



CHATHAM COUNTY—SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING
COMMISSION

The WaterSpout

2018 FALL EDITION

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Only Rain Down the Storm Drain!

It is your responsibility to make sure that nothing but rain water flows from your yard into storm drains. Yard waste entering storm drains increases the risk of flooding and adds pollutants to the environment. Sweeping or blowing grass clippings, fallen leaves, or other yard waste into the street or down the storm drain can cause serious damage to the storm sewer system and to the water bodies to which storm drains lead. Not only does yard waste cause blockages to the drainage system which can lead to localized flooding, it can also add carbon and nitrogen to our area waterbodies through its decomposition. This can lead to algae blooms and fish kills.

Perhaps you only occasionally allow grass clipping, leaves, and other yard waste to wash down the drains. Multiply your "occasional" by all the homes in Chatham County and it's easy to see why it's a major concern. Yard clippings, tree limbs, and trash can clog up the storm drains and ditches causing street and yard flooding, even with only moderate rainfall.

If you have someone provide lawn services for you, it is your duty to make sure that they dispose of your lawn clippings and other yard waste properly. Make sure that they do not blow leaves, grass clippings, etc. into the street or storm drain to ensure that they do not contribute to the stormwater pollution problems.

Not only is it bad for the environment and our stormwater system to allow lawn clippings and other yard waste to wash down a storm drain, it is a direct violation of each of Chatham County's municipalities' stormwater codes and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits.



To report a problem/concern contact:

*Chatham County (912)652-6840
City of Bloomingdale (912)748-0970
City of Savannah (912)651-6565 or 311*

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Find us on the Web:
www.mpcnaturalresources.org
www.thempc.org

Find us on Facebook:
[MPC Natural Resources](https://www.facebook.com/MPCNaturalResources)

Find us on Twitter:
[http://twitter.com/#!/MPCNatResources](https://twitter.com/#!/MPCNatResources)

Address:
110 East State Street
Savannah, Georgia 31412
Phone:
912-651-1440



Water Restrictions are Still in Effect

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 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



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:

FARM TRUCK 912

Current Schedule

Monday

WW Law Library / 909 E Bolton St.
4:00-6:00pm

Tuesday

Skidaway Island / 1 W Ridge Rd.
12:30-2:00pm

Daffin Park / 1301 E. Victory Dr.
3:00-6:00pm

Wednesday

Savannah Gardens / 515 Pennsylvania Ave.
1:00-2:30pm

Lady Bamford / 1410 Richards St.
3:30-5:15pm

Thursday

CITGO Sheppard's Gas & Food Mart / 1302 W Gwinnett St.
12:30-2:00pm

West Broad Street YMCA / 1110 May St.
3:00-5:30pm

Sunday

Jewish Educational Alliance / 5111 Abercorn St.
11:00-1:00pm

Last updated: 3/07/2018



Coming to a Storm Drain Near You!!

We are currently looking for groups such as neighborhood associations, service organizations, and church groups that are interested in helping protect our area's water bodies from pollution by placing storm drain markers throughout the community.



Many people do not realize that storm drains empty directly into nearby water bodies, acting as a direct channel for debris, litter, and other pollutants that rain picks up from our streets and parking lots and dumps into our local waters. Putting the important message "Only Rain Down The Storm Drain" on area storm drains reminds people of the connection between the drains and our canals and rivers.

If your organization is interested in participating in our storm drain marking program you will learn more about how storm drains work and where they drain to. Then you will help us go out into the community and place the storm drain tiles on designated storm drains. After a few short hours you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to protect our local waterways.

For more information regarding the Storm Drain Marking Program, please contact Angela Bliss at (912)651-1463 or at blissa@thempc.org

Annual River Cleanup



2017 River's Alive Cleanup
Saturday, October 14th
10 Rivers End
9:00-12:00pm

Rivers Alive is a state program focusing on protecting and improving the quality of our rivers. The local annual clean up location is Harmon and Hayners Creeks. Volunteers meet at the Rivers End boat ramp.

For more information, go to: <https://www.savannahga.gov/1777/Annual-River-Cleanup>



What Should I Do With My Yard Waste?

Now you know what you **shouldn't** do with your yard waste, but do you know what you **should** do?

- The best option is to re-mow several times so that the clippings and leaves will sink down into the lawn and break down, providing natural fertilizer to your lawn. Leaving grass clippings on the lawn all summer is equivalent to one application of fertilizer.
- Another option is to compost lawn clippings and leaves for reapplication to your lawn or garden.
- Leaves and lawn clippings may be bagged in biodegradable brown bags and placed curbside to be collected or hauled to area collection sites as well.
- Do not bag your clippings and leaves and place them in the trash for regular household refuse pickup, as this uses valuable landfill space unnecessarily and is in violation of the landfills' solid waste permit.



Skidaway Marine Science Day

Stop by and see us at the MPC Natural Resources Booth on October 13th from 11 am to 3 pm at Skidaway Marine Science Day! The event will be held on the UGA Skidaway Marine Science Campus, located on the north end of the island at 10 Ocean Science Circle. The UGA Aquarium will be open to visitors with no admission fee.

Come meet Ossabaw, the Loggerhead Sea Turtle! Aquarium educators will offer visitors an afternoon full of activities, including a hands-on reptile exhibit, behind-the-scenes peeks of the aquarium, fish feedings and microscope investigations. A touch tank exhibit will allow guests of all ages to get up close and personal with common coastal invertebrates such as spider crabs, whelks, and horseshoe crabs. Don't miss this fun filled event!

DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Day 2018

Is your cabinet filled with expired or unneeded medicine bottles and you don't know what to do with them? Don't flush them down the toilet or throw them in the trash! Take them to the DEA Drug Take Back Day where they will be safely disposed of.

When: October 27th 10-2 PM

To find a location near you, go to: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

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

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Forsyth Farmers' Market

Every Saturday at the south
end of Forsyth Park from 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.



Check out our **new and improved**
MPC Natural Resources website!!

<https://mpcnaturalresources.org/>