



CHATHAM COUNTY—SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING
COMMISSION

The WaterSpout

2019 FALL EDITION

What's Inside:

MTP Update

Student Art Contest

Rain Barrel Sale

Watering Restrictions

Farm Truck 912

Forsyth Farmer's
Market

Reduce, Reuse, & (if all else fails) Recycle

Over the last 20 years we have become trained to think if we recycle our glass, plastics, and paper products that we are making up for the fact that we have become a single use, throw-away society. We have been lulled into the fantasy that recycling mitigates the damage done by the harvesting of raw materials and turning those materials into the products we use one time before disposing of them. We feel good about our efforts to protect the planet when we see our recycling bin overflowing, while our trash can sits near empty. That feeling has allowed us to continue, or even increase, our dependence on single use items because we feel that we are not harming the environment if we are recycling. Recycling has become the pinnacle of our waste hierarchy and little focus has been put on the other two "R"s, reduce and reuse.

Unfortunately the recycling industry has been facing changing recycling markets in recent years and many items that were once profitable to recycle are no longer sought after and are finding themselves in our landfills once again. China, once the highest importer of recycled goods, has pledged to ban all imported recycled materials by 2020, having a global impact on recycling programs. The changing market has resulted in an oversupply of recycled materials which in turn is depressing the pricing (supply is high, price is low). This leaves many municipalities questioning whether recycling is economically viable and is forcing them to review their recycling programs and make changes. They have to determine which materials offer the best environmental benefit and, of those, which have an end market. They also should consider changes to their current education campaigns that promote recycling over reduction and reusing of materials.

Continued on Page 3

Melanie Wilson
Executive Director

Debbie Burke, AICP
Natural Resources Planner

Kait Morano
Comprehensive Planner

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[http://twitter.com/
MPCNatResources](https://twitter.com/MPCNatResources)

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

CALLING ALL CHATHAM COUNTY STUDENTS!

Do you like to draw? Do you care about the environment and want to help teach others about keeping our stormwater clean? If you answered yes to either of these questions and you are a student in Chatham County between the ages of 4 –18, we want to see your drawings showing ways to **KEEP STORMWATER CLEAN**. You just might find your artwork displayed on an 18-month calendar (July 2020 through December 2021). For more information and submission requirements, go to [https://cccdn.blob.core.windows.net/cdn/Files/Engineering/Stormwater Poster Rules 8 7.pdf](https://cccdn.blob.core.windows.net/cdn/Files/Engineering/Stormwater%20Poster%20Rules%208%207.pdf)



If you're wondering what stormwater is exactly, it is a common term referring to rain that falls and flows over the ground during a storm. Stormwater flows directly off of roads, lawns, pavement, and other impervious surfaces sometimes causing flooding, and eventually draining directly into nearby waterways. Stormwater should be clean and free of pollutants and sediments. However that is often not the case. As stormwater flows over surfaces, it collects and carries pollutants into nearby waterways. Some examples of pollutants include oil, fertilizer, trash, and pet waste.

Now that you know what stormwater is, let's see those drawings of ways to **KEEP STORMWATER CLEAN!**

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.

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

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN ADOPTED

Mobility 2045
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

The new Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2045, was adopted on August 7, 2019. The MTP is a comprehensive “blueprint” for \$1.8 billion in transportation services aimed at meeting mobility needs through the next 25+ years.

For more information scan the QR code to the right or visit www.thempc.org/Core/Mtp2045



Reduce, Reuse, & (if all else fails) Recycle

People still want to recycle, but it is becoming harder to do and not as effective as it once was. What can we do to help protect the environment if recycling is not the answer to all our waste management problems as we have all been taught?

We should start with a change of our mindset from recycling being the first and best option to dealing with waste. Instead, we need to focus on ways to reduce our waste in the first place – especially the single use items that we have become so dependent upon as a society. And when avoiding the use of a single use item is not possible, we should consider ways that the item can be reused before we recycle it or throw it out. Our last option, above throwing it in the trash can, should be to determine if the item is recyclable and recycling it if it is. Reduce, Reuse, and (if all else fails) Recycle!

What can YOU do to help keep items from ending up in the landfill?

- Skip the plastic – take your own reusable water bottle and/or straw with you, use reusable baggies for your lunch, take reusable bags to the grocery store, etc.
- Use reusable containers at home.
- Cancel unnecessary mail & sign up for your bills to be emailed to you.
- Repair items rather than throwing them away.
- Spend a little more money to get a better quality product, rather than buying something cheaper that won't last very long.
- Donate items that still have some life to them.
- Use old, unwearable clothes as cleaning rags. If you have enough cleaning rags, then put them in the green bins you see around town. They use those materials to make other products. To find a recycling bin near you, go to the Recycling Locator at <https://earth911.com/recycling-guide/how-to-recycle-clothing-accessories/#recycling-locator>
- Buy clothes from a consignment shop rather than purchasing new.
- Compost leftover food items, as well as some other materials such as shredded newspaper.
- When you do recycle, make sure that your recycling bin is not contaminated with items that are not recyclable in your community program.



FARM TRUCK 912

Current Schedule

Sunday

West Broad Street YMCA / 1110 May St.

12:00-2:00pm

Jewish Educational Alliance / 5111 Abercorn St.

2:30-4:30pm

Monday

Union Mission - Yamacraw / 120 Fahm St

12:30-2:30pm

Hitch Village / Burney Dr. and E. Broad St.

3:00-5:00pm

Tuesday

Skidaway Island / 1 W Ridge Road

2:00-5:00pm

Wednesday

Daffin Park - Salvation Army / 3000 Bee Road

12:00-2:00pm

Lady Bamford- Fellwood / 1410 Richards St.

3:30-5:15pm

Thursday

Good Samaritan - Garden City/ 4704 Augusta Road

10:00-12:00pm

Sheppard's Gas & Food-

Carver Village / 1302 W Gwinnett St.

12:30-2:00pm

Friday

Sisters Court Apartments / 222 E 37th St

12:00-2:00pm

WW Law / 909 E Bolton St.

3:00-5:00

Saturday

Montgomery Plaza / 3811 Montgomery St

1:00-3:00pm

Savannah Gardens / 515 Pennsylvania Ave

3:30-5:30pm

Last updated: 01/31/2019

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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.

Please visit: www.forsythfarmersmarket.org



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

<https://mpcnaturalresources.org/>