



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023

Inspired. Invigorated. Innovative



Ground Broken at New City Hall Site

Recent visitors to Thurman Springs Park and its Hardy Family Automotive Amphitheater may have noticed the construction fence erected around the site of the city's former Municipal Court building. The city facility will soon be renovated and expanded to become a new two-story City Hall, complete with an adjoining two-level parking deck.

Ground was officially broken at the site on May 22, and the project is expected to be completed in late 2024, allowing city departments to return to downtown and operate under one roof.

In addition to housing city departments, the new City Hall will also have art gallery space to feature a rotating selection of creations from local artists — similar to the display in the previous Community Development building.

Hearings Set for Millage Rate, Council Maps

The City will set the millage rate in July and the public is invited to attend the hearings at the Patricia C. Vaughn Cultural Arts Center at 4181 Atlanta St. on the following dates: July 17 at noon and 6 p.m., and July 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The City Council will be acting on the reapportionment maps for voting districts following its second public hearing at its 7 p.m. council meeting July 17 at the Patricia C. Vaughn Cultural Arts Center, 4181 Atlanta St. The first public hearing was during the council meeting on June 20.



Summer Concert Series Returns

Three great bands are coming to the Hardy Family Automotive Amphitheater in Thurman Springs Park for the third-annual "Sounds of the Springs" Concert Series. All concerts are free and open to the public.

The series kicks off July 29 with Head Games, a Foreigner tribute band. Aug. 26's event will feature Bogey & The Viceroy, creating an upbeat dance party featuring classic soul and R&B from every era along with retro rock/pop and onto today's dance party hits and chart-toppers. Closing out the series on Sept. 23 will be B.J. Wilbanks - That 70's Show.

All concerts start at 7:30 p.m.

No pets are allowed. Food and drink vendors will be on site at all three events, with both non-alcoholic and alcoholic options available.

Annual 'Bash' to Supply Students

Powder Springs Community Taskforce in collaboration with First Baptist Church of Powder Springs and LinkedUp Church present the 22nd-annual Back2School Bash on Saturday, July 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Thurman Springs Park, 4485 Pineview Drive.

In addition to backpack and school supply giveaways to registered attendees, the event will feature games, rides and activities, food, and a DJ.

Registration deadline is Sunday, July 16. Register by scanning the QR code.



Upcoming Events

For event locations and details please check the city website, cityofpowdersprings.org.

July 4: 4th of July Celebration & Cruise-In, 6-10pm

1st & 3rd Thursdays through October: The Market at Powder Springs, 6-9pm (No market July 6)

2nd & 4th Tuesdays through October: Food Trucks Frenzy, 6-9pm

July 13: Family to Park Day, 6:30pm

July 29: Back 2 School Bash, 10am-2pm

July 29: Sounds of the Springs Concert Series, 7:30pm

Aug. 11: Family to Park Day, 6:30pm

Aug. 19: Shred Day, 10am-2pm

Aug. 26: Sounds of the Springs Concert Series, 7:30pm

Sept. 7, 14, 21 & 28: Brown Bag Lunch Concerts, 12-1pm

Sept. 23: Sounds of the Springs Concert, 7:30pm

Oct. 3: National Night Out, 6pm

Oct. 7: Pick It Up Powder Springs, 9am-noon

Oct. 14: Cycle for Life Bike Ride, 7am-noon

Oct. 21: Fall Festival Trunk-or-Treat, 10am-noon

City App Highlights



With "Report An Issue", you can submit a variety of concerns that directly route to the appropriate city department for resolution and provides the submitter status updates. This is great way to bring code enforcement or road repair issues, as examples, to the attention of the City. The app provides an exact location pin and the ability to upload photos for reference. After a couple of quick taps by the submitter, the City will be ready to respond to the submitted concern.



"Let's Hear From You"
By using this menu option, the app user can call or email the City with the touch of the screen. This is a great way to communicate with the City for any questions, comments or concerns without having to search the website or app. Staff will be ready to reach out with a response.



There are many great informational tools available as well. The app provides a way to "Explore The City": for example, if the user selects this from the menu, they are given options to get more information about City Events. It's a great way to learn more about the City.

We hope everyone takes the opportunity to download this free app to learn more about the City, communicate easily with city staff and elected officials, and help the City keep Powder Springs a beautiful place.

Available for Apple & Android devices



Apple App Store



Google Play - Android

Keep Your **COOL** in **HOT** Weather!



Drink more water than usual. Don't wait until you're thirsty!



Limit outdoor activity, especially midday when the sun is hottest.



Check on a friend or neighbor and have someone do the same for you.



Pace your activity, start activities slowly and pick up the pace gradually.



Wear sunscreen.



Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.



Never leave pets or people in cars.



Avoid strenuous activities.



Check the local news for health and safety updates.

Why Has My Sanitation Bill Increased?

On July 1, rates for sanitation services increased by \$1.50 per household per month to \$24. Rates are likely to increase again in Jan. 2024 and thereafter, at a slower pace, to keep up with expenses.

Costs are increasing. To attract and retain drivers and collectors, the City must increase salaries. Public Works departments and private garbage disposal companies around the country are short staffed. The only way to ensure the City hires and retains drivers and collectors is by offering competitive salaries and benefits. Also increasing are disposal costs paid at private facilities, along with fuel prices, with the average cost for diesel doubling between June 2020 and June 2022.

What is the City doing to control costs? The City is revisiting collection routes to increase efficiency and thus delaying the need to add routes as the number of households in the City grows.

When the contractor costs would increase dramatically next year, the City did not renew the curbside recycling contract. However, the City is opening a recycling drop-off center, which costs significantly less than curbside collection. To reduce costs further, the City secured a \$107,000 grant from the state to purchase equipment for the drop-off center.

Not everyone is paying. As recently as two years ago, up to 20% of households were not paying their sanitation bills regularly. When such a large portion of households do not pay, the remainder have to pay more to make sure expenses are covered.

What is the City doing about households that do not pay? The City encourages residents to enroll in autopay by waiving the \$75 cart deposit and now offers a discount on monthly rates for those households that enroll in autopay. The number of customers enrolled in autopay has increased by 50% in the last several months. As of March, only 6.6% of accounts are currently past due, close to the industry average.

Drop-off Recycling Center Open Weekends



The City of Powder Springs' Drop-off Recycling Center is now open, operating at 3006 Springs Industrial Drive on weekends only — Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Materials cannot be brought or dropped off at Public Works outside of its weekend operating hours.

Residents are encouraged to separate their recyclables before dropping them off at the center. This will help to streamline the recycling process and ensure that the materials are properly sorted and processed.

Find the full list of recyclable material accepted on the next page.

Truck Traffic & Routing Survey



The City is working to enforce truck traffic routing to, from and through the City of Powder Springs. The efforts will emphasize addressing commercial trucks on downtown streets and residential areas to minimize conflicting traffic and improve safety.

This survey will help understand the public's desire and should take 5-7 minutes. Thank you in advance for your time and input in this process!

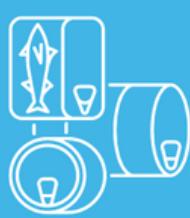
Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cpstruckstudy>



These items CAN be recycled



Glass bottles and jars. Please rinse all food and liquids from containers.



Aluminum cans and steel/tin cans.
Rinse all food and liquids from containers.



Plastic #1 & #2 bottles and jugs. Must be clean and dry. **Plastic #1 (PET)** is typically clear and squishable (includes water bottles, soda bottles, mouthwash bottles, olive oil bottles, peanut butter jars, etc.). **Plastic #2 (HDPE)** is typically opaque and can be a variety of colors (includes milk jugs, detergent bottles, bleach bottles, etc.).



Cardboard boxes and packaging, including empty pizza boxes. Please remove all other material and flatten.

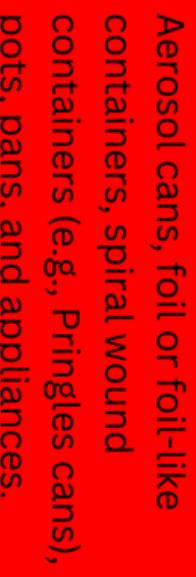


Mixed paper: Mail, magazines, newspaper, office paper, printer paper, paper bags, food boxes (e.g., cereal boxes). Please remove all other material. (If you can't tear it, it's not paper.)

These items CANNOT be recycled



Plate glass, windows, picture frames, mirrors, or ceramics of any kind.



Aerosol cans, foil or foil-like containers, spiral wound containers (e.g., Pringles cans), pots, pans, and appliances.



Plastic bags or film, Styrofoam, or any other kind of plastic.

Along with food and liquids, plastic bags are the major contaminant in all recyclable materials. Dropped off materials, therefore, should not include loose plastic bags or bagged recyclables. Food and liquids should be rinsed off or out of all materials.

Recycling Center - Located at Public Works, 3006 Springs Industrial Drive
Open Saturdays & Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
No dropoffs outside weekend operating hours

