must be accompanied by an adult)

Travel to Nationals Stadium via bus and have a great time cheering on Washington's finest! Cost includes ticket and bus. This is an INTERGENERATIONAL trip, so parents, children, and older adults are all encouraged to participate!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CALL 301.397.2208**

## GREENBELT ADULT SPORTS PROGRAM (GASP)

The Greenbelt Recreation Department is excited to reintroduce the Greenbelt Adult Sports Program (GASP). For a nominal fee, local adults will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-ed team sports throughout the year. GASP is designed for those seeking exercise and fun in a non-competitive atmosphere. Make the decision now to become more active, meet some new people, and have fun along the way. GASP welcomes all skill levels!

**When:** Year-Round (meeting times vary)

**Where:** Greenbelt Fields & Gymnasiums

**Ages:** 18 & over

**Fee:** Resident - \$20; Non-Resident - \$30  
(one-year memberships)

If interested, please contact Andrew Phelan, Sports & Recreation Coordinator, at 240-542-2194 or [aphelan@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltnmd.gov). An e-mail list will be compiled and information will be sent out via e-mail as the program develops.

## A GET ACTIVE GREENBELT PROGRAM!

### Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center 20th Anniversary

Help celebrate the GAFC 20th anniversary!  
Saturday, September 24th

**Free Drop-in Aquacize Class  
Stroke and Turn class  
Family Fun Swim  
And more....**

Enjoy 1991 daily admission prices from  
September 24th through 28th.  
Visit [www.greenbeltnmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov) for more information.

## CITY PHONE NUMBERS

City Offices .....	301-474-8000
Planning & Comm. Development .....	301-345-5417
Animal Control .....	301-474-6124
Public Works.....	301-474-8004
Recycling .....	301-474-8308
Greenbelt Connection .....	301-474-4100
Greenbelt CARES .....	301-345-6660
Police Non-Emergency .....	301-474-7200
Police Emergency .....	301-474-5454
Recreation Dept.....	301-397-2200
Rec. Weather Line .....	301-474-0646
Community Center.....	301-397-2208
Aquatic & Fitness Center....	301-397-2204
Springhill Lake Recreation Center.....	301-397-2212