



CHATHAM COUNTY—SAVANNAH  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
COMMISSION

# The WaterSpout

2018-2019 WINTER EDITION

## What's Inside:

Water Restrictions  
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## See Something, Say Something

As community members, we all play a large role in identifying and reducing illicit discharges in our neighborhoods. What is an illicit discharge? It is anything that drains or is dumped into a storm drain that is not stormwater. It is all of our responsibility to be good stewards of the environment and make sure nothing but rain ends up in our storm drains because they drain directly to our nearby waterbodies. Unlike the water in our sewer systems, stormwater is not treated before it is released into a canal, river, or stream.

You might be thinking, I am a good steward of the environment and I'm doing my part to keep illicit discharges out of the storm drain, what more do you want from me? You never put leaves or yard clippings down the storm drain, you would never think of pouring used motor oil down it, you pick up your pet waste, and you wash your car on the lawn to avoid the soap from rinsing directly into the drain...isn't that enough?

Those are all great efforts to keep our waterways clean, but there is still more that you can do. If you see somebody dumping, sweeping, or rinsing items onto street surfaces, into storm drains, or into any other device built to contain rainfall or runoff, say something. Tell them that it is a direct violation of each of Chatham County's municipalities' stormwater codes and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and they can be fined for it. Explain to them the negative impacts that their acts will have on our waterbodies. Many people simply do not know.

If you do not feel comfortable engaging with the person directly, contact the appropriate jurisdiction to report the illicit discharge. Provide the stormwater personnel with the date, time, location, type of violation, and any information you have about the person responsible. See something, say something!

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

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

*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



## 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	<b>X</b>	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*

## Mark Your Calendars



**Saturday**  
**April 20, 2019**  
**12pm - 5pm**  
**Daffin Park**

# Green Resolutions

Are you one of the many that makes New Year's Resolutions every year? If so, as you think about your resolutions for the upcoming year consider adding some "green" resolutions to your list. Think of the difference that it would make if everybody added just one resolution that resulted in them being a little friendlier to the environment. Little changes add up--especially if every person is making a change. On New Year's Eve when you're thinking about your resolutions for 2019, consider adding one of these small changes:

## Turn Off the Lights, Televisions, Computers, Etc.

Turn off lights, televisions, computers, etc. when you are done using them or when you leave a room. Not only is this better for the environment, but it's better for your wallet.

## Use Reusable Bags

When you go shopping, take your reusable bags with you and skip the plastic bags. These days they have a reusable bag for everybody, from football fans to fashionistas to supporters of every cause, so grab the bag that suits you best.

## Skip the Straw

Per the Ocean Conservancy, the average person uses 1.6 straws per day. Once discarded, many straws find their way into our waterways, negatively impacting wildlife. For most people straws are not necessary. If you don't need to drink using a straw, consider using a reusable straw or skip the straw completely.

## Recycle

If you're not recycling yet, now is the perfect time to start. Many of Chatham County's local jurisdictions have made it easier than ever to recycle with their curbside or drop-off recycling programs.

## Shop Locally

Nobody is suggesting that you have to buy only locally grown or made items, but consider buying your fruits and vegetables at the Farmers' Market (see page 4 for Forsyth Farmers' Market details or page 2 for the Farm Truck schedule) instead of the grocery store. When buying a present for a friend or family member, consider buying something from a local artist or some local sweets they can't get anywhere else.

## Meatless Mondays

Join the growing numbers of people that are going meatless one day a week. Not only is it better for the environment and your wallet, but this one is better for your waistline as well. From simple spaghetti to the more elaborate ravioli with pumpkin seed pesto, there is a recipe for all taste buds.

## Ride the Bus or Your Bike, or Walk Once A Week

For some this may not be an option, but for those of you that are fortunate enough to live in an area that you can ride the bus or your bike, or walk for some of your trips, just replacing one trip a week can make a big difference. In addition, if you ride your bike or walk you will be helping yourself accomplish the goal we all make each year- to exercise more in the New Year.



## What Is Pollution Prevention (P2)?

According to the EPA website, Pollution Prevention (P2) is any practice that reduces, eliminates, or prevents pollution at its source. It is also known as "source reduction" and is the most preferred method in the Environmental Protection Hierarchy (see above).

Reducing the amount of pollution in the first place means less waste to contend with and less negative impacts to public health and the environment. P2 reduces both the financial costs and environmental costs associated with pollution.

Many times P2 practices are overlooked because the focus is placed on treatment and disposal methods. Here are a few ideas of P2 practices that you can use at home:

- Use a reusable water bottle instead of single use bottles
- Turn off lights when not in use
- Repair leaky faucets and hoses
- Use "green" cleaners.

For more information about this topic, check out the EPA website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/p2>



## Don't Forget to Winterize Your Home

The winter months can be a drain on your wallet as the temperatures go down and your electricity bills go up. Winterizing your home doesn't have to cost a lot of money and much of it you can do yourself. Here are some helpful tips on how to make small, inexpensive improvements that will help keep your home warm and toasty throughout winter:

1. Change your furnace filters monthly during heating season.
2. Run fans on reverse to help circulate warm air... remember heat rises.
3. Turn down your water heater and cover it with a water heater blanket to keep it from losing heat as quickly.
4. Cover any door drafts...leaving a drafty door uncovered is literally letting money go out the door.
5. Make sure your fireplace flue is closed all the way and that you cannot feel any cold air coming in when it's closed.
6. Tune-up your heating system to make sure it is operating at its optimum level.
6. Caulk and weather strip your windows to stop energy from flying away.
7. Improve the insulation in your attic, crawl spaces, and exposed areas of decks. Don't forget your pipes!
8. Lower your thermostat when you're not home and/or are sleeping.
9. And while you're at it, don't forget to make sure your carbon monoxide and smoke alarms have fresh batteries!!!

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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!!

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