



November 2021 Newsletter

Mayor's Message



Thomas Jefferson "We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate."

This is exactly what happens in the community of Mountain Park. We have had limited participation in the previous elections and now we have 10 people running for 3 seats on council. You may say that's a good thing but maybe not when you look at the big picture. In the election two years ago the candidates ran unopposed and nothing against those people who were willing to step up but now things seem so concerning that a lot of people want to get involved. Back in 2006 another slate of candidates ran unopposed and if you look back you can see how divisive the next two years were until the 2008 election. In that election we had 8 people running for 4 seats. When things are going well people make the choice

of focusing on their personal lives and tend to ignore what is happening in their community. Unfortunately this neglect can lead to a lack of understanding of how we got to where we are now. From this lack of understanding comes speculation, conjecture and conspiracy theories about how this came about. We need people to stay involved ALL the time and not just when things get challenging.

The troubling thing is that some of the most intelligent comments can come from individuals who have never participated at all beyond their postings on social media. Most people have great ideas for someone else to do but they aren't willing to do themselves. Why not get involved before it becomes so bad that we have this much contentiousness that divides our City. You don't have to serve on council to serve your community but you have to step up and get involved to some degree before it gets to this point.

I appreciate the people who have chosen to run for office in this election but be sure and remember the promises that were made during the campaigns as compared to their actions once in office. It can be a truly eye opening experience to sit on the other side of the table. I look forward to seeing how this election directs the course of our future with the challenges we face.

GET OUT AND VOTE!

The one statement that I firmly believe is "whether you choose to participate or you choose not to participate you will always get the government you deserve."

Jim Still – Mayor



Civic Club News

Veterans Day Coffee, 9:30 – 11:00 am Saturday November 13th at the Community Center – To honor our Mountain Park residents who served our country.

Mountain Park Civic Club Meeting, Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00 pm -- Civic Club welcomes all residents to join our organization as we continue to be of service to the community. Agenda items this month include: Election of officers for 2022, discussion of possible Holiday dinner and review of on-going projects and plans.



MOUNTAIN PARK GARDEN NEEDS LEAVES

Do you need somewhere to get rid of all those leaves in your yard? Once again this year, the Mountain Park Community Garden will accept your yard leaves. The Garden is at the corner of Spruce St and Mountain Park Rd heading towards Cherokee County. You can lean the bags against our Gate to Nowhere (you'll see). If you want to empty your bags and reuse them, you can drop the leaves into the enclosure. Leaves and pine straw only please (no branches, ivy, etc.). This will continue through the winter.

If you'd like someone to come to pick up your bagged leaves, please call Mike at 404-944-0027.

REMINDER ABOUT SCHOOL ZONES

Please make sure you are slowing down in a school zone as you are driving around town. There have been a lot of reports of speeding through the Mountain Park Elementary school zone located on Mountain Park Rd. Also don't forget that if a school bus is dropping off/picking up children you must stop as well.

Code Enforcement in Mountain Park

1) Gentle reminder regarding City Park hours:

The city of Mountain Park *park* hours (especially the areas around the pavilions, swimming pool, boat launch, dam, and fire station) are closed from dusk until dawn (Code section 42-10). Closed means “no person shall be permitted to be on the premises or property of any city park at night....”.

When read in conjunction with other code sections, this means:

- No persons
- No noise (including fireworks)
- No fishing (unless it’s from your own private property, or with permission of the owner of the property)
- No boating
- No parking

There are no exclusions or exceptions for “kids”, “taxpayers”, “longtime city residents”: it’s pretty basic.

However, for good cause shown, the City will issue a temporary parking permit to allow overnight parking on designated city parking spaces.

2) Fishing and Boating Permits:

For the rest of Calendar year 2021, fishing and boating permits at half-price are available from City Hall and online. This is an excellent time to be out on the water, as most days you can have the lake pretty much to yourself. These permits all end on December 31st, 2021, however.

Permits for the 2022 calendar year will be available after the New Year.

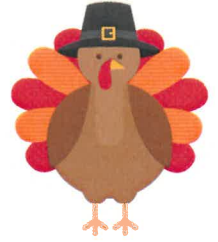
3) The Deer Rut:

The Deer Rut (mating season) peaks in our area in mid-November. Please be aware these deer are concentrating on reproduction and normal cautions are thrown to the wind. Deer during this time will be more active in daylight hours than any other time of year, and may act in apparently bizarre ways such as ignoring traffic, attacking people and dogs, fighting each other, and more. The best approach is to give them a wide berth.

Officer Whit Engle, Code Enforcement



Know Your City Code



NOISE ORDINANCE

Sec. 113-42. General prohibition.

It shall be unlawful for any person to make, continue or cause to be made or continued any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise or any noise that unreasonably or unnecessarily annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others in the city.

Sec. 113-45. Enumeration.

The acts contained in this article, among others, shall constitute a violation of this article; but such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive.

- (1) *Air conditioners.* The maintenance of any refrigeration machinery or air conditioning, consisting of air compressors or rotating or reciprocating machinery, in such a manner as to create a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary shall be a violation of this article.
- (2) *Construction or repairing of buildings.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or permit the operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, drilling, or demolition work on weekdays between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., such that the sound therefrom creates a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary, except for emergency work of public service utilities or by special variance. No home construction shall be allowed on Saturday or Sunday except for construction between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- (3) *Domestic animals.* It shall be unlawful for any person owning or keeping an animal to allow that animal to continuously (exceeding 15 minutes in duration, or greater than five minutes between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.) or repeatedly (consisting of 15 minutes over the course of one hour) howl, bark, whine or make other loud noises plainly audible from inside any adjacent or nearby residential structure owned by any person other than the animal owner.
- (4) *Domestic power tools.* It shall be a violation of this article to operate or permit the operation of any mechanically powered saw, drill, sander, grinder, lawn or garden tool, lawnmower, or other similar device used outdoors, other than powered snow removal equipment, between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., or on Saturday or Sunday before the hour of 9:00 a.m.
- (5) *Explosives, firearms, or similar devices.* It shall be unlawful for any person to use or fire any explosives, firearms, or similar devices which create impulsive sound so as to cause a noise disturbance across a real property boundary or on a public space or right-of-way, without first obtaining a special variance.
- (6) *Loudspeakers; amplifiers.* It shall be unlawful for any person to use, operate, or permit the operation of any loudspeaker, public address system, mobile sound vehicle or similar device amplifying sound therefrom on a public right-of-way or public space for any commercial purpose. Further, it shall be unlawful to use, operate, or permit for any noncommercial purposes any loudspeaker, public address system, mobile sound vehicle, or similar device between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. on weekends.
- (7) *Radios phonographs, musical instruments and similar devices.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, play, or permit the operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, drum, musical instrument, or similar device:
 - a. Between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. on weekends in such a manner as to create a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary, except as allowed by permit issued by the mayor and city council; or
 - b. In such a manner as to create a continuing noise disturbance at 50 feet from such device, when operated in or on a motor vehicle on a public right-of-way or public space.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2nd..... General Election 7am-7pm
All City residents will vote for the Mountain Park election in the Community Building. All Georgia voters are required to provide valid photo identification in order to vote.

November 3rd.....City Court @ 7pm

November 6th.....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!

November 11th..... City Hall Closed

November 17th.....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.

November 22nd..... 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.

November 25th and 26th..... City Hall Closed

****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.

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

