



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

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Summer Sounds Conclude in Thurman Springs Park

The final musical notes of the city's 2023 Summer Concert Series have been played, but residents and visitors can look forward to a 2024 series as well as a returning — and expanded — Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series coming back to Thurman Springs Park in the new year.

Kicking off in late July, the 2023 "Sounds of the Springs" Concert Series led off hot with Foreigner tribute band Head Games, while August's concert had Bogey & The Viceroy attracting audience members to dance in front of and even onto the Hardy Family Automotive Amphitheater stage despite the high temperatures. And as temps coasted down into the 70s on Sept. 23's first day of fall, BJ Wilbanks and his band played a 70s-focused setlist.

All three concerts were free and open to the public, with attendees having multiple food and drink options thanks to downtown businesses plus vendors set up in and around the park.

The free music continued every Thursday in September with the midday Brown Bag Lunch Concerts, giving park visitors a chance to groove to the music of artists ranging from five-member bands to solo performers.

Though this year's concerts are over, Thurman Springs Park won't go silent in the fourth quarter of 2023, as the park on Oct. 7 will host the city's inaugural Hispanic Heritage Fiesta starting at 3 p.m. Meanwhile, Oct. 21 will see the annual Fall Festival Trunk or treat from 10 a.m. to noon, which will also include at 11:30 a.m. an author talk and discussion on "Wildseed Witch" by Marti Dumas as part of the One Book, One City: Tween Challenge 2023.

Santa Claus, meanwhile, is preparing to once again help light the city's Christmas tree in the park at the conclusion of the city's Christmas Parade the evening of Friday, Dec. 1.

Better Bond Rating a Boon for City and Residents

Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the City of Powder Springs' bond rating to Aa1 from Aa2. The upgrade reflects the City's healthy financial operations and trend of growing reserves, which have been supported by conservative management and consistent revenue growth. The rating also incorporates the City's stable local economy, average resident income, and full value per capita that is below comparably rated peers.

An improved Moody's rating on municipal bonds allowing the city to access the bond market at more favorable terms, such as lower interest rates. This can result in substantial cost savings over the life of the bonds to the taxpayers.

The improved rating also reflects the City's strengthened financial position, often making it easier to secure funding for critical infrastructure projects, such as transportation and public facilities. These projects stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

Fall/Winter Sanitation Schedule Alterations

There will be no yard waste collection the following weeks:

Nov. 13, 2023 Nov. 27, 2023 Jan. 1, 2024
Nov. 20, 2023 Dec. 25, 2023

Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 2023

No yard waste will be collected Nov. 13.
Friday's route (Nov. 10, 2023) will be picked up Monday, Nov. 13.

Thanksgiving Holidays, Nov. 24-25, 2023

No yard waste will be collected Nov. 27.
Thursday's route (Nov. 23) will be picked up on Monday, Nov. 27.
Friday's route (Nov. 24) will be picked up on Tuesday, Nov. 28. along with Tuesday's normal route.
Any trash not picked up on Tuesday will be picked up Wednesday morning.

Christmas Holidays, Dec. 25-30, 2023

No yard waste will be collected Dec. 25.
Friday's route (Dec. 22) will be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 26, along with Tuesday's normal route.
Any trash not picked up on Tuesday will be picked up Wednesday morning.

New Year's Day, Jan. 2, 2024

No yard waste collection Jan. 1, 2024.



Do I Need a Permit for That?

Any new construction or change to a building or property most often will require a permit from the city.

A land disturbance permit is required for new buildings grading or removing dirt or when removing more than 10 trees. Requests to remove 10 or fewer trees are reviewed for free by the City.

For homeowners and residents, a building permit with plan review is required for new houses, home additions, remodels (with interior structural changes and/or trade work, basement finishes, deck/porch/patio/carport installations, accessory structures (sheds/garages) greater than 200 sq. ft., solar installations, swimming pools or hot tubs, new or replacement siding, demolitions, retaining walls taller than 4 feet and fences more than 7 feet tall.

Projects that require a permit and inspection, but no pre-approval, include HVAC, electrical, plumbing/water heater, and roof work (new, replacement or major repair, along with door or window replacements. Stand-alone, one-stop permits are issued for these projects.

Design reviews through city zoning are needed for accessory structures less than 200 sq. ft. and recommended for fences lower than 7 feet tall. City code outlines distances from property lines (setbacks) and restricts accessory structures and fences in front yards and easements. Some houses have two front yards (any where a road is next to the lot). Fences and Accessory Structures are not allowed in the front yard or in an easement.

For business owners and tenants, building permits are needed for new tenants, new commercial buildings/additions/remodels and accessory structures. Signs (free-standing monument or building sign, with or without electricity) must also be permitted, while temporary signs are limited to three weeks, five allowed per business per calendar year, but require no fee.

Permits must also be sought for those wishing to film (TV or movie), hold a parade, temporary events, operation of a food truck, or placement of a dumpster or construction trailer. Yard sales are limited to four per year (no fee, but \$25 deposit).

The above information is not exhaustive, so when in doubt, check with the city!

Find building guides, permit information and more by scanning the QR code.



City Elections Set for November 7

In-person advance voting for municipal elections in Cobb, including in Powder Springs, begins Monday, Oct. 16, at five locations across Cobb County. Eligible residents within the Powder Springs city limits may vote at one of five advance voting locations in the county, with the closest for city residents being the Ron Anderson Recreation Center, 3820 Macedonia Road in Powder Springs. Additional locations are in Acworth, Austell, Kennesaw and Smyrna.

Advance voting will be Oct. 16 – Nov. 3, with polls open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no Sunday voting nor any voting Nov. 3-6, with Nov. 7 the final day to vote at voters' assigned polling places. Drop boxes for absentee ballots will be located in each of the five advance voting locations and open only during voting hours; they may also be hand-delivered to the county's Main Elections Office during office hours until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Qualified Candidates for Nov. 7 General Election

Mayor

Albert Thurman (Incumbent)
Larry W. Thomas

Council Member At Large - Post 1

Dwight McMurtry (Unopposed)

Council Member At Large - Post 2

Patricia Wisdom (Incumbent/Unopposed)



City Rolls Out New Skate Park

Youths and even adults on skateboards and bicycles wasted little time after the Mayor and City Council cut the ribbon to officially open the new Skate Park in Silver Comet Linear Park during a short ceremony on July 19.

Skilled skateboarders will be descending on the park on Saturday, Oct. 14, as part of a grand opening event running from noon to 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Being held in partnership with California Skateparks, which constructed the Skate Park, the event will feature pro skater demonstrations and a best trick competition with Stratosphere Skateboard Shop.

These festivities will follow an

opening ceremony at noon, while food trucks and a vendor village will remain on site during the entirety of the event.

The Skate Park will be open for all skaters following the ceremony, demos and competition.

Event parking will be limited at Silver Comet Linear Park, within which the Skate Park is located. Additional parking details will be announced on cityofpowdersprings.org.

The Skate Park is open during daylight hours, and all users of the Skate Park, no matter their skill level, are encouraged to wear adequate protective gear. Usage of the Skate Park is at the user's risk.



Upcoming Events

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

Oct. 3: National Night Out, 6 p.m.

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

Oct. 7: Hispanic Heritage Fiesta, 3 p.m.-10 p.m.

Oct. 14: Skate Park Grand Opening, noon-6 p.m.

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

Nov. 11: Veterans Day Ceremony, 11 a.m.-noon

Dec. 1: Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 2 - Jan. 4: Reindeer Scavenger Hunt



UPDATED WARD MAP

