



# THE GREENBELT BULLETIN

## PREPARING FOR SNOW

The City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works prides itself on quick and thorough snow removal. You can help by being prepared for weather events and cooperating with your neighbors in the snow removal process. Here are some helpful hints.

Have your snow supplies ready in advance. This includes snow shovels and salt. Food supplies, flashlights, a battery powered radio, cell phone or hard wired phone, and spare batteries are very helpful—especially in the case of a power outage.

If you don't have a driveway, coordinate with your neighbors and park as close to the even numbered side of the street until the odd numbered side of the street has been plowed. Vehicles should then be relocated so the other side of the street can be plowed.

It is each homeowner's responsibility

to clear snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of their house. This is for the safety of pedestrians.

Also, you must make sure to clear a path to your refuse and recycling area so that city collectors can provide service to your home. During significant snow/ice storms, and the days immediately following, containers must be placed at the curb (single family homes) or adjacent to a cleared parking lot (GHI Homes).

During snow emergencies, the City of Greenbelt makes every effort to keep city facilities opened. If closing does become necessary, please make sure to check the weather line at 301-474-0646, Greenbelt CityLink at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov), Comcast Channel 71 or Verizon 21, or your local news stations.

For additional information, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-474-8004 or City offices at 301-474-8000.



### GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

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Permit #1830  
Pre-Sorted Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

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25 Crescent Road  
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### NEWSLETTER INPUT

We want your story ideas! Please let us know if there are any topics that you would like to see covered in the Greenbelt Bulletin. You can email [bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov) or call the City Office at 301-474-8000.

## VISIONING UPDATE

In January and February of this year, the City Council sponsored three visioning sessions for Greenbelt citizens to offer ideas and suggestions to make Greenbelt the best community it can be. Sessions were held at Springhill Lake Elementary, Eleanor Roosevelt High School, and the Greenbelt Municipal Building.

Over 500 ideas and suggestions were made at these sessions which were attended by approximately 100 residents. During the summer, city staff reviewed the ideas and suggestions and produced two reports for Council's consideration. The first report listed about 150 of the ideas as items that could be worked on immediately. Examples include updates to the city website, recycling



suggestions, and traffic signage. These items have been separately listed and will be addressed between now and June 30, 2009. A report on the actions taken will also be produced.

The remaining 350 ideas and suggestions have been organized into "themes" which will be reviewed by Council. It is anticipated this work will result in a plan that will guide the city's work plan for the next five or so years. The first Council work session was held on October 22. Future meetings will be listed on the city's website and cable channels and published in the *Greenbelt News Review*.

Both reports are listed on the City's website, [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).

## GREENBELT ACTION CENTER

### Ask a Question, Find Answers, Make a Request, Track Progress

The City of Greenbelt has launched a new feature to its Greenbelt CityLink website ([www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)) that enhances the city's ability to communicate with its citizens. This new feature is called the Greenbelt Action Center. The Greenbelt Action Center allows citizens to search Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about city services, submit their own questions, and request services from city departments. Once requests have been submitted, citizens will be able to track their progress until they are resolved.

Public Works is the first City department to have its FAQs posted on the website. The Greenbelt Action Center tool will grow as additional departments are included and their FAQs are added.

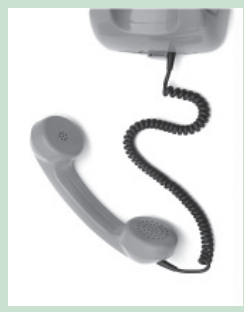
The Greenbelt Action Center can be reached at anytime from a link on the main page of the City's website at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>. For additional questions or comments, contact Dale Worley at 240-542-2021.



### City of Greenbelt

#### Phone Numbers

- City Offices.....301-474-8000
- Planning & Comm. Development .....301-345-5417
- Public Works.....301-474-8004
- Police Non-Emergency .....301-474-7200
- Police Emergency.....301-474-5454
- Greenbelt CARES.....301-345-6660
- 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





## NEW EXPANDED RECYCLING PROGRAM

The City of Greenbelt is now using a state of the art recycling facility, Waste Management Recycle America, to process all of its curbside recycling materials. The use of this facility greatly increases the materials that you may recycle and also makes it much easier! This applies to all City of Greenbelt recycling customers.

Even if you are not a City of Greenbelt recycling customer, it is likely that your recycling provider is also using this facility. So you, too, may be able to recycle the below listed items. Check with your provider.

**ALL OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS CAN NOW BE PLACED IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN!** Please make sure to rinse all containers and remove food and drink residue.

### NON-FIBER MATERIALS:

- Aluminum Food and Beverage containers AND NOW ALSO: Aluminum Foil and Aluminum Pie Pans
- Ferrous and Bimetal Food and Beverage Containers
- All Narrow Neck Plastic Containers that carry plastic resin codes #1 thru #7 EXCEPT

### MOTOR OIL CONTAINERS.

Lids are also accepted!

- Wide-Mouth Plastic Containers that carry plastic resin codes #1 thru #7 such as containers of: peanut butter, yogurt, margarine/butter tubs, cottage cheese, sour cream, whipped topping, mayonnaise, and prescription bottles. Lids are also accepted!
  - Aerosol Cans: Empty please!
  - Rigid Plastics: includes plastic milk/soda crates, plastic buckets with metal handles, plastic coolers, plastic flower pots, plastic drinking cups/glasses, plastic 5-gallon water bottles, plastic toys, and empty plastic garbage/recycling bin.
- NOTE:** If an item that you wish to recycle does not fit in your recycling bin, please place it next to your bin and CLEARLY LABEL the item "For Recycling"
- Bagged Plastic Film: grocery bags, dry cleaning bags, stretch film, or shrink wrap. Place all these materials inside one of the plastic bags. Please do not place these materials loose in your bin. (Grocery stores will also continue to take grocery bags.)
  - Glass Containers such as jars and bottles

### FIBER MATERIALS:

- Glossy Cardboard and Paperboard Boxes such as: frozen food containers and cereal boxes without the liners
- Junk Mail
- Newspapers (with inserts)
- Magazines and catalogs
- Kraft Paper: brown bags (even if slightly soiled ie. grease stains) and non-metallic wrapping paper
- Aseptic/Gable-Top Milk and Juice Cartons. Commonly known as the "drink box" and half-gallon milk and juice containers
- Books: Including telephone, paperbacks, textbooks, and hardbacks

### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING AND TELEVISIONS:

Televisions which are 32 inches or smaller can be recycled at the City's quarterly Electronics Recycling Day. The next one is on Saturday, January 31st from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at the Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road. For more information visit [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/public\\_works](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/public_works) or call 301-474-8308

## ARE YOU READY FOR DIGITAL TELEVISION?

On February 17, 2009, all full-power broadcast television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital. Digital broadcasting will allow stations to offer improved picture and sound quality and additional channels.

The DTV conversion also will free up parts of the scarce and valuable broadcast spectrum. Those portions of the spectrum can then be used for other important services, such as public safety services (police and fire departments, emergency rescue), and advanced wireless services.

Consumers who rely on antennas (including outside antennas and "rabbit ears") to receive over-the-air broadcast signals on TV sets having only analog tuners will need to obtain separate digital-to-analog set-top converter boxes to watch over-the-air TV. These boxes receive digital signals and convert them into analog format for display on analog TVs. Analog sets connected to such converter boxes will display digital broadcasts, but not necessarily in the full, original digital quality.

### Converter Box Coupon Program

Between Jan. 1, 2008, and March 31, 2009, all U.S. households will

**Analog TVs will need additional equipment to receive over-the-air**

### Options for Analog Television Owner

Option	Details	Action Required
Purchase government approved converter box(es)	Government coupons and converter information is available at <a href="http://www.dtv2009.gov">www.dtv2009.gov</a>	Apply for coupons: <a href="http://www.dtv2009.gov">www.dtv2009.gov</a> Go to retailer and purchase the converter(s) Connect the converters to your TV(s) Still need a connection to an antenna
Purchase a new TV(s) with a digital tuner	Digital tuner TVs do not require a converter Does not have to be an HDTV For more information visit <a href="http://www.dtv.gov/shop/de.html">www.dtv.gov/shop/de.html</a>	Determine which TV is right for you Make sure the TV has a digital tuner Connect TV to an antenna Make sure all of your TV's are ready
Subscribe to a pay TV service	Greenbelt residents may choose between Comcast, Verizon, or Satellite TV	Contact provider and make sure to study the packages that are being offered Do not over buy. The most basic package will allow you to get digital television.

be eligible to request up to two coupons, worth \$40 each, to be used toward the purchase of up to two, digital-to-analog converter boxes. For more information on the conversion and the coupon program, visit [www.DTV2009.gov](http://www.DTV2009.gov).

### Cable and Satellite TV

Comcast Cable, Verizon FIOS, and Satellite TV subscribers should already be prepared for the DTV conversion. If you have any questions, please ask your pay tv provider.

## LEAF VACUUM COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The City Public Works Department will collect loose leaves from the following areas with the leaf vacuum from November 3, 2008 until January 16, 2009. We remind residents to rake the leaves to the curb, but not into the street, and to remove all sticks and stones from the pile as these can damage the machinery. Areas to be collected will be posted as in past years. We also remind residents not to park in front of leaf piles

November 3 - 7	Lakeside	December 15 - 19	Woodland Hills
November 10 - 14	Boxwood	December 22 - 26	Greenbrook Village & Estates
November 17 - 21	Woodland Hills, Windsor Green	December 29 - January 2	Lakewood, Greenspring I & II
November 24 - 28	Greenbrook Village & Estates	January 5 - 9	Lakeside, Windsor Green
December 1 - 5	Lakewood	January 12 - 16	All areas
December 8 - 12	Lakeside, Greenspring I & II		All areas
December 15 - 19	Boxwood		

**There will be no collection on the following holidays: November 11, November 27-28, December 25, & January 1.**

**In the GHI Neighborhood:** Leaves must be bagged in paper bags. Do not overstuff—bags should be able to close. Ten free bags are supplied to GHI owners and may be picked up at the GHI Maintenance facility. Bags are also available at the City finance office at 25 Crescent Road, and at local grocery and hardware stores. Bags will be collected on yard waste days. Please call 301-474-8004 to schedule a pick-up.

## ACCESSIBLE GREENBELT PROGRAM

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program is pleased to announce a new initiative to enable seniors and disabled adults to remain in their homes as long as possible. Called the Accessible Greenbelt Program, the city has been awarded \$40,000 in grant money to help qualified Greenbelt residents acquire home accessibility items or have modifications made to their homes. Allowable items include but aren't limited to motorized stair lifts, grab rails, and portable ramps. The program is open to residents 62 and over or disabled residents. Participants must meet income qualifications (maximum income for an individual to \$43,050 and for couples \$49,200.) More information and applications are on the city's website at [www.greenbeltdmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov) or can be obtained by calling the GAIL program at 301-345-6660.

