



AURORA BOREALIS

Census 2010 means dollars for Aurora

United States® Census 2010

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

If you were told that you could help make decisions on the locations of new hospitals, senior centers, schools, parks, roadway

improvements, and many other important quality of life issues in exchange for ten minutes of your time, would you believe it?

It's true. Simply by completing and mailing back the 2010 Census form, your voice is heard.

Each year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to local and state governments based on census data. In the City of Aurora, this means about \$12.5 million each year for general governmental operations, \$4.2 million annually for street-related projects, and \$1.25 million each year in community block grant funds that benefit low and moderate income families. And that's just a few of the areas that are bolstered by census statistics.

Since 1790, a census, as directed in the United States Constitution, has been conducted every ten years. Back then, it mainly determined the number of seats each state received in the U.S. House of Representatives. It was also created to gain a better understanding of where people lived and established patterns of settlements as the nation grew.

While these important goals of census data still hold true today, communities across the United States likewise know that an accurate census count translates into the important federal

funds that each year, improve services and infrastructure. The process, which is a count of all U.S. residents regardless of race, ethnicity, or citizenship, is simple, fast, and confidential.

If you have not yet received your census form, it will be arriving soon. One of the shortest questionnaires in history, it consists of 10 questions and should only take about ten minutes to complete. The questions are non-invasive and include whether a housing unit is rented or owned, the address of the residence, and the names, genders, ages, and races of those living in the household. It does not ask for personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or citizenship status.

The confidentiality of the census cannot be understated. By law, the census bureau or any of its employees cannot share data with anyone — not even other federal agencies or law enforcement entities. All census employees are sworn for life to protect the data or face a penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Households that do not return the form they receive in the mail will be visited in-person by a U.S. Census worker between late April and early July. The final count of the census is due to be on the President's desk by December 31, 2010, and will include the total population counts and the number of representatives for each state.

More information on the census is available at www.2010census.gov. *

DOWNTOWN ALIVE! 2010



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From the Mayor's Desk

Balanced budget, drop in crime.
Good start to 2010.

Spring may be just around the corner, but that doesn't change the fact that we've had a long, cold winter. This is probably the right time to acknowledge our Public Works crews who, from all reports and feedback, have done a good job plowing and salting our streets this winter, allowing us to get to work – or to the grocery store – safely.

While I'm at it, this may also be the appropriate moment to thank all of our various City employee groups for making the necessary sacrifices to allow us to balance the 2010 budget without a tax rate increase. With faltering revenue due to the recession, we couldn't have done it without them.

While the city must adjust to the changing economic conditions, the 2010 budget remains focused on our core goals: keeping the community safe, encouraging economic investment, enhancing the quality of life, and continuing to be a clean, green, city.

After accomplishing a **30-year low for major crimes in 2008**, we've followed with **another 3.25% reduction in 2009**. The Police Department also focused on reducing vehicular accidents last year and accomplished a 17% reduction. We are confident that the newly occupied police headquarters with its enhanced technology and functionality will help the department sustain its constant improvement.

In this Borealis, you'll see more examples of how Aurora continues to move forward.

On page 4, you'll learn more about the exciting restaurants that are coming to downtown Aurora. Just across the street from recently opened **Ballydoyle Irish Restaurant**, the world-famous **Billy Goat Tavern** and celebrated Chef Rosado

Amaury's **33 West Trattoria**, will soon join **Comfort Zone BBQ** on West New York Street, solidifying the City of Lights as a regional destination for great food and great fun.

Over 20 fun-filled events for people of all ages that are coming up in Aurora are highlighted on Pages 4 and 5. Aurora is a vibrant community that offers events year-round. Plan on attending as many of these as you can. I know you won't be disappointed.

This edition also highlights two people who demonstrate the heart and soul of our community. **Fred Rodgers, and Gonzalo Arroyo** are examples of the great stories of leadership, determination, and perseverance that occur every day in Aurora, making it truly a city second to none.

In closing, I cannot stress enough the importance of our front page article dealing with the **2010 Census**. In exchange for the ten minutes of your time that it takes to fill out the Census form, Aurora gains important federal dollars that go toward improving our roads, schools, and a multitude of other programs and projects that dramatically improve everyone's quality of life. Please take the time to be counted.

Sincerely,

Tom Weisner Mayor,

City of Aurora



My Place Introduce City Web site

The City of Aurora has added a new feature to Aurora's website for residents searching for school, voting, and zoning information.

Called *My Place*, a variety of information can be accessed with simple mouse clicks by visiting www.aurora-il.org.

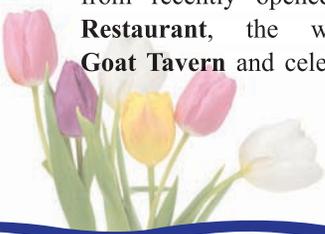
Users can enter any address within the city limits on *My Place* and retrieve detailed information such as the county, township, park district, school district, and other governing bodies to which they belong. Also included are garbage pickup days, aldermanic information, congressional, senate, and house districts in which they are located, along with detailed voting information such as polling places. Where applicable, the information is linked to additional government or organization websites.

630-256-5000 is new non-emergency phone number

The Aurora Police Department has announced new telephone numbers for all police employees and divisions effective immediately.

While dialing 911 for police emergencies does not change, the department has established a new non-emergency telephone number of 630-256-5000. Even though the former non-emergency telephone number, 630-859-1700, will continue to be answered until the city's 911 Center moves into the new headquarters, officials encourage citizens to use the new non-emergency number. They reiterate that 911 should be used only in instances of immediate threats to personal safety or property.

In addition, individual police employees all have new direct extensions that begin with the 256 prefix. To help make the transition to the new telephone numbers smoother, they have placed voice mail messages on their former extensions directing callers to their new numbers. *



City Council passes balanced budget

Faced with declining revenues and increased pension costs in the midst of the national recession, the Aurora City Council had to make some hard choices as it worked to balance the 2010 General Fund Budget.

Projections for five major revenue streams dropped by \$10 million for 2010, while poor investment performance in a down market forced the city to contribute an extra \$4.3 million to employee pension funds. Coupled with rising costs in other areas, these factors precipitated a possible \$19 million deficit for the 2010 city budget.

Determined not to foist a tax increase on struggling Aurora families, Mayor Weisner's staff worked closely with the Aurora City Council and the City's many employee groups to balance the budget by cutting costs.

Cost-cutting steps included voluntary retirements, lay-offs, reduced or zero wage increases for 2010, furlough days, a streamlining of executive staff and

reduction or elimination of non-critical services, among other measures.

In the end, the Aurora City Council passed a balanced budget for 2010.

"I sincerely appreciate the strong effort and positive input from our Finance Committee and our entire City Council to produce this balanced budget," declared Mayor Tom Weisner. "I also appreciate the sacrifices made by our employees to help keep the city on firm financial ground."

Finance Committee Chairman, Ald. Robert O'Connor, also praised the team effort. "It was only through the good-faith participation of all the elements of



Alderman Robert O'Connor

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The *My Place* tab is conveniently located on the top navigation bar of all of the city's website pages.

"My Place is a quick and easy resource for Aurora citizens to locate useful information in a matter of seconds", said Mayor Tom Weisner. "It's also a great addition to the city's website and is another illustration of how we place customer service as a number one priority for all of our residents." 🌸



With police one number

Other important telephone numbers to note:

Investigations

630-256-5500

Booking/Jail

630-256-5770

Records

630-256-5720

Traffic Division

630-256-5330

Special Operations Group (Gangs/Drugs/Vice)

630-256-5600

Evidence

630-256-5660

Area One Patrol (West Side and Downtown)

630-256-5100

Area Two Patrol (Near East Side)

630-256-5200

Area Three Patrol (Far East Side)

630-256-5300

Eola Road Interchange completion celebrated in Aurora and beyond

The City of Aurora, The Illinois Tollway and DuPage County officials celebrated the completion of a full-access Tollway interchange featuring all-electronic tolling at Eola Road and the Reagan Memorial Tollway late in 2009.



Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner helps officially open the new Eola Road tollway interchange on I-88. With him (L to R) are: Michael King, Acting Executive Director Illinois Tollway; Congressman Bill Foster, 14th Congressional District; Bob Schillerstrom, Chairman DuPage County Board; and Naperville Mayor George Pradel.

The project was finished on schedule and under budget by \$14 million.

The new interchange includes four ramps providing access for Eola Road traffic to and from the Tollway via Bilter Road on the north side of I-88 and Diehl Road on the south side of I-88.

Average daily traffic volumes along the stretch of tollroad between Illinois Route 59 in Naperville and Farnsworth Avenue in Aurora have grown from a high of about 8,100 vehicles a day in 1970 to a high of nearly 92,000 vehicles a day in 2008.

Mayor Tom Weisner, who serves as a member of the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors, said he is pleased

that the interchange provides Aurora residents and businesses access to Chicago and the suburbs at a fifth Tollway location. "And, it helps relieve congestion on Illinois Route 59 and will eventually bring tax-generating office and retail development to the area."

Over the next 10 years, development of the area surrounding the interchange is expected to include additional

industrial warehouse space as well as office, retail and hotel space and has the potential to support thousands of new direct and indirect jobs.

More than 180,000 cubic yards of dirt was excavated to build the new interchange. More than 20,000 feet of storm sewer pipe was used for the drainage systems and more than 7,000 cubic yards of concrete and 35,000 tons of asphalt was used to construct the new interchange and ramps. 🌸

Eateries Slated for Downtown

Steve Arwady's vision for Aurora's Restaurant Row is ambitious, but then, the Arlington Heights developer seems to thrive on doing what others believe impossible. Arwady, who has done projects in Northbrook, Schaumburg and Chicago, has certainly created a lot of buzz with his plan to bring great eateries to downtown Aurora.

Arwady's project, that includes four architecturally stunning buildings on west New York Street from the Fox River to River Street, has the "synergy," that he so often talks about.



It has been one achievement after another for Arwady, who has managed to bring the legendary Billy Goat Tavern and celebrated Chef Rosado Amaury's, 33 West Trattoria, to his latest urban endeavor.

From the start, Arwady has said that, "We're very excited about redeveloping New York Street." That excitement is catching on with others including the city which announced that it will provide a \$1.25 million Tax Increment Financing reimbursement, over three years for the project.

Coming at what is the absolute right time, the 19,000 square foot renovation project, costing \$3.9 million to complete, will bring jobs to the local economy.

A stroll down New York Street tells the story of what Arwady has managed to do with this picturesque location. It is the perfect backdrop for what is shaping up to be what Aurorans have yearned for in the city's downtown district.

As Chef Amaury prepares to introduce 33 West Trattoria to Aurora, his excitement is hard to contain. Chef Amaury's

Continued on page 6

Aurora comes alive in SPR

MARCH

Aurora Public Art Commission

FREE!

Now Through May 21

Noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday - Friday
David L. Pierce Center, 20 E. Downer Place
Transformations: Discarded industrial materials from the urban culture and objects found in natural environments. FREE and open to the public. Call 630-906-0654.

Aurora Public Library's Food for Fines

Now Through March 31

All locations

Food will be donated to the Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry. One item of non-perishable food = payment for every \$1 up to \$5 in fines per person. Nonperishable items with containers that are not damaged, expired or rusty will be accepted. Call Surekha Pal at 630-264-4135.

Phil Keaggy

Saturday, March 20

7 p.m.

East Aurora High School Auditorium
To benefit Rebuilding Together Aurora.
Tickets: \$20 for general admission and \$30 for preferred seating. Go to www.ticketweb.com or call RTA Office at 630-585-7510

Visit with the Easter Bunny

Saturday, March 27

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Phillips Park Visitors Center
Sponsored by Friends of Phillips Park. FREE

FREE!

Earth Hour 2010

Saturday, March 27

8:30 p.m.

National monuments including the Empire State Building, the Las Vegas Strip and the Golden Gate Bridge will participate by turning off their lights for one hour. Last year's Earth Hour was the single largest mass action in human history. Join millions of people around the world and turn off your lights for Earth Hour. Visit EarthHour.org

APRIL

Census Day

Thursday, April 1

Send in your 10-question 2010 Census form if you have not already returned it.

Kiwanis One-Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 10

7:30 a.m.

Aurora Transportation Center, 233 N. Broadway
Meet at the north end of the parking lot. Cleanup will center on Indian Creek. Call Mike Frankino, 630-301-6805; or Pat Divine, 630-301-6817, for information.

George Hood's Ride IV Reasons

April 11 - 24

1 to 5 p.m.

Location: TBD

300-hour Guinness World Record Ride.

El Dia de los Ninos

Saturday, April 24

1 to 5 p.m.

"The Day of our Children"
Aurora Transportation Center Parking Lot, corner of Spring St. and Lincoln Ave.
Sponsored by the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board.

Earth Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 24

9 a.m. to noon

Phillips Park's Mastodon Trail parking lot on Wyeth Drive

Wear old clothes and bring gloves.

Sponsored by Friends of Phillips Park.

Arbor Day Celebration

Friday, April 30

1 p.m.

Garfield Park

Oak seedlings for the first 100 guests subject to availability.

ING 2010!

MAY

Do It Yourself Home Improvement Workshop

Saturday, May 8

Prisco Community Center, Room 104

9 a.m. to noon.

Learn basic plumbing, everyday electricity fixes and inexpensive ways to save money around the house. Sponsored by Rebuilding Together Aurora. Call 630-585-7510

Aurora Sports Festival

Friday, May 14

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phillips Park

Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 31

Noon

Downtown Aurora

DOWNTOWN ALIVE! 2010

FESTIVAL SERIES



BLUES ON THE FOX
JUNE 18 & 19
NATIONAL BLUES ARTISTS

ROCK ON THE FOX
JULY 9

FAN FAVORITES
JULY 23



Check out this year's lineup at www.downtownaliveaurora.com or call 630-264-INFO

JUNE

ArtWalk

Saturday, June 5

2 - 7 p.m.

Movies in the Park

Saturday, June 5

Pre-movie activities begin at dusk

Phillips Park

Hollywood hit movie (to be announced)

follows pre-movie activities at dusk.

Farmers Market opens

Saturday, June 12 (through Oct. 23)

8 a.m. to noon

Aurora Transportation Center

233 N. Broadway

FREE!



Summer Solstice Celebration

Saturday, June 12

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Prisco Community Center

Fun and interesting activities for the entire family including more than 30 booths showcasing "green products and services", live music, and hands-on children's activities. Information at www.auroragreenlights.org

Paddle Sport Festival

Sat., June 12 and Sun., June 13

All day events begin at 9 a.m.

Mastodon Lake, Phillis Park

A two-day canoeing and kayaking festival featuring on-water and on-land activities.

Information at www.illinoispadding.org

Flag Day Concert

Sunday, June 13

3 to 4:30 p.m.

McCarty Park

American Legion Band

Bike to Work Week

Sun., June 13 to Sat., June 19

Blues on the Fox

Fri., June 18 and Sat., June 19

Galena Boulevard, downtown Aurora

Movies in the Park

Saturday, June 26

Pre-movie activities begin at dusk

Phillips Park

Hollywood hit movie (to be announced)

follows pre-movie activities at dusk.

FREE!



Call 630-264-INFO

for event information

New police headquarters recognized

The Aurora Police Headquarters and Branch Court Facility has been chosen as The Project of the Year for New Construction – Suburbs by the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO) headquartered in Oak Brook. The awards are an annual part of CISCO's Pride in Construction Award Program, which recognizes top quality union construction projects in four categories.



Mayor Weisner and other police and city officials are joined by representatives of the various organizations responsible for constructing the new Aurora Police Headquarters which was recently recognized with a top honor from CISCO.

The facility, located at 1200 E. Indian Trail Road, features a full-service headquarters to house 500 public safety employees, a 911 emergency call center and branch court. The sustainable building was engineered to use 27 percent less energy and 30 percent less water than an average building of similar size.

Mayor Tom Weisner said the award was appreciated, but by no means surprising. "The City of Aurora set out to build one of the most energy efficient, sustainable and technologically advanced

police facilities in the country," he said. "We achieved that, and we are happy for the recognition. And we also are pleased that our police, who have served us so well, have a headquarters befitting their hard work in crime-fighting and serving our residents."

The City of Aurora teamed with construction managers Leopardo Companies, Inc. and RC Wegman Construction Co., architects McClaren, Wilson & Lawrie, Inc. and Cordogan Clark & Associates,

and engineers Engineering Enterprises, Inc. to design and build the facility.

Founded in 1988, CISCO is a labor-management group that brings together unions of the building trades and construction contractor associations representing more than 140,000 construction workers and 8,000 union contractors in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. ☀

AAHAB Honors Leaders



Longtime East Aurora School District 131 board member Juanita Wells (R) accepts a "Nia" award from Clayton Muhammad, Aurora African-American Advisory Board member and District 131 Community Relations Director.

Fred Rodgers was honored on Feb. 4 with the Outstanding African-American Award by the City of Aurora's African-American Heritage Advisory Board (AAHAB) for his many contributions to the youth of the community.

Rodgers, director of Youth Services for Aurora until his retirement in November 2009, was honored in November with a ceremony to rename the city's Root Street Community Center the Fred Rodgers Community Center.

Rodgers spent more than two decades working with the city's

young residents. He joined the Youth Services Department in 1986 as the department's first employee and immediately got to work creating a number of programs including the City of Lights Tournament, Aurora Sports Festival and a myriad of summer camps and other programs.

Also during the Feb. 4 awards dinner, four community leaders were honored with "Nia (purpose in Swahili)" awards in their respective categories. They were:

- Derrick Smith, law enforcement
- Ellis Shannon, business

- Juanita Wells, politics
- George Rayford, religion

Four students received Henry Cowherd Scholarships. They were:

- Jomar Mendoza, West Aurora High School, \$1,000
- Devin Compton, West Aurora High School, \$500
- David Swope Jr., Waubonsie Valley High School, \$500
- Kiara Towles, West Aurora High School, \$500 ☀

Eateries Slated for Downtown, Continued from page 4

twist on regional Italian cuisine, "Inspired with Amaury's touch," as the famed Chef puts it, will debut amid much anticipation in mid-March.

Chef Amaury, whose background is as eclectic as his cuisine, is a graduate of the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago.

He has a remarkable passion for cooking that is uncommonly holistic. Chef Amaury's distinctive appreciation for food, people and just the right environment, is a hallmark of

his success. In bringing 33 West Trattoria to Aurora's spectacular and authentic downtown district, Chef Armuary said, "It is exactly where I envision creating superb meals and lasting memories for my patrons."

When 33 West Trattoria and the Billy Goat Tavern open, they will join renown Executive Chef Richard Greene's Comfort Zone BBQ.

Comfort Zone owners Richard and Shirley Greene, who moved from their previous location in Oswego, specialize in southern

style comfort food. They have seen a steady stream of customers since their doors opened in November 2009.

Opening to rave reviews, Chef Rich, wife Shirley and son, pit boss Mike, are a family in action. Their restaurant is fast becoming a place where Aurorans bring their families to dine. Coming this spring, the Comfort Zone will expand its operation, offering additional seating, live music, including jazz, blues and spoken word performances.

Billy Goat Tavern will open in May 2010. ☀

Honors abound during Hispanic Heritage Advisory breakfast

Twenty-three young writers and artists were honored during the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board's annual Community Breakfast on Jan. 28.

The board also awarded \$11,000 in scholarships and honored Family Focus Executive Director Gonzalo Arroyo with the Pete Perez Award.

Arroyo came to the United States from Mexico in 1980, and has been involved in community issues for the past 25 years, both in the United States and Mexico.

The theme for the breakfast was "Inspirations for Success," with author Dr. Jorge Partida bringing the keynote message.

Marilyn Weisner presented students with awards in coloring, poster and essay contests as well as the Hispanic Youth Leadership and Excellence Awards and the Hispanic Youth Leadership and Service Scholarships.

Receiving Youth Leadership & Service scholarships were 12th graders Zicaltazalhi Elizabeth Ochoa (overall winner), Karen



Aurora's first lady Marilyn Weisner (L) presents Family Focus Executive Director Gonzalo Arroyo with the annual Aurora Hispanic Advisory Board's Pete Perez Award.

Lazcano and Linda Ocegüera of East Aurora High School, Rachel Elizabeth Maley of Rosary High School and Jomar Mendoza of West Aurora High School.

Students age 18 to 21 who received Youth Leadership & Service scholarships were Karina Diaz (overall) of University of Illinois and David Aquino, Lizzette Cambron, Ana Karina Guerrero and Michelle Zepeda, all of Aurora University. *

Treasurer Giannoulas launches Bank On Aurora program

Treasurer Alexi Giannoulas joined Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner late last year to kick off the city's Bank On Aurora program.

The program is aimed at encouraging low- to mid- income residents to use bank accounts instead of bank alternatives such as payday loans and check cashers.

The average unbanked household in Illinois spends \$575 a year just to cash payroll checks.

Bank On campaigns are public-private partnerships designed to connect "unbanked" households with basic checking accounts that help consumers lower their financial transaction costs and put them on the path to building savings.

Aurora is the state's second city to launch a Bank On campaign and the first in the Chicago area.

Go to www.bankonillinois.org or call Elizabeth DeLeon with questions at 630-264-3053. *

Yard Waste Collection Begins

City of Aurora yard waste and unbundled brush collection begins Monday, April 5, and until Friday, April 16, the pickup is free – meaning no waste stickers are required – as part of Aurora's annual spring cleanup.

Yard waste must be in a 30 gallon Kraft paper yard waste bag not to exceed 60 pounds. After April 16, a waste sticker, which are the same ones used for garbage, must be attached to the bag. Yard waste mixed with garbage or yard waste in a garbage can or plastic bag will not be collected.

Branches and limbs that are ½ inch to four inches in diameter and two to four feet in length can be placed at the curb without a waste sticker. Brush that is less than ½ inch in diameter is considered yard waste and must be placed in a Kraft paper yard waste bag. After April 16, a waste sticker must be attached to the yard waste bag for pickup. Brush should be in neat, manageable piles with the cut side of the limbs facing the street. Tangled and unmanageable piles will not be collected. It is the responsibility of the contractor to remove and dispose of brush that results from contracted services.

Both yard waste and unbundled brush collection takes place on your regular garbage day and should be at the curb by 6:00 AM. Yard waste collection continues until December 3; unbundled brush collection until November 5. *

City Council passes balanced budget, Continued from page 3

our City organization – the administration, our employees and our City Council – that we have maintained a high level of service and no new taxes in this difficult economic environment," said O'Connor. "We met the challenge and enacted a lean, balanced, and responsible budget, providing excellent customer service to the citizens". *

Your Elected Officials

Mayor Thomas J. Weisner

630-844-3612

mayorsoffice@aurora-il.org

Aldermen's Office

630-844-3619

At-Large: Robert O'Connor

At-Large: Richard Irvin

Ward 1: Abby Schuler

Ward 2: Juany Garza

Ward 3: Stephanie Kifowit

Ward 4: Rick Lawrence

Ward 5: John "Whitey" Peters

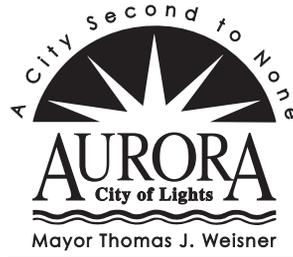
Ward 6: Mike Saville

Ward 7: Scheketa Hart-Burns

Ward 8: Rick Mervine

Ward 9: Leroy Keith

Ward 10: Lynda Elmore



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Aurora, IL 60507

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City Web site: www.aurora-il.org

Aurora Community Television: Comcast Channel 10

Rain Barrels Offered; "GREEN" Projects Progressing

Water is one of our most important resources. Protecting it, conserving it, and thinking of future generations is essential.

The City of Aurora is helping by implementing a Rain Barrel Program to provide low cost rain barrels to City of Aurora residents. The program encourages participation in a pollution reduction strategy by bringing awareness to water resource protection and water conservation.

Here is how it works: A Rain Barrel collects water from roof downspouts and stores it for later use.

Meanwhile, there is progress to report at all three locations where the City of Aurora's Green Infrastructure Implementation Projects are underway. The sites selected for best management practices (BMPs) will reduce nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution, a kind of pollution that is picked up by rainfall and snowmelt.

On the near northeast side, in the McCarty Burlington neighborhood-planning area of the city, three Green projects will begin to bloom this spring and summer when construction is complete.

All of the projects use specially selected native plants and designed soil, to help clean pollution from stormwater runoff when it flows through the BMPs.

How to purchase:

Aurora residents may purchase Rain Barrels for \$54 each, on a first come/first served basis, up to the program limit of 150 barrels. Purchases must be pre-paid and are available for pick-up only. Orders must be received 1 week prior to pick-up date. Residents should call to verify availability.

Rain Barrels can be ordered online at: www.upcycle-products.com, or by phone at, (815) 735-9583.

Payment can be made by check, money order or credit cards to UpCycle Products, P.O. Box 759 Minooka, IL 60447.

Pick-up locations, dates & times:

Aurora Transportation Center, 233 N. Broadway Avenue (IL Rte. 25) Aurora, IL 60505

Saturday, April 10, 2010
Saturday, April 24, 2010
Saturday, May 8, 2010
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

For more information go to: www.aurora-il.org or www.upcycle-products.com and (click on "Where to Purchase", then click on "Municipal") or call the City of Aurora-Public Works Division-Engineering at (630) 844-3620.

Spring Street Rain Gardens

On the south side of Spring St., between 4th St. and Root St., five rain gardens were started in the fall of 2009. Planting will occur in April and May 2010.

Lincoln Avenue Metra Parking Lot

The existing detention basin for the Metra parking lot at Lincoln Ave. and Spring St. has been turned into a bio-filtration system. Planting will occur in April and May 2010.

RiverEdge Park Wetland Bio-swale

Construction of a wetland bio-swale starts in late March and is scheduled for completion by the end of May 2010.

The Valley of the Fox – Sierra Club has volunteered to plant the bio-swale on April 24, 2010.