

## Testimonials

“The classes have educated and enlightened me in our city government. You have exposed me to a world that I did not know much about. I now feel more empowered and confident in our local government and to speak about local events that affect our community. Additionally, I hold a deeper appreciation for our city employees and the valuable jobs that they perform.” James Barbe

“I really believe in this program and applaud your efforts in bringing this program to the citizens. I highly recommend making the time to attend these classes to meet the department heads of our community. They are wonderful people who are truly interested in making St. Marys a better place to live.” Pat Clink

“This was a great course! I learned so much invaluable information from all the presenters. As such, I am a much more informed citizen of St Marys and have recommended the course to many of my friends. Plus, it was fun!” JoAnn White

“I am attending the classes at present but I feel the classes are remarkably informative and very interesting to new comers as well as to the residents of St. Marys.” Yvonne Hallman

“I would hope every St Marys' citizen could attend St Marys 101. Not only does one get to view first hand all the departments, but they get an insight into the duties of the city employees. Participating in the short course, should impress all how much all our departments do to help us all. I personally feel these classes might also stop some of the misunderstandings about some of the procedures.” Cookie Johnson

"This is a St. Marys civics orientation that no one in the City should miss. The professional organization of the program, the enthusiasm of the City employees participating and the personal insights gained make this a win win program for the attendees and the City. Getting to know St. Marys infrastructure and personnel helps you determine how to get involved with the City's Councils, Committees, Boards and Action Groups. Make this a 'must do' in your calendar. Hats off to Connie Miller and her teams." John F. Morrissey

"I was very impressed with the St. Marys 101 classes. I thought I knew a lot about our City until I attended these classes which were informative and interesting. I have recommended this to many people and would really like to repeat the course." Arlene Norris

“If you live in the City of St. Marys this is a must! I came away from this experience with firsthand knowledge on how each department of our City provides the services we use every day and with much respect for our City employees.” C. Bruce Hernandez, Realtor

“I gained a lot of insight into the "workings" of our local government. It was good to visit each of the offices, meet the movers & shakers of the departments (put a face to the name) as well as to be able to understand why some problems are easier to solve than others. Personally, I think that you are the greatest asset that the City of St Marys has... you are a true ambassador for the City. I think that an annual reunion (feedback sessions) of all the participants would be useful and fun.... then we have a chance for real feedback face to face with city leaders... especially to evaluate if what we learned has been put into "practical use“” Carol Surrency

“This is a very good orientation for those of us who are not natives. Although most of us moved here because we like things the way they are, we are not naive enough to believe change will not come. Knowing where we are now is most helpful in knowing how to guide change in a way that will preserve the good things of St. Marys that natives and newcomers all value.” Anne Orr

“As a member of the St. Marys 101 Class, I want to thank the City Council and Staff for providing this important program. Everyone benefits by educating and involving our citizens in the process of government. The enthusiasm and dedication of the Staff Team was very impressive. Your efforts to build a strong St. Marys community are appreciated.” Tim Ward