

## E-Blast January 20, 2009

### Happy New Year from OEP

The Staff of the Office of Environmental Policy would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year. As we start 2009 many of us are thinking of resolutions to improve our lives or help others. This is a great time to consider some environmentally friendly practices that will help you and the planet. For example walking, riding your bike, or taking the bus instead of driving is an easy way to “green your routine” and can help you stay fit. Another suggestion is to try and save energy by embracing energy efficiency in your home or business. This can be something as simple as installing new compact fluorescent light bulbs but could also include a thorough energy audit of your property. CPS Energy offers a wide range of residential and commercial rebates for energy efficiency upgrades and if you add this to the savings from lower energy use these improvements can quickly pay for themselves. (Listed at <http://www.cpsenergy.com/>). Finally, qualifying homeowners can apply for a free weatherization from the Alamo Area Council of Governments. This can help you save money and stay warm this winter. Visit their website for more information: <http://www.aacog.com/Housing/default.asp>

### Volume 2, Issue 1



City of San Antonio  
Office of Environmental Policy Staff

### Upcoming Events

-Low Impact Development Workshop on February 17th & 18th at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center Room 102. Keep an eye out for additional news on this great event!  
-LEED for New Construction Technical Review on February 27  
More Info: <http://www.usgbc.org/Workshops/Workshoplist.aspx?CMSPageID=289>  
-Solar San Antonio Power Breakfast on Tuesday, January 27th at 7:30 at the Bright Shawl on 819 Augusta St. re Info: <http://www.solarsanantonio.org/events.html>

-Laurence Doxsey, Director  
-Liza Meyer, Senior Management Analyst  
-Aaron Stein, Administrative Associate  
-Sonia Hernandez, Adminis-



### We're Still Hiring!

Our office is still looking for two qualified candidates to join us in our exciting efforts. The open positions are Energy Coordinator and Bicycle Coordinator. Both are classified at the Senior Management Analyst level and offer competitive wages and benefits. Experienced personnel are encouraged to apply soon because the closing dates for both positions are approaching. You may fill out an application and submit your resume online so please visit the COSA Human Resources site at the URL below. [More Details:](https://ww4.sanantonio.gov/jobs/jobVacs/)  
<https://ww4.sanantonio.gov/jobs/jobVacs/>

### Thanks to our “Aquifer Champions”

The Green Spaces Alliance (formerly Bexar Land Trust) is acquiring tracts of land over our precious Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. Recently director Julie Koppenheffer and her staff purchased the development rights for a large tract of land in Medina County for \$990,000. As a part of this process the owner keeps their land but signs a conservation easement that restricts development on the land indefinitely. Funding for this effort comes from Proposition 1, which was a sales tax increase approved by voters in 2005. This will allow similar efforts into the future and the alliance has plans to purchase 125,000 acres over five years. The San Antonio Express News recently published an article on this story and can be read here: [http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/Aquifers\\_champions.html](http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/Aquifers_champions.html). To learn more about Green Spaces Alliance please visit their website: <http://greenspacesalliance.org/>. Here you will find information about community gardens, land trusts, conservation easement, and donation and volunteer opportunities.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please contact us.  
Questions or comments? E-mail us at [aaron.stein@sanantonio.gov](mailto:aaron.stein@sanantonio.gov) or call 210-207-6372

