



CHATHAM COUNTY—SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING
COMMISSION

The WaterSpout

2020 SUMMER EDITION

What's Inside:

Water Restrictions

Farm Truck 912

Hurricane Season

Clean Energy vs. Re-
newable Energy

GDOT BMPs

The City of Savannah's Clean Energy Resolution

In March of this year the Savannah City Council took a major first step in addressing the issue of climate change in our region. Council unanimously adopted a resolution that states that “there is a clear scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change; the connection with human activities that create greenhouse gases; how it is presently harming our community; and the analysis of current trends confirming that future generations will experience an ever-escalating crisis.” The resolution further acknowledged that people of color, children and the elderly disproportionately suffer the economic, environmental, health and social hardships of climate change. This resolution is the much needed platform to launch initiatives that will result in meaningful programs and policies focusing on the reduction of the greenhouse gases we humans produce, which accelerate climate change.

Climate change does not simply mean warmer temperatures. Negative impacts of climate change that we see locally include extreme heat, warmer ocean waters that feed and strengthen hurricanes, loss of property and flooding in our region due to sea level rise and “sunny day” flooding, as well as natural resource destruction. These effects of climate change negatively impact our quality of life. And we humans are mostly to blame due to our burning of fossil fuels as our main energy source, releasing large amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere. It is imperative that we make changes to our energy consumption before it is too late, and this resolution by Council is a step in the right direction.

While most aspects of climate change are negative, it does provide us as a community an opportunity for innovation and job creation as we identify means to provide clean energy sources in our region. So far, the clean-energy sector has created 76,500 high-paying jobs in the State. The City, in making this resolution, has created an opportunity for economic development and job creation while increasing the City's resilience and reducing costs associated with mitigating damage to public health and safety.

(Continued on page 2)

Melanie Wilson
Executive Director

Jackie Jackson, AICP; LEED-AP
BD+C
Director of Advance Planning &
Special Projects

Debbie Burke, AICP
Natural Resources Planner

Find us on the Web:
[https://www.thempc.org/
Comprehensive/Natresc](https://www.thempc.org/Comprehensive/Natresc)

www.thempc.org

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

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

Address:

110 East State Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CHATHAM COUNTY

WHAT TO DO BEFORE AND AFTER A STORM HITS

2020 Hurricane Season

- BUILD AN EMERGENCY KIT**
Be sure to pack food, water, a flashlight, medications, batteries and essential items
- HAVE AN EVACUATION PLAN**
Have a plan for where you will go, how you will get there, and how you will communicate if you are separated
- COVID-19 brings new challenges to hurricane season this year. Stay tuned for more information on changes to plans and how they may impact you this hurricane season.**
- STORM SURGE**
Most homeowner's insurance does not cover flood damage. Check with your provider now to ensure you have a flood insurance policy
- STAY INFORMED**
Follow ChathamEMA on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- DOCUMENT YOUR HOME**
Take pictures and video of your belongings before an evacuation is ordered and again after you return

(Continued from page 1)

The City of Savannah's Clean Energy Resolution

What exactly does the resolution say?

The resolution states that "One Hundred Percent (100%) of electricity consumed in the City of Savannah shall be generated from safe, clean and renewable energy by 2035, and all other energy needs shall be generated from safe, clean, and renewable energy by 2050." The resolution also commits the City to developing a clean-energy action plan within 18 months of the adoption of the resolution. The action plan, which will be completed by October 2021, will be created through a partnership with utilities, institutional partners, industries, businesses, non-profit and community-based organizations, and residents. The City will collaborate with surrounding communities in order to achieve aligned clean-energy and equity goals as well. City Council commits to re-evaluating the goals and associated planning efforts at least once every three years, as technologies, policies, and economic feasibility of these commitments change. You can read the full resolution here: http://agenda.savannahga.gov/content/files/100-clean-energy-resolution-nd_2132020_clean-1-revised.pdf

Hurricane Season Has Arrived

Hurricane season runs from June 1st through November 30th. Forecasters at the National Weather Service are predicting an above average 2020 Atlantic hurricane season. The Climate Prediction Center is forecasting a likely range of 13 to 19 named storms, of which 6 to 10 could become hurricanes, including 3 to 6 major hurricanes. They "provide these ranges with a 70% confidence."

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) website provides all the information that you will need to assist you in being prepared for any inclement weather. Do you have an emergency kit ready if needed? If not, CEMA provides 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? 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:

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

Clean Energy vs. Renewable Energy

As we look to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and other nonrenewable energy sources it might be a bit confusing as to what exactly clean energy and/or renewable energy means. Do they both mean the same thing and are simply interchangeable words or is there a difference? Many people use the terms interchangeably but there is in fact a difference, however some energy sources fall into both categories.

For those that are not quite sure what non-renewable energy sources are, they are energy sources that take millions of year to form and are depleted much faster than they can regenerate naturally. Coal, oil, and gas are examples. In addition to emitting pollutants when these fuel sources are burned for energy, the methods to extract these resources can negatively impact the environment as well.

Renewable energy is energy derived from sources that cannot be depleted or that naturally replenish themselves constantly. Examples include wind, solar, hydropower, and geothermal power. They are often environmentally friendly but include power sources that can have some negative environmental impacts, such as hydropower.

Clean energy includes all zero-carbon energy sources, meaning they are net neutral or positive in terms of pollution and environmental impacts. Most renewable energy sources could also be called clean energy.

Both renewable and clean energy sources are an improvement on the energy sources that we have relied

upon for decades. Making the change to renewable or clean energy sources is becoming easier and less costly to do than ever before. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) says that there is a clean energy revolution taking place across the country due to the steady expansion of the U.S. renewable energy sector. This new industry is generating hundreds of billions in economic activity and is expected to continue in growth.

If you are interested in making changes to your personal or business energy consumption but you are not sure where to start, you may want to consider harnessing the power of the sun. According to the DOE, solar energy is the most abundant energy resource on earth with 173,000 terawatts of solar energy striking the Earth continuously. That is more than 10,000 times the world's energy use. The amount of sunlight that strikes the earth's surface in an hour and a half is enough to handle the entire world's energy consumption for a full year.

As more homeowners realize the long term savings and the initial costs of purchasing and installing solar panels continue to fall, more and more make the switch to solar for their energy needs. If you are interested in learning more about solar power and other clean energy sources, go to www.energy.gov. To estimate the potential of your home or business in regards to solar power Google has a fun tool called Project Sunroof to let you "discover your saving potential". Below is an example of the MPC's building. Check it out at: www.google.com/get/sunroof

The screenshot displays the Google Project Sunroof interface. At the top, it says "Google Project Sunroof" with a menu icon on the left and navigation links for "Savings estimator", "Data explorer", "Solar 101", and "FAQ" on the right. The main area shows an aerial view of a building with a heatmap overlay indicating solar potential. A white overlay box on the left contains the following information:

- Address: State Street Parking Garage, 110 E State St, Savannah, GA 31401
- Status: Analysis complete. Your roof has:
- 1,746 hours of usable sunlight per year (Based on day-to-day analysis of weather patterns)
- 8,157 sq feet available for solar panels (Based on 3D modeling of your roof and nearby trees)
- \$2,000 savings** (Estimated net savings for your roof over 20 years)
- Wrong building? Click another roof to view details.

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

FOR NOW, THIS IS A DELIVERY SITE FOR ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS ONLY

Saturday

PARC / 425 Pennsylvania Ave
11:00am-1:00pm

Last updated: 4/2/2020

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

Find us on the Web:

www.thempc.org

www.thempc.org/Comprehensive/Natresc

Find us on Facebook:

[MPC Natural Resources](#)

Find us on Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/#!/MPCNatResources>



GDOT

Protecting Our Waterways

The streams, canals, wetlands, and natural areas of coastal Georgia are defining features of our region. Not only is the protection of water resources important to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), it is also the law. Various regulations are in place to protect state waters. Projects must also follow additional requirement of federal regulations, such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clean Water Act (CWA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), and more.

The Georgia Erosion & Sedimentation Control Act requires protection of streams and waterways during construction activities. As you travel load roads here are a few of the mitigation and preventative measures you might see installed along corridors to protect coastal waters.

Silt Fencing

Silt fencing is a heavy-duty black material "fence" made from porous fabric that is partially buried in the ground and held in place with metal or wooden stakes. A silt fence is porous enough to allow water to flow through but not allow silt and debris to pass through it. During rain events, silt fencing filters sediments from the stormwater and prevents the particles from entering adjacent water ways.

Orange Barrier Fence

Keeping heavy machinery and construction activities out of sensitive areas is managed through the installation of bright orange mesh barriers that serve as a visual boundary of the limits of the construction area. The fencing is made from high-strength, molded UV protected polyethylene and is strong and flexible, making it resistant to weather and tearing.



Rip-rap

When stormwater is channelized into a ditch or other drainage structure, fast-moving water can lead to erosion and excessive sedimentation in streams and waterways. Large stones, or "rip-rap," is often used to keep stormwater from making direct and immediate contact with the soil and to slow down the rate of stormwater flow in order to minimize erosion.

Seeding

When rain falls on bare ground, soil is carried with the rainwater into adjacent waterways. Fast-growing seedlings are often used once construction is finished, or sometimes during staging, to introduce plants to bare areas. The roots of the plants hold the soil in place while the top of the plant covers the surface of the soil.

GDOT is responsible for installing and maintaining erosion control measures on State roads. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is responsible for the administration, permitting, and enforcement of Georgia's Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act. Learn more on EPD's website at <https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/erosion-and-sedimentation> and at the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission's website at <https://gaswcc.georgia.gov/>.



The MPC Wants to Hear From You!

Photo Courtesy of City of Savannah

Why You?

To continue the efforts of the City of Savannah, the MPC has been asked to collect additional public feedback about the "Arena and Canal District". The new Arena will become an anchor for a planned community entertainment district west of Downtown Savannah. Within this short survey, you will be asked to share your feedback and comments on the proposed development.

Thank you for your input!



Link to Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CanalDistrictMPCReview>

Telephone for Comment

912.651.1480

Email for Comment

CanalDistrictMPCReview@thempc.org

Survey Link on MPC Page

<https://www.thempc.org>

QR Code to Survey

