

Message from the Mayor #32 12-11-2008

Good News! In the month of November we sent 5 less loads of garbage out of Trenton than we sent the month before. Our garbage bill has gone down about \$8,000 since August of this year. Why has all of this happened? It is called recycling and if everybody in Trenton would participate, it would be scary how much money we would save. I know that many of you are recycling and the city thanks you, but more of your neighbors need to start.

Here is the most frequent question I get from those getting started, "What do I have to do?"

Well please allow me tell you how to get started. First, you can recycle all your paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and #1-7 plastics (check the bottom and see what number is inside the little triangle). These plastics will include milk and juice jugs, water bottles, peanut butter jars, PVC pipe, and many, many other types of plastics. The only thing we ask is you rinse the plastic containers out.

Next, you are wondering how to dispose of these? You have two choices. You can put all the items in separate bags (ex. 1 bag of aluminum cans, 1 bag paper, 1 bag plastic bottles, etc...) and bring them to City Hall or Trenton Light and Water and dispose of them in the big red dumpsters. Yes, I know it says CARDBOARD ONLY, but you can put all of your recyclables in them. Or, if you would rather, put them in separate bags, mark on them RECYCLABLE MATERIALS and set them out on the curb on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. It is better if you set them out on a day other than when your regular garbage is picked up. Our street truck drivers will pick up your recyclables and put them in the dumpsters. See how easy it is? You can be "green" and help the city save money all at the same time. Thank you in advance for your help.

In a few weeks you will be seeing a new style of police car on our streets. Instead of the usual white cars, you will see a few new black and whites patrolling the city. We are in the process of getting them ready right now, but before long they will be out there keeping our streets safe and deterring crime in Trenton. It is our intention to eventually change all our cars to black and whites. It will take a while to accomplish because we will have to paint them a few at a time. And by the way, it won't cost the city any more than we already have in each patrol car.

Don't forget the city stew coming up on the 18th. It has all the ingredients of a good time; fun, fellowship and it is free. We will be serving from 11a.m. till 1p.m. in the bay of the fire station. Bring a big appetite. If you want, you can stay for a called City Council Meeting at 1:00. See you there.

Speaking of City Council Meetings, if you have been following the papers, you might have noticed that the meeting time for our regular meetings has changed from 6:30 back to 5:30. The meetings used to be at 5:30 and after checking our attendance records, we realized that the same people who were coming to the 6:30 meetings were also at the 5:30 meetings so the Council voted to meet an hour earlier. There is no law that states what time you must meet and many towns around us meet at noon, but we feel that would exclude those who would like to attend. You know you are personally invited to come be a part of city government and we even have a section of our meeting where you can address the Council on any issue you choose. It is difficult to know what you would like us to be doing or problems you have if we don't hear from you. We are here only to serve you. By the way, the minutes to all our Council meetings are on the website; www.trentontn.net if you wish to know what is going on.

We are having a problem on the by-pass with people posting signs on telephone poles. It is unsightly and takes away from the philosophy of what we are trying to accomplish as we clean up Trenton. It is our policy to take any signs attached to a telephone pole down and we will be doing that now on a regular basis. You can post signs on your own property or if you have permission from the property owner but you cannot put them on a telephone pole or streetlight post. By the time you read this, all the signs that are now up will be down. We want you to advertise so please go about it the correct way. Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Would you buy your neighbor a home security system better than the one in your home? Would you blacktop your neighbor's driveway when yours is graveled? Would you give your neighbor enough money to send his or her child to a better school than your child attends? Well every time we leave Trenton to spend our tax dollars in a neighboring town that's basically what we are doing. We are giving the tax money that pays for our children's education and provides city services such as police protection, fire protection, first responders, garbage pickup, street pickup,

paved streets, etc..... away. Does that make sense to you? I know you can't get everything here but you can get more than you think. This is just some food for thought. The newly formed Trenton Merchant's Alliance is working hard to keep you here. Do you understand that when retail business checks the demographics to decide where to put their next store, they see that we go to Humboldt, Milan and Jackson to shop? Where do you think they are going to build their stores? Let's keep our tax money as much as possible here at home. SHOP TRENTON FIRST!!!!

My wife Kathi and I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. I hope you get to spend time with those you love and I hope that you get everything you want from Santa Claus. I sincerely hope that you take some time to reflect on the real reason we celebrate this season. If ever there was a time we needed to place our faith in the Lord, it's now. He's always faithful. If it's in your nature, share your good fortune with someone less fortunate. Fortunately, that happens every day in Trenton and even though Trenton isn't perfect, we're working on it. Till next time, God Bless Trenton.