



July 2021 Newsletter

Mayor's Message



Summer is here and so is the humidity. Now that things are returning to normal, this July 4th will be a blast starting with the popular Mountain Park parade. Opening ceremonies/vehicle decorating begins at 10:30 am and the parade at 11:00 am. Anybody can include their vehicle/float in the parade which features the City Firetruck and as usual lots of water balloons. Then later that afternoon at 3:00pm on The Green the Civic Club is hosting a "Paws Parade" so bring your pet down and show it off. And right after dark about 9:00 pm over at the Lakeside Pavilion the fun continues with our annual City of Mountain Park fireworks over Lake Cherful. Come out and enjoy the fun and fireworks this fourth down by Lake Cherful in the City Pool parking lot.

I want to say thank you to Whit Engle, our Code Compliance Officer, for hosting the fishing and boating seminar in June out on the green. Be on the lookout for more seminars to come.

It's good to come together again as a community.

Jim Still- Mayor



Mountain Park 4th of July Celebration



All Mountain Park citizens are welcome to attend the annual 4th of July fireworks show over the lake! The fireworks will begin once it is dark outside, shortly after 9pm. There will be no parking near the lake or on the streets so please plan accordingly. Bring your own chairs, blankets, etc. to sit on and enjoy the show!

There will be a parade this year, so decorate your cars/trucks/golf carts or any other wheeled vehicles and join in on the fun! The parade will start at 11am and goes through various streets in the City. If you plan on participating please arrive in the parking lot located at City Hall by 10:30am.

Residents can also participate in the Patriotic Paws Parade that the Civic Club will be hosting from 3pm-5pm located on the green. Dress up your pooch in some patriotic attire and have some fun with your furry friend! You can pick up an application to enter your dog at the City Hall building.

2021 POOL MEMBERSHIPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

City Hall still has seasonal pool passes available to purchase. You can pick up your application and pay by cash or check in City Hall or now you can purchase a pool membership on our website E-Store using a credit card. If you pay online you will need to pick up your tags at City Hall before you will have access to the pool. Here is the web address <https://mountainparkga.governmentwindow.com>

Resident: Adult \$60 (64.65 w/tax) _____

Senior (60 and up) \$55 (59.26 w/tax) _____

Child (3-17) \$50 (53.88 w/tax) _____

**Family \$230 (247.83 w/tax) _____

Non-Resident: Adult \$100 (107.75w/tax) _____

Senior (60 and up) \$95 (102.36w/tax) _____

Child (3-17) \$75 (80.81w/tax) _____

**Family \$400 (431.00w/tax) _____

****Family Passes are for 2 Adults and 3 Children ONLY (if under 2 adults or 3 children purchase individually)**

7.75%, Georgia sales tax will be added to all passes sold

DAILY PASSES \$10 (purchase from lifeguard in the pool area, no tax added)

CHILDREN 2 & UNDER FREE

10 PASS PUNCH CARDS (RESIDENTS ONLY) \$75 (80.81 w/tax)

Civic Club News

ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PARADE OF RESIDENTS

Join in the more than 30 year tradition of the annual 4th of July parade, this years theme: United We Stand – for Mountain Park and the USA!

Starting at 10:00am, decorate your car, truck, trailer, motorcycle, bike – anything on wheels – with flags, streamers, patriotic signs, etc. at the Community Building parking lot and join in!

Before the parade a Civic Club fundraiser will be offering sausage and biscuits along with a drink for \$5.00 at the Community Building. Please bring cash only to make a purchase for the fundraiser.

Opening ceremonies start at 11:00am in front of the City Hall porch with a presentation of the flag by Mountain Park Volunteer fire and Rescue members, the pledge, singing of the National Anthem and the final call to “Start your engines”.

Cheer in front of your house or gather with neighbors at the nearest corner! The parade route this year will be leaving the City Hall parking lot and turning right onto Lakeshore Drive, then right onto Mountain Park Road, continuing across the bridge on Russell Road, then left onto Thrush Drive, left onto Cardinal Drive, right back onto Russell Road, then right onto Mountain Park Road by the pool, left onto Beech Street, then back onto Mountain Park Road again, left onto West Lake, left onto Lakeshore Drive and ending back at City Hall.

NEW THIS YEAR! PATRIOTIC PAWS PARADE ON THE GREEN from 3:00pm-5:00pm. Dress your pooch up in patriotic attire and have some fun!

Civic Club welcomes all residents to join our organization as we continue to be of service to the community. To get more information and to see what Civic Club is all about you can attend one of our monthly meetings.

Civic Club Meeting
July 13th, 2021 at 7:00pm
Community Building

Code Enforcement in Mountain Park

Fishing and Boating Clinics for Summer and Fall

The City of Mountain Park, with its two beautiful lakes - Lake Cherful and Lake Garret – is a wonderful place to fish and boat: healthy alternatives to other forms of entertainment. As we look forward to summer and fall, the City has planned a number of informal clinics on fishing and boating designed to help fishers and boaters of all ages and skill levels to improve their experiences, as well as a free fishing and boating day early this fall.

We treat each in turn:

FREE Fishing Clinics in July!

On three Saturdays in July, at 10:00 a.m., at the Community Building next to City Hall, the City will conduct live fishing and casting clinics. Kids (of all ages!) are welcome and encouraged to attend.

- 1) Saturday, July 10th, 10:00 a.m.: Beginner level: “Spincasting” clinic
- 2) Saturday, July 17th, 10:00 a.m.: Intermediate Level: Spinning and “Baitcasting”
- 3) Saturday, July 30th, 10:00 a.m.: Advanced Level: “Fly Casting”

Each clinic will also feature tips and tricks for catching fish in Lakes Garret and Cherful using the equipment being presented, and touch on boating tips (especially safety) and key rules and regulations.

September 25th, 2021 will be a FREE Fishing and Boating Day.

Fishing. The State of Georgia has set September 25th 2021 as a free fishing day (no license required). Since the City of Mountain Park requires that adults (over the age of 16) have a State of Georgia fishing license in order for its city-issued fishing permit, Mayor Jim Still has elected to waive the requirement for a fishing permit on September 25th, 2021. So this day will be a FREE fishing day as far as a city-issued fishing permit is concerned.

Boating. The Mayor has also designated September 25th, 2021 as a FREE boating day, as far as a City of Mountain Park boating permit is concerned. We plan a fishing and boating clinic to promote this activity. More on this as we approach September.

What a great set of opportunities to learn how to be out on the water enjoying fishing and boating!

See you at the clinics and out on the lakes!

Whit Engle
Code Compliance Officer



Know Your City Code



TREE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

A Tree Removal Application must be completed and approved by the City before removing trees from your property.

Specimen tree means trees which qualify for special consideration due to their size and type. The following size and condition criteria are used to identify specimen trees; except as expressly provided herein, both the size and condition criteria must be met for a tree to be considered a specimen tree:

Size criteria:

- Pine Trees: 30-inch diameter or larger
- Overstory Trees (Excluding Pines): 24-inch diameter or larger
- Understory Trees (Excluding Pines): 8-inch diameter or larger

Condition criteria:

- Greater than 15 years life expectancy, Trunk is relatively sound and solid with no extensive decay,
- Free of major dead limbs, and free of major insect or pathological problem.

Sec. 105-202. - Purpose and intent of article.

The city deems it necessary and desirable in the interest of public health, safety and welfare to enact an ordinance for the conservation, planting and replacement of trees and to prevent the indiscriminate removal of trees in the city without denying the reasonable use and enjoyment of real property. The importance of trees is recognized for their shade, cooling, noise and wind reduction, soil erosion prevention, oxygen production, dust filtration, carbon dioxide absorption, aesthetic and economic enhancement of all real property, and their contribution to the general wellbeing and quality of life of the citizens of the city. Consistent with the expressed purpose of this article, all persons shall make reasonable efforts to preserve and retain existing, self-supporting trees. It is also the intent of this article that all applicable lots within the city maintain or obtain a minimum tree density.

Sec. 105-203. - Exemptions.

- (a) The following shall be exempt from the provisions of this article:
- (1) The removal of trees with a four-inch caliper or less, provided that the removal does not reduce the tree density of the lot below the minimum specified in section 105-206.
 - (2) The necessary removal of trees within dedicated utility easements by the utility company having the easement.
 - (3) The removal of trees on public rights-of-way (and adjacent areas within the construction limits of rights-of-way) conducted by, on behalf of, or any activity pursuant to work to be dedicated to, a federal, state, county, municipal or other governmental agency in pursuance of its lawful activities or functions in the construction or improvement of public rights-of-way.
 - (4) The removal of trees from lakes and drainage easements.
 - (5) The removal of any tree which has become or threatens to become a danger to human life or property.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, all reasonable efforts shall be made to save specimen trees.

Sec. 105-204. - Approval letter required for nondevelopment activity (activity which does not require a building permit).

- (a) Except for routine or seasonal pruning or transplanting of trees, and except as exempted in section 105-203, no person shall engage in any nondevelopment activity without first obtaining an approval letter. The request for an approval letter shall be submitted to the city and shall be, unless waived by the city clerk, in the form of a brief, written narrative stating the reason for the proposed work and include either a site sketch or photograph of the tree proposed to be removed, identifying such tree by size and species. If the application is complete, complies with this article, and requests tree removal for one of the purposes identified in subsection (b) of this section, the city shall issue an approval letter not later than 30 working days from receipt of a complete request, and shall inform the applicant if replanting will be required. If the application is incomplete or denied, the city shall notify the applicant in writing regarding the specific reason for denial.
- (b) The city shall allow submittal of dated photographs instead of an approval letter for the following if a letter of approval or denial has not been issued within 30 working days:
- (1) The removal of dead, substantially injured, damaged or diseased trees; and
 - (2) The removal of trees occupied within ten feet to the side, front or rear of an existing authorized structure, provided that the applicable minimum tree density requirement is maintained.

IMPORTANT DATES

July 5th.....City Hall Closed

July 7th.....Siren Testing @ 12pm

July 10th.....Dumpster Day 7am-10am

1. Must provide proof of residence in the City of Mountain Park.
2. ONE TRUCKLOAD OR TRAILER LOAD PER RESIDENCE.
3. All yard debris must be cut into 3 feet sections or less.

Please note that this is a service provided by Waste Pro as a courtesy and the City of Mountain Park does not have any control over what time they arrive/depart or the rate which the dumpster fills and the amount it can hold. Please plan accordingly. Thank you!

July 14th.....City Court @ 7pm

July 21st.....Work Session @ 7pm

FOR CITY COUNCIL: Citizen Participation is welcome – Please give at least 24 hours advance notice if you wish to be added to the agenda by contacting City Hall.

July 26th..... Regular Council @ 7pm

The City of Mountain Park will now have audio recordings of work session and regular council meetings available on our website at www.mountainparkgov.com. We are working to have them posted 48 hours after the meeting occurs, but there may be times it could take longer. If you are unable to attend any meetings please visit our website to stay up to date on what is going on in the City. You can find the recordings on the home page under the posting of the agenda. You can also go the City publications tab, then to council minutes and you will see an audio folder there.

WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2020

You can now view the City of Mountain Park's Consumer Confidence Water Quality report on our website at the following web address www.mountainparkgov.com. You can also review the report at City Hall if you are unable to access it online or prefer a paper copy.

REMINDER

Water bills are due by the last day of every month. Please use the drop box at City Hall or pay online at https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign_in. Payments received on the 1st of the month or later will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

REMINDER

Please ensure you put your cans out the night before after 6pm or by 7am on Wednesday and leave them at the curb until they are picked up. Please remove your cans from the curb by 8am on Thursday. No garbage will be taken that is left outside of the trash containers. No yard debris is allowed. If your trash or recycle pick-up is missed please contact City Hall Thursday morning before 12pm by calling 770-993-4231 or emailing utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com.

MOUNTAIN PARK ONLINE SURVEY

PART 2

Thank you to everyone that went in to complete Part 1 of this very important survey. We are now ready to complete Part 2 of the survey and need everyone's participation once again. Mountain Park needs all citizens to provide their input to help plan for our future. The survey will only be available through Wednesday July 7th so please go in to complete the survey today!

One of a local government's key responsibilities is planning - a word used to describe how a community guides growth and development. Georgia cities are required to update their Comprehensive Plans every five years, and in 2021, an update is due for Mountain Park's plan. This moment offers us the opportunity to look beyond day-to-day operations and consider where we want our city to be in five years - and what it will take to get there. We hope you'll help us craft a vision for Mountain Park's future.

Here is the link to complete the survey: <https://publicinput.com/MountainPark2>

City of Mountain Park

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Public Engagement Survey, Part 2 of 2

ACTIVE JUNE 16 - JULY 7

Access the Survey at <https://publicinput.com/MountainPark2>

Or Scan this QR Code



CHAIR YOGA with Julie

at the Mountain Park Community Building

Join us for fun and flexibility

All ages and levels welcome

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11A.M.-12P.M.

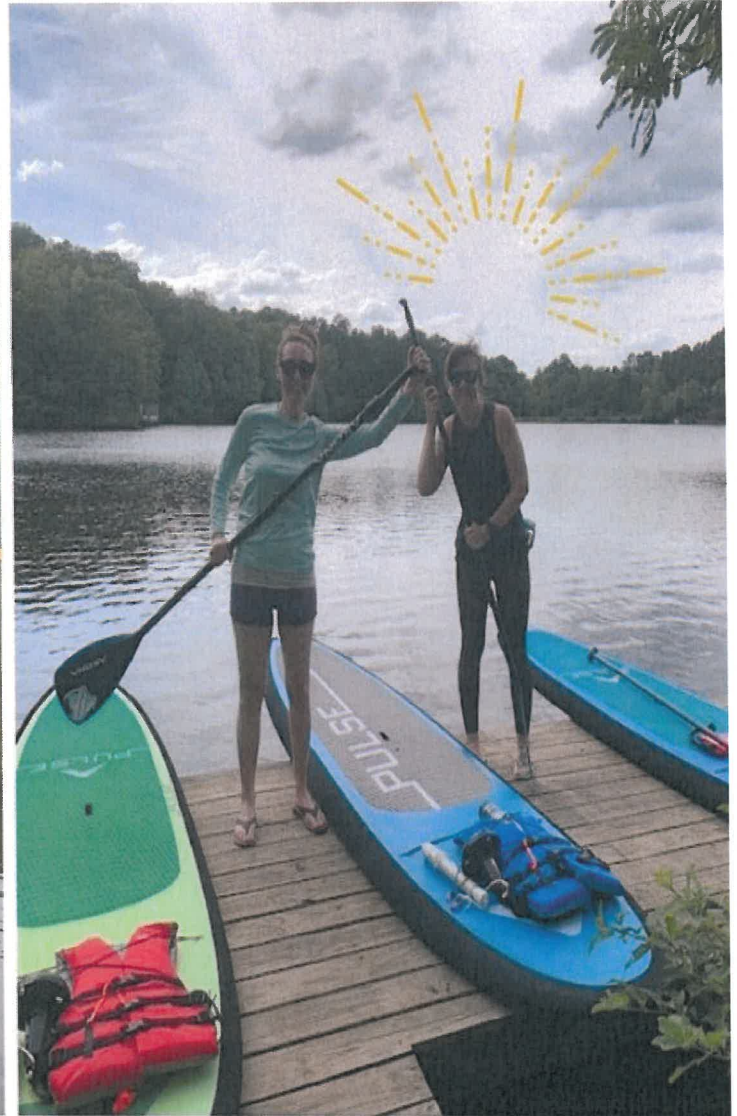
Zoom or in person

RSVP when possible 404.434.4030

Chairs provided, bring a mat

Donations





Mountain Park SUP Yoga

Enjoy the benefits of yoga & meditation, being in nature, in sunshine, and on the water all in one, and right in your backyard! Local Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) Yoga & SUP Intro classes right here at Lake Cherful. Beginners welcomed. Come, connect, explore, and find some JOY!

5% of all sales donated to the City of Mountain Park

To learn more, visit: www.manypathswellness.com