January 2013

NEWS AND EVENTS

January is National Radon Action Month

Governor Deal proclaims National Radon Action Month in Georgia and congratulates Georgia’s contest winners.

January is National Radon Action Month and Governor Deal urges ALL Georgians to test their homes. Radon is a naturally-occurring gas that can build up to a dangerous level in any structure. To order a $10 radon test kit, click HERE.

The US EPA sponsored a national poster contest to promote greater radon awareness among school-age kids. This year Georgia had three winners: first place winner Grace Halley from Gwinnett County; and second and third place winners Alyssa Erwin and Clara Erwin from Walton County. Congratulations to these students!

Tuesday, January 22 the Department will host a radon awareness workshop at our offices: 60 Executive Park Drive, Atlanta. The workshop is free but does require pre-registration. For more information, please contact adriane.wood@dca.ga.gov.

Newest Great Promise Partnership in Monroe
Thanks to Water Well Trust, the Department's CDBG fund, and the dedication of the Jones County Board of Commissioners, a small community near Gray now has access to clean water, when for the last ten years they've bought bottled water for cooking and drinking in their homes. When it doesn't make financial sense for a local government to extend water lines (as was the case in Jones County), the Water Well Trust may be able to help.

The Water Well Trust is a national non-profit organization that provides a clean water supply to American families in rural, unincorporated areas or minority communities that may be isolated and difficult to reach. It assists low-income families who cannot afford to pay for public water supplies, and those who live in areas where the extension of public water supplies to serve them doesn't make economic sense...for them, for the public water supply owners, or for federal, state or local funding sources.

Our Community and Economic Development Division is proud to have partnered with Jones County and Water Well Trust to find a clean water solution for these families. For more information on Water Well Trust, contact info@waterwelltrust.org or see their website HERE. For more information on CDBG projects, contact Glenn Misner at glenn.misner@dca.ga.gov.

The Great Promise Partnership (GPP) launched its newest GPP Office Workplace site in Monroe! Five students from Monroe Area High School will work with two local businesses. These five students will work Monday through Thursday and will spend Fridays in life skill instruction and tutoring provided by Communities in Schools of Walton County.

Great Promise Partnership is a collaborative among the Department, Georgia 4-H, and Southwire Inc. and is modeled on Southwire's 12 for Life program. GPP works to connect at-risk youth with positive youth development programming and workforce/career training in order to increase Georgia's high school graduation rates and end the cycle of persistent poverty. For more information on the Great Promise Partnership, contact Lori Bodine at lori.bodine@dca.ga.gov.

Office of Construction Codes, Georgia’s Insurance Commissioner, and the Department of Education Partner to Address Carbon Monoxide Concerns

In response to recent carbon monoxide concerns in schools, the Office of Construction Codes, the Georgia Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, and the Georgia Department of Education issued an advisory memo to all Georgia School Superintendents with the following information:

- Contact your local fire department or gas provider to perform a safety inspection and testing for carbon monoxide emissions
- Ensure all fuel-burning boilers have up-to-date testing and certifications
- Ensure all fuel-burning equipment is serviced annually
- Review existing emergency procedures for building evacuation
- Installed carbon monoxide detectors should:
  - Be listed for commercial use and installed by a licensed professional
  - Be placed in rooms with fuel burning equipment and appliances: mechanical/boiler rooms, kitchens, laboratories and laundries
  - Have remote alarms
  - Be interconnected to the fire alarm panel board to indicate "trouble"
  - Automatically signal at the building’s alarm panel

If you have questions contact the Georgia State Fire Marshal at 800-656-2298 or engineering@sfm.ga.gov, the Office of Construction Codes at 404-679-3118 or constructioncodes@dca.ga.gov, or the Facilities Services Unit of the Department of Education at 404-656-2454 or mrowland@doe.k12.ga.us.

UPCOMING DEADLINES, EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES

Disaster Resilient Building Code Workshops

The Office of Construction Codes is conducting training for building officials on the optional disaster resilient construction appendices adopted by the DCA Board in November 2012. The workshops focus on the provisions within the appendices and helping communities determine which options may be best suitable for them. The appendices workshops
Georgia citizens need quick and easy access to affordable housing options and we can help! Whether you are searching by price, number of bedrooms, or even proximity to work, school or transportation, finding a home that meets your needs is easier with GeorgiaHousingSearch.org.

Landlords can register in a five-minute process or work with DCA staff to register large-scale listings. For more information, please contact Ron Pounds at 404-327-6864 or ron.pounds@dca.ga.gov.

GeorgiaHousingSearch.org is the key to linking tenants with landlords. We offer FREE property posting, bilingual assistance, and a toll-free number (877-428-8844) available to those without internet access.

To register, contact:
Dee Leclair, DRBC Project Manager
Phone: 404-327-7909
Email: dee.leclair@dca.ga.gov

- Atlanta/Tucker: January 22, 2013
- N. Fulton/Johns Creek: January 24, 2013
- Macon: February 6, 2013
- Carrollton: February 13, 2013
- Brunswick: March 18, 2013
- Rome: April 3, 2013
- Dublin: April 10, 2013

**Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) Application Workshop: February 14, 2013**

The Department's **Qualified Allocation Plan** is the annual document that outlines how the Office of Housing Finance and Development selects applicants to build affordable housing using the **Housing Tax Credit** and the **HOME** loan programs.

The 2013 Applicant Workshop will be at the Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta from 8:30 until 3:00 PM on February 14, 2013. Register before January 18, 2013 for $100, and after for $125. Click **HERE** for a list of area hotels and a mail-in registration form, or **HERE** to register online. For more information, contact Andria Williams at andria.williams@dca.ga.gov.

**Spring 2013:**
**Georgia Academy for Economic Development**

Registration is underway for the Georgia Academy for Economic Development in Regions 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 11. Facilitators from Georgia Power and Georgia EMC will lead classes through four days of economic development and leadership fundamentals, with modules presented by experts from state agencies and local communities. The Georgia Academy provides an opportunity to learn about the essentials of community and economic development, with careful attention to regional issues. Contact your Team Georgia manager listed below for more details, or Corinne Thornton at corinne.thornton@dca.ga.gov.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

December 2012 Awards

Region Four
- Development Authority of LaGrange
  - $225,000 EDGE Grant
  - Creates 100 jobs
  - $14MM in private investment
  - $45,000 public (Non-DCA) investment
  - Assists in the location of a manufacturing facility

Region Nine
- City of Dublin
  - $500,000 Employment Incentive Program Grant
  - Creates 83 jobs
  - $18MM in private investment
  - $5.9MM in public (Non-DCA) investment
  - Assist with the construction of public sewer system improvements to serve a new 130,000 square foot metal stamping manufacturing facility

Region Twelve
- Liberty County Industrial Authority
  - $250,000 EDGE Grant
  - Creates 100 jobs
  - Retains 200 jobs
  - $80.5MM in private investment
  - Assists in the expansion of a forging facility

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