

Rock Hill

SOUTH CAROLINA

Rock Hill Police Department Open House September 13th

The Rock Hill Police Department will host its annual Open House on Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Law Center located at 120 E. Black Street (next to City Hall). The event will include information about employment opportunities, department tours, a variety of displays and representatives from the South Carolina Army National Guard. Free hot dogs, snacks and drinks will be served from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm.

The police department hosts this event to educate the community about the wide range of duties and career opportunities that exist within the department, and to demonstrate the high-tech tools and techniques used to protect the citizens of Rock Hill. Participants will have the opportunity to tour the police station, explore the Mobile Operations Center and chat with RHPD officers and staff.

Be sure to visit the Law Center on September 13 for an exciting, in-depth look at the programs, tools and especially the people that make up the RHPD. For more information about the Open House or to learn more about a career in law enforcement, contact Officer Tim Marquez at [803/329-7225](tel:803/329-7225) or by email at rhpdjobs@ci.rock-hill.sc.us.



Important Numbers

for 24-Hour Automated Service

803/329-5500 Outage Reporting,
Billing Inquiries and
Bill Payment

Other Important Numbers

803/325-2500 Customer Service
Requests

803/329-5610 City-Maintained
Road Pothole Reporting

803/327-6186 State-Maintained
Road Pothole Reporting

Utility bills can be paid online at
www.cityofrockhill.com

City Council Contacts



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**Mayor Pro-Tem
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INSIDE ROCK HILL Civics Class to Begin September 11th

The next session of Inside Rock Hill, a free 10-week civics course offered to City of Rock Hill residents, will begin on September 11, 2008, meeting Thursday evenings for 10 weeks from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Contact the Neighborhood Empowerment Office at 803/325-2527 to register for this free course. The first 25 individuals that register will be accepted into the class.

Inside Rock Hill gives participants an opportunity to learn about the multi-faceted services of the City. Instructors include the Mayor, City Council, City Manager and City Department heads. Topics cover where your tax dollars go, the court systems, city services and much more. Five field trips are included in the course. Inside Rock Hill graduate Ann Skar said, "I thought being a Rock Hill native, I knew a lot about our city. I was very surprised and pleased at the new knowledge I gained from the class. Each class was very informative and kept your attention. Well worth the time invested!"

Citizens will benefit from meeting the many City leaders and staff who manage the day-to-day operations of the various departments, including City Management, Public Works, Utilities, Police, Fire and Economic Development. Ray Koterba, the City's Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services, says that each person who participates in this course gains a detailed understanding of how local government works.

"This is an interesting course and an excellent resource for our citizens to become better informed about the projects, programs and services provided by the City of Rock Hill," said Koterba. "The more they understand, the better they'll be able to access services necessary to maintain and improve their quality of life."

Save The Date!

What: Operations Center Open House

When: Saturday, October 4, 2008; 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Where: City of Rock Hill Operations Center, 349 Columbia Avenue

In recognition of 2008 American Public Power Week, the City of Rock Hill Utilities Department will host the **Operations Center Open House** to give citizens and customers the opportunity to learn more about the diversified services provided by the City. Educational exhibits will be featured focusing on energy and water conservation, recycling, electric and fire safety, storm water management, water quality, police services, emergency preparedness and several other City programs.

The facility's more than 250 employees manage the everyday operations of the City's electric distribution, water and sanitary sewer systems, traffic lights, storm water programs, street maintenance, solid waste and sanitation services and more.



City to Implement Conservation Water Rate September 1

Effective September 1, 2008, City of Rock Hill Utilities will implement a tiered residential water rate structure based on use.

“Most citizens will not notice a difference in their rates,” said Nick Stegall, Public Services Administrator. “Only those who make heavy use of irrigation will see their rates rise, and that will only be by about \$5 per month.”

City Manager Carey Smith stated, “The rationale behind the Conservation Water Rate is not to increase revenue to the City, but to help make citizens aware of just how much water they’re using.”

The Catawba/Wateree River basin, which includes Rock Hill, is in a Stage 3 drought, and conservation methods are a focus basin-wide, according to the Catawba-Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group (DMAG).

While Rock Hill citizens have been very cooperative in cutting back on usage, the Conservation Water Rate will make heavy water users aware of their usage in the hopes they will cut back.

An important point to remember is that water conservation is not just for drought! Americans have access to an abundance of water much of the time, and we’re accustomed to having water available at the twist of a faucet.

U.S. citizens use approximately 205 billion gallons of water a day for household, industrial, and agricultural uses. Unlike the dry western areas of the country, in this area we often overlook the importance of conserving water. As our population continues to grow, demands on our precious water resources increase. In order to ensure adequate water resources for our future needs, we must put conservation measures into effect now.

Practicing water conservation on a regular basis can prevent or postpone the building of new water supply infrastructure. When utilities are able to reduce demand, they can frequently extend the life of existing infrastructure, saving citizens the cost of building or renovating. Conservation can also reduce the amount of water that needs to be processed by wastewater treatment plants, again preserving infrastructure and also reducing the amount of waste discharged to streams and rivers. Finally, sound water use practices can make us more resilient during times of drought, and preserving our most precious resource—water.

Using less water helps us to become more flexible during times when there is a water shortage. Conserving water is simple and inexpensive!



Due to below average rainfall and extremely dry conditions, Rock Hill and its wholesale water customers remain under mandatory water restrictions. During these severe drought conditions, the City of Rock Hill and its wholesale customers urge public water consumers to help maintain the health, sanitation and safety of our communities by adhering to the mandatory water restrictions that are in effect. Please tune to City Channel 19, visit the city's website at www.cityofrockhill.com or call the city's water hotline at **803/326-2450** for current drought status information.