



March 2023 Newsletter



Mayor's Message

What beautiful spring weather we have been enjoying this week, but we all know that winter may be far from over, storms and even snowstorms happen in March so we must be prepared for anything.

I want to thank Councilperson Auerbach, the MPVFR recruits and Chief Miceli for a great presentation at the last council meeting about the current status of the Volunteer Fire Station. Look for information about additional meetings to continue the discussion regarding the future of our station.

Our community is made up of many different people and opinions about how we should all live together but there are rules we all must follow. With the absence of a code compliance officer during COVID we fell behind in some respects with keeping up with who wasn't following those rules. We now have a part time compliance officer that is working on numerous older things that need to be corrected or remedied. This catching up doesn't always allow for him to stay on top of everything that is happening today or tomorrow in Mountain Park. Under these circumstances he doesn't always see what to some may be obvious even though part of his job is to patrol the city. Because of this we need your help in making sure everyone is aware of and following the rules that guide our community and conducting themselves accordingly. If you see something that you think may not be compliant then let City Hall know by sending an email, leaving a phone message or drop a note in the water bill drop box to point out the situation so we can follow up and determine if in fact an issue does exist. If the Officer visits the address and no issue exist, then "No harm-No foul" but if there is an issue, he can immediately address it. Nobody has to be identified for simple raising the question about a neighbor knowing and following the rules that govern our city. Remember if you "See Something-Say Something" so Officer Peck can do his job and keep our little eclectic community fair & beautiful for everyone.

Have a great Spring and look for some upcoming events for us to get together and enjoy.

Jim Still—Mayor

"Respect is a two-way street that should be traveled often."

Civic Club News

Mountain Park Civic Club invites you to join us in 2023, mark your calendars for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Civic Club is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors and enjoy planning, and supporting your community through various service activities, projects, and fun community events.

Our upcoming meeting is Tuesday, March 14th @ 7PM in the community building.



And please join us for Coffee with Neighbors on Saturday, March 18th from 9:30AM-11:00AM in the community building.

Yearly membership is \$5.00/person or \$15.00 per family of 3 or more.

Hope to see you there!

Yard Waste and Recycling

It's that time of year when you may be thinking about doing some spring cleaning around your house and in your yard. Waste Pro **DOES NOT ALLOW** yard waste to be collected in the weekly trash service. If you have yard waste, it can be mulched/composted or put into the monthly dumpster that is available to residents of Mountain Park. The dumpster is available from 7am-10am on the first Saturday of each month. Residents of Mountain Park can utilize the dumpster provided to get rid of larger items and yard waste that you are unable to put into the regular trash. Also attached to this newsletter are the proper recycling procedures and a detailed listing of what can be recycled and what cannot be recycled.





MPVFR MESSAGE



WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

If you or someone you know would be interested in serving the city, please email us. We are looking for certified (fire and/or EMS) or non-certified people.



Mountain Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue

112 Lakeshore Dr Mountain Park GA 30075

(770) 998 - 3533

mpvfr@mpvfr.org



www.mountainparkgov.com

Code Compliance/Enforcement



Unlike public safety personnel like firefighters or law enforcement officers, a code compliance/enforcement officer's role can vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. In some jurisdictions, a code enforcement officer may enforce one or all types of violations. These can include parking, animal, zoning, health, housing, property maintenance, business licensing, stormwater issues, building codes or other types of enforceable codes.

Code compliance/enforcement officers enforce the jurisdiction's established code requirements, ordinances, and zoning laws, as well as any adopted codes such as state codes or model codes. Code compliance/enforcement officers frequently receive complaints from citizens, other city departments and outside agencies. We investigate those complaints and if they confirm violations, then we will work with property owners to ensure that they comply with local regulations.

In Mountain Park, majority (probably between 80 – 90%) of what will be enforced derives from citizen complaints. Any and all of your concerns are welcomed and will be addressed. To use the motto from the Homeland Security public awareness campaign, "If You See Something, Say Something." If you were to make a complaint to City Hall (or to me directly via email), you can remain anonymous if you wish. Upon receiving your complaint(s), a case is opened, and the investigation begins. Some complaints can be handled and resolved in one visit to a location. Other complaints can and will take time to investigate, research, make contact, and follow-up visits before a resolution can be reached.

Full transparency here, in cases where it will take me time to get a resolution, it can appear to the complainant that there is nothing happening or that the complaint has been ignored. I can assure you that that is not the case. I am working diligently to give each case/complaint the attention that they deserve but please note that I am working on multiple cases/complaints at one time. Specialized patrols are also conducted. Unlike the patrols that I conducted back when I was a police officer, these patrols are for investigative purposes and for observed code compliance issues (that were not complaint based).

To the citizens of this great city, I appreciate all of your support, your patience, understanding, and your complaints (and tips).

M. Peck

Code Enforcement Officer

Code.compliance@mountainparkgov.com



Know Your City Code



Chapter 6 – ANIMALS DIVISION 2-HOUSEHOLD PETS

Sec. 6-61. - Number of household pets limited in residential districts.

(a) For purposes of this division "household pet" is defined as any animal owned or kept for pleasure rather than sale, which is an animal of a species customarily bred and raised to live in the habitat of humans and is dependent upon them for food and shelter; except that livestock and wild animal shall not be deemed pets.

(b) No person who is a resident of a district zoned solely for residential uses, according to the official zoning map of the city, as it now exists or as is subsequently amended, shall own, board, or be the custodian of more than four household pets; and no household, regardless of the number of persons residing in same, shall own, board, or be the custodian of more than four household pets.

(c) For purposes of this section, an animal under the age of 14 weeks shall not be considered a household pet, provided that the animal is the offspring of a parent household pet belonging to and residing in the household with that owner or custodian.

NO BURNING ALLOWED IN THE CITY

Sec. 30-35. Outdoor burning ban.

- (a) The fire chief, upon the advice and consent of council, may issue an outdoor burning ban.
- (b) After an outdoor burning ban has been enacted, said ban shall continue until such time as a majority affirmative vote of the mayor and city council ends the ban.
- (c) The outdoor burning ban shall apply to all areas within the geographic limits of the city, whether located in Cherokee or Fulton counties.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions contained herein, any county issued, or state issued outdoor burning ban affecting property within the geographic limits of the City of Mountain Park shall supersede the city-imposed ban.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an outdoor cooking fire, provided that the cooking fire is contained in a properly constructed fire pit, grill, or fireplace and that the cooking fire is attended by a competent adult in possession of a readily accessible and adequate means of extinguishment. For purposes of this section a functioning garden hose of such length to encircle the cooking fire and located within 50 feet of the cooking fire shall be considered an adequate means of extinguishment.



IMPORTANT DATES

March 1st.....Siren Testing @ 12pm

March 1st.....City Court @ 7pm

March 4th.....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!

March 11th.....Recycle Day 7am-10am

March 22nd.....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.

March 25th.....Recycle Day 7am-10am

March 27th..... Regular Council @ 7pm

****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 or containers that are not from WastePro. No yard debris is allowed. If your trash pick-up is missed, please contact City Hall Thursday morning before 12pm by calling 770-993-4231 or emailing utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com.

****REMINDER****

If you see a streetlight out in the City of Mountain Park, please contact City Hall at 770-993-4231 to report it.

MTN PARK CIVIC CLUB

COFFEE WITH NEIGHBORS



Dress in green and join
us for Biscuits, Blarney
and a wee bit o' fun!

SATURDAY
MARCH
18TH



We're going "green"
this year... so please
bring your favorite
coffee mug to clink
with your neighbors!

FROM 9:30^{AM} - 11:00^{AM}
AT THE CIVIC BUILDING