

The WaterSpout

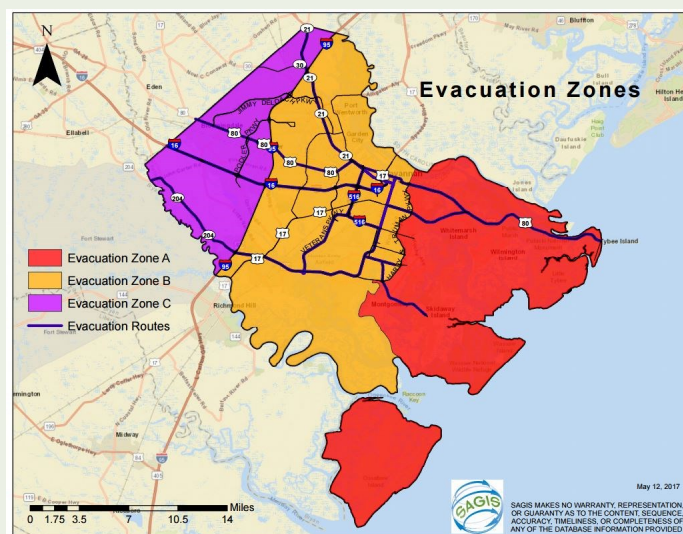
Hurricane Season Has Arrived

Hurricane season runs from June 1st through November 30th. Per the National Weather Service, on average 12 tropical storms, 6 of which become hurricanes, form over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea or Gulf of Mexico during the hurricane season. Forecasters at NOAA are predicting 11-17 named storms, 5-6 hurricanes, and 2-4 major hurricanes for the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season. Now is the time to make your plans in case one of those projected hurricanes sets its course for coastal Georgia.

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) website provides all the information that you will need to assist you in being prepared for whatever Mother Nature sends your way. Do you have an emergency kit ready if needed? If not, CEMA makes it easy by providing a list of everything you'll need to include in your kit. Do you know which evacuation zone you live in or which surge zone your home or business is located in? If not, they have maps to help you figure that out. What should you do when a hurricane watch has been issued? CEMA has your "To Do List". Do you need assistance evacuating because you don't have a personal vehicle? Public transportation is available for those in need. Find out where and when the buses will be departing on the CEMA website.

Don't wait until a hurricane is headed our way! Follow this link to the CEMA website now to make sure that you are prepared:

<http://www.chathamemergency.org/>



Water Restrictions are Still in Effect

Find us on the Web, Facebook & Twitter!!!

Find us on the Web:

www.mpcnaturalresources.org

www.thempc.org

Find us on Facebook:

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It is important to remember that there are permanent outdoor watering restrictions for all of Chatham County. These restrictions remain in effect during both declared drought and non-drought periods.

The following outdoor watering schedules apply for all of Chatham County:

- The use of outdoor water is not allowed on between **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**;
- No watering is allowed on **Fridays**;

Outdoor watering allowed between 4:01 PM– 9:59 AM						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Even/Un-numbered addresses	Odd addresses	Even/Un-numbered addresses	Odd addresses	X	Even/Un-numbered addresses	Odd addresses

Only Rain Down the Drain

Summer time in the Southeast means afternoon thunderstorms. Those rains can sometimes be a welcome reprieve from the summer heat, as they cool us down a bit and give our trees and lawns a much needed drink of water. But where does all the water go that does not make its way onto our lawns or other pervious surfaces? It goes into our storm drains, directly to our streams and rivers without any treatment to filter out the litter and other pollutants.

Check out this short video that reminds us all why we should never litter and why we should always pick up litter that we see, even if it is not ours:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhIBSOITYdQ&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=May+2016&utm_campaign=May+2016&utm)

[v=LhIBSOITYdQ&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=May+2016&utm_campaign=May+2016&utm](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhIBSOITYdQ&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=May+2016&utm_campaign=May+2016&utm)



Thanks to Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation's *Live Well. Be Well.* initiative, Forsyth Farmers' Market has created **Farm Truck 912**, a mobile farmers' market that brings local fruits and vegetables to Savannah neighborhoods with the least access to healthy food.

Farm Truck 912 both *accept* and *double* SNAP/EBT benefits and offer health and nutrition opportunities!

The current Farm Truck stops include:

- **Department of Family & Children Services**
 - **Monday: 10am-11:30am**
- **Savannah Gardens**
 - **Monday: 3pm-4pm**
- **Sustainable Fellwood**
 - **Tuesday: 1pm-2pm**
- **WW Law Community Center**
 - **Thursday: 3pm-4pm**
- **Sheppard's Gas and Food Mart**
 - **Thursday: 5pm-6pm**
- **Memorial Health**
 - **One Friday of each month: 11am-1pm**

Beat the Summer Heat While Using Less Energy

The dog days of summer are upon us here in the southeast and it is easy to crank up the air conditioner in an effort to cool off. However, while that may cool you down now, you will be feeling the heat when your electricity bill arrives. Electricity use and cost peak on hot summer days, but you can stay cool and save some money by making efficient choices for cooling your house. Using less electricity also reduces air pollution and mercury emissions, making it a good choice for you, your wallet, and Mother Nature.

Here are a few things that you can do at your house to help keep it cool:

- Close blinds during the day to keep direct sunlight from warming up the house.
- Use a fan when people are in the room, but don't leave a fan running in an empty room. A fan feels cool because of the wind on your skin. It doesn't actually make the room cooler, unless it's placed in a window with the purpose of pulling in cool outside air.
- Turn off and avoid heat sources, like the oven, stove, incandescent light bulbs, electronics, and clothes dryer.
- Avoid creating steam, because it raises the humidity level. Steam comes from boiling water, hot showers, washing dishes, or hanging wet clothes. On hot days take short, cool showers, hang clean clothes on a drying rack outside, and skip the drying cycle on the dishwasher.
- Install and use a programmable thermostat. Set the temperature for 78 degrees when you are home and warmer when you are away.
- Check seals around windows and doors to make sure that cool air is not escaping and hot air isn't coming in. Replace sealant or caulking as necessary.

Give your air conditioner some TLC to ensure that it is operating efficiently. Clean or replace filters once a month. Have the ducts checked for leaks, which can reduce a system's efficiency by as much as 15% according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Schedule a tune-up for your AC- this will not only reduce your electricity bill, but it can extend the life of your air conditioner as well.

How You Can Stay Cool Too

- Wear fabrics that are thin, light colored, and loose, allowing for air movement next to the skin to help with evaporation.
- Keep a spray bottle in the refrigerator and give yourself a good squirt when it gets hot. Begin with your wrists to quickly cool down the blood flowing through your veins.
- Apply a cold compress to the back of your neck. If you don't already own one, you can make one by filling a cotton sock with rice (sew or tie it closed) and freezing it for a couple of hours.
- Stay hydrated. As you lose water to dehydration, your body temperature rises, so replacing fluids is essential to keeping cool. Avoid beverages with alcohol or caffeine, both of which are dehydrating.
- Eat lighter meals with lots of fruits and vegetables, which are easier to digest than fatty meals and contain lots of water, helping keep you hydrated. Did you know that watermelon has the greatest water content of any food out there?
- Eat spicy foods. They will make you sweat without actually raising your body temperature. Once your skin is damp, you'll feel cooled by its evaporation.

Red Zone Water Supply Management Plan

Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission

110 East State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Phone: 912-651-1440



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In 2016, the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) was awarded a Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG) for the preparation of an update to the Chatham County Water Supply Management Plan. This grant, titled “Red Zone Water Supply Management Plan” seeks to address water supply issues facing the region denoted by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) as the “Red Zone”- this includes all of Chatham County and the southern portion of Effingham County.

The Plan goals are to coordinate water supply planning from a regional perspective within the Red Zone; to bring together municipal, private, and industrial water supply permit holders in the Red Zone to identify more efficient and sustainable ways to utilize coastal Georgia’s precious water supply resources; and to collectively develop a specific and measurable plan that will allow Red Zone Water Withdrawal Permit holders to meet the recently mandated groundwater withdrawal permit limit reduction for 2020 and 2050.

The project team has held two stakeholder meetings and has gathered pertinent information to assist with the drafting of recommendations. The next step is to engage the general public to understand their concerns and levels of support for any proposed recommendations that may come from this plan. Look for opportunities to get involved in the near future!



Forsyth Farmers' Market

Every Saturday at the south end of Forsyth Park
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Support local farmers, and improve your health by shopping at the Forsyth Farmers' Market. Select from a variety of fresh, regional produce sold by farmers, and take advantage of nutritional information and demonstrations offered at the health pavilion. EBT cards are accepted. Please visit:

www.forsythfarmersmarket.org

for more information.

