



CHATHAM COUNTY—SAVANNAH  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
COMMISSION

# The WaterSpout

2020 SPRING EDITION

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Earth Day

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## Environmentally Friendly Activities While Social Distancing

Hopefully you all are doing your part to follow the CDC guidelines (for more information regarding their guidelines go to: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) to help flatten the curve of the spread of the coronavirus. For some that might mean working from home or homeschooling your children, while others might still be working in the office during the week but spending more time at home on the weekends. Regardless if you find yourself at home full time or just two days a week, it doesn't have to be boring. Here are a few environmentally friendly things that you can do while you responsibly social distance:

- Plant a garden. No matter where you live, you can create a garden that fits your space...from a window box to a large plot in your yard. Skip the fertilizer and plant species that are native to the area to reduce the need for watering of your plants.
- Take a hike at a park or on a nature trail. Getting out in the fresh air and sunshine while you exercise will help you mentally and physically during these stressful times. Remember to stay six feet away from anyone not living in your household.
- Take a walk around your neighborhood and pick up trash. Maintain your social distance of six feet and wear gloves if you can. Also, don't forget to keep your hands off your face after you've touched any trash and wash your hands for 20 seconds as soon as you get home.
- Go on a bike ride. You can do this around your neighborhood, at a park, or at one of the many trails or paths in the area.
- Read a book. If you're anything like most of us you have a long list of books that you want to read but never seem to have the time to read them. Now is your excuse to slow down and read a good book.

No matter what you do to fill your time during these next few days or weeks, remember to follow the local and state guidelines for where you live to help keep you safe and stop the spread of the coronavirus. We're all in this together and we owe it to each other to be responsible during these challenging times!



## 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

*mobilizing fresh food for all*



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!

**CANCELLED**

**Savannah Earth Day Festival 2020 Savannah has been canceled**

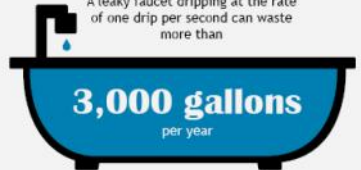


### THE FACTS ON LEAKS



**10**

percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day




A leaky faucet dripping at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than

**3,000 gallons**

per year

**Did you know?**


Minor water leaks account for nearly



**1**

**trillion gallons**

of wasted water each year and is equal to annual household water use in nearly




A shower leaking at

**10 Drips**

per minute wastes more than

**500**

gallons per year




**11**


**million homes**

**Repair**

leaks by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and replacing them if necessary




**Replace** old toilets with WaterSense models & save



**13,000**


gallons of water savings for the average family


**Homeowners** can save



10 percent on their water bills

**look for**




[epa.gov/watersense](http://epa.gov/watersense)

# Top Ways YOU Can Prevent Stormwater Runoff

One of the easiest ways that we, as individuals, can help to protect our waterways is to reduce our contributions to stormwater pollution. Stormwater pollution is a major challenge to keeping our waterways clean in Chatham County. Here are some ways that we can have a big impact without costing a lot of money (some tips will actually help you save money):

**Only rain down the drain.** Stormdrains are for stormwater and nothing else. Stormwater does not get treated before it makes its way into our waterways. Do not dump oil, grease, chlorinated pool water, or anything else down a stormdrain.

**Don't litter!** It is sad that this must be said and is not common sense for all, but put your trash in an appropriate trash receptacle. Litter not only looks unappealing but it also gets swept away with stormwater into our waterways causing damage to our ecosystem and hurting wildlife. If you see litter, even if you are not the one who threw it out, pick it up and put it in the closest trash bin.

**Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.** When stormwater travels over yards and gardens it picks up sediments and pollutants such as chemicals that we use around the house. These pollutants destroy the natural balance of our waterbodies and surrounding marshes. Consider planting native plants that don't need chemicals to survive and use less toxic alternatives to pesticides.

**Consider installing a rain barrel.** A rain barrel can collect rainwater for use at a later time on your garden or lawn when needed. It will keep stormwater from running over your yard, driveway, and nearby streets carrying pollutants it picks up along the way into stormdrains and into our waterways. It can also save you money by letting you use (free) stormwater rather than water from your hose when you need to water your garden or lawn.

If you don't want to install a rain barrel, direct your downspouts onto your yard or garden, do not point them onto your driveway or other impervious surface. Your plants and soil will help to filter and clean the water some before it makes it to our waterways.



**Sweep your sidewalks and driveways clean.**

Don't use a hose to wash your sidewalks or driveways. This wastes water and sends water (that isn't rainwater) into our stormdrains. This is especially important if you have oil or other leaks from your car on your driveway. Make sure to put kitty litter on the spills to absorb the chemicals, sweep up the kitty litter once it's had a chance to work, and dispose of it properly. Fix your car promptly so it isn't also leaking in parking lots or on our roadways.

**Pick up after your dog.** Regardless of if you're precious pooch stays in your yard or does his business on a walk, dog poop has a lot of bacteria in it that is detrimental for our waterways. Picking up after your pets will help keep the bacteria from being swept up in stormwater and carried into our waterways.

**Wash your car on the lawn.** If you have to wash your car, do it on your lawn rather than on your driveway allowing the water to absorb into the soil rather than running into the gutter. Or take it to a car wash which has the infrastructure in place to collect water and reuse it or dispose of it correctly.

If we all do our part we can have a big impact!

## IMPORTANT REMINDER Census 2020

The 2020 Census is more than a population count. It's an opportunity to shape the future of our community. Census results have an impact on planning and funding for everything from water and sewer lines to disaster response, and so much more. Now is a great time to find out more about the census and fill out your response cards while you're responsibly socially distancing at home. To learn more about the 2020 Census and how you can help shape the future of your community at:

<https://2020census.gov/en/what-is-2020-census.html>

<https://2020census.gov/en/census-data.html>

# FARM TRUCK 912

## 2020 Schedule

### Sunday

West Broad Street YMCA / 1110 May St.

12:00-2:00pm\*

Jewish Educational Alliance / 5111 Abercorn St.

2:30-4:30pm

\*Every 3rd Sunday of each month, FT912 will be at Kingdom Life Church (425 W Montgomery Cross Rd) from 11:00-1:00pm instead of West Broad YMCA

### Monday

Union Mission - Yamacraw / 120 Fahm St

12:30-2:30pm

WW Law/ 909 E Bolton Street

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 and Sheppard's stops are temporarily closed.

### Friday

Sisters Court Apartments / 222 E 37th St

2:00-4:00pm

### Saturday

PARC / 425 Pennsylvania Ave

11:00am-1:00pm

*Last updated: 3/4/2020*

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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](http://www.forsythfarmersmarket.org)



Check out our MPC Natural Resources website!!

<https://www.thempc.org/Comprehensive/Natresc>