



NEWSLETTER Q2 2024

Inspired. Invigorated. Innovative



Help Keep Powder Springs & Cobb Clean this April

The month of April brings not only warmer temperatures to our area of the planet, but also a time to be mindful of our planet — April 22's Earth Day. The City of Powder Springs each spring holds green-focused events on or around the Earth Day observance, and offers year-round recycling at its weekend drop-off center, but this year is adding a chance for residents to "up-cycle" the items from their home that they no longer want or need via a "Community Yard Sale".

Here are the opportunities in and around Powder Springs to help make our city and county a cleaner and greener place:

Thursday, April 11, 4-8 p.m.: Sustainability Forum and Expo, Jim Miller Event Center, 2245 Callaway Road SW, Marietta. Attend sessions, demonstrations, interactive exhibits and hear guest speakers on green initiatives and how this affects you — working, living, and visiting Cobb. First 100 attendees get a free gift.

Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. - 1p.m.: Community Recycling Event, Jim Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road SW, Marietta. In addition to paper shredding, attendees can drop off for recycling electronics, metals, textiles and Hefty ReNew (hard-to-recycle) plastics.

Saturday, April 20: Pick It Up Powder Springs! Team Up 2 Clean Up. Register your team, collect trash in your neighborhood, take a photo and tag it

with #PickItUpPS for a chance to win a prize.

Saturday, April 20, noon to 6 p.m.: Community Yard Sale and Sustainability Drive, Broad Street in downtown Powder Springs. Come buy "preloved" items and drop off those hard-to-recycle electronic items. Kids can come and enjoy crafts, activities and games. See website for full details.

Saturday, April 27: Shred Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Powder Springs Police Department parking lot, 1114 Richard D. Sailors Parkway. Protect against identity theft by having documents shredded securely on-site by a licensed, bonded and locally owned shredding company. Please remove all paper clips and binder clips. Limit of 10 banker boxes or ten 13 gallon trash bags per vehicle.

You may find some books on recycling and sustainability during Book Fest week, April 9-13, concluding with the One Book One City celebration on the 13th in Thurman Springs Park. See page 3 and our website for more information.



City Plans for the Future

The Mayor and Council this winter met with members of the city's authorities, boards, commissions (Downtown Development Authority and Development Authority of Powder Springs, Planning & Zoning, and Arts Commission, Keep Powder Springs Beautiful, Seven Springs Museum, and Senior Center) and department heads in a planning retreat to discuss and develop a unified understanding of our short-term and long-term goals.

A town hall meeting to share preliminary budget information is scheduled for April 25. Budget open houses are planned for May 7, 9 and 22, and public hearings are planned for May 20 and June 3. Check cityofpowdersprings.org for scheduled meetings.

Avoid These Common Code Violations

With the spring season now here, be mindful of these outdoor-related city codes and common code violations:

- Lawn maintenance is required, keeping your property free of weeds, underbrush and high grass. The city's ordinance prohibits grass taller than 8 inches. Keep those lawns looking good!
- Storing things outside that do not belong is prohibited. Store indoor furniture, appliances, building materials and similar items in the house or a garage or shed — not on the patio, porch, or in the yard.
- Maintenance of the outside of homes and other buildings is required. Exterior wood surfaces must be painted or treated to protect from the elements. Peeling paint must be removed and surfaces repainted.
- Putting anything into storm drains except water is prohibited. Do not put leaves, sticks or other yard waste into storm drains; these will accumulate and obstruct water flow. And never put any waste liquids into storm drains — this is very damaging to the streams and rivers that receive stormwater.
- Parking in the yard is prohibited. Vehicles have to be parked on driveways.
- Parking on residential streets is also prohibited, except for temporary visitors.
- Permits are required for most repairs and renovations performed on houses and other buildings, and also for many outside projects such as swimming pools, hot tubs, sheds and garages. Permits are also required for fences and for removal of more than 10 trees.

Do you see a code violation that needs reporting? Visit the city's website, cityofpowdersprings.org, and click the "Report an Issue" link at the top of the page, or report the matter through the city's app. (Find more info on the city app in this newsletter.)

The First Line of Defense in Stormwater Management: Why Starting with Perimeter and Critical Basin BMPs Matters

Stormwater management is crucial for protecting our homes, communities and the environment from the potentially devastating impacts of heavy rainfall and flooding. But where do we begin? The answer lies in installing perimeter and critical basin and trap/swale Best Management Practices (BMPs) first. Let's dive into why this initial step is not just important, but essential.

The Guardians at the Gate: Perimeter BMPs

Imagine a guardian that shields your home and streets from floodwaters. That's what perimeter BMPs do. By establishing barriers and controls around the edges of a development site, these measures effectively manage runoff, reducing the volume and speed of water that reaches our communities. Perimeter BMPs act as the first line of defense. By managing water flow right at the source, we reduce erosion, prevent flooding, and protect water quality.

Did you know that something as simple as strategically placed vegetation can significantly reduce stormwater runoff? Nature is our ally in stormwater management!

The Critical Role of Basin and Trap/Swale BMPs

Basin and trap/swale BMPs are not just part of the landscape — they are designed to capture, slow down, and treat stormwater. These features mimic natural processes, allowing water to infiltrate back into the ground or be reused, rather than overwhelming our sewers and waterways. These BMPs target critical areas where runoff can cause the most damage. By controlling water at these key points, we significantly reduce the risk of flooding and pollution.

Helpful Tips



1.

Get Involved: Consider incorporating these BMPs in your own yard or community spaces. Every little bit helps!

2.

Stay Informed: Learn more about local stormwater management initiatives and how you can support them.



Together, we can make our communities safer, greener, and more resilient against the challenges posed by stormwater. Let's start with the right measures, and let's start now!

Recycling Drop-off Rolls On

The City of Powder Springs' Drop-off Recycling Center opened this past spring, and operates on weekends at 3006 Springs Industrial Drive. Materials cannot be brought or dropped off at Public Works outside of its weekend operating hours, which are Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Visit cityofpowdersprings.org/657/Recycling or scan the QR code to learn more about the Recycling Program, including what materials can be dropped off at the center, what materials are not accepted, and additional rules.



NEW CARTS COMING SOON!

The City of Powder Springs is in the process of replacing sanitation carts for residents throughout the City over the next two years.

Cart replacement is divided into five phases based on age of homes with phase one completed and phase two underway.



STAY INFORMED!

DOWNLOAD THE CITY APP



Apple



Android

New Garbage Trucks Bring Need for Correct Cart Placement



Do: Place garbage can facing the road, and away from any and all obstructions (mailboxes, vehicles, etc.)

Don't: Place garbage can next to obstructions that can prevent garbage truck's collection arm

Sanitation customers whose routes are being serviced by Powder Springs Public Works' newest garbage truck are encouraged to properly place their garbage cans for ease of collection.

This new side-loader garbage truck utilizes a robotic arm, and therefore garbage cans must be placed with the front side facing the road. Cans must also be placed away from anything that can block or obstruct the arm, including (but not limited to) mailboxes, vehicles, and anything that may block collection of the can, or could cause damage to or be damaged by the arm.

Customers being served by this new truck were notified in advance, and eventually, the side-loader will replace all existing collection vehicles.

For an explanation of trash cart placement, view this video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHlbTNEVU3c>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursdays in April: Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series, 12-1 p.m.

April 13: Book Fest & One Book, One City

April 20: Spring Chicken Run, 7 a.m.

April 27: Welcome to South Cobb festival, noon to 8 p.m.

May 2: National Day of Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

May 8 and June 12: Powder Springs Marketplace, 5-9 p.m.

May 17-19: Bringing The Sea to The Springs Seafood Festival

May 23, June 6 & 20, July 11 & 25: Family to Park Days, 6:30 p.m.

May 27: Memorial Day Ceremony, noon

June 1: Bark in the Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

June 8: Omega Tri-Music Fest

June 22: Juneteenth Celebration

July 4: 4th of July Celebration, 6 p.m.

July 27: Sounds of the Springs Concert, 7 p.m.

Locations and details found at cityofpowdersprings.org.

Stay Weather Aware

Springtime means the arrival of warmer outdoor temperatures, but also the potential for severe storms. to occur in the month of April.

If you can hear thunder, you are already at risk. Stay indoors until 30 minutes after you hear the last clap of thunder. When not near a structure, a vehicle is safer than being outside. Enclosed vehicles are generally safe, if you avoid contact with metal surfaces.

If severe weather is imminent, and you are inside, move to a shelter such as a basement or an interior room on the lowest floor of the building. It's best to put as many walls between you and the outside as possible.

According to the National Weather Service tornadoes have been reported throughout the year, but are most likely to occur from March to May, with the peak in April.

About 37 percent of all tornadoes are classified as strong or violent, and these tornadoes are most likely In any and all severe weather situations, it is recommended to get watch and warning information from multiple platforms to ensure receipt of life-saving weather information even if one method fails. These include a battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio, televisions, radios, cell phone alerts and sirens. For more information, visit <https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather>



Don't Fall Victim to this Common Phone Scam

A common and recurring scam involves a phone call in which the caller, claiming to be from a police or sheriff's department, accuses the victim of having an active warrant through their agency. Sometimes the given reason for the alleged warrant is for missing jury duty or an unpaid ticket. The caller then demands payment over the phone, or via prepaid cards.

These calls are SCAMS, even though they may appear to be legitimate. Scammers can create calls that list a law enforcement agency's name or number. The caller may also identify themselves using the name of an actual

officer of the agency they're claiming to represent.

Police departments will NEVER solicit for money over the phone for a ticket or warrant. All warrants are handled through the court system and any financial component handled in person at the courthouse. Though these scammers may tell you not to contact your bank or anyone else involving the matter, or that you are on a recorded line, do not provide any payment or personal info – disconnect the call!

If you receive one of these calls, contact Powder Springs Police Department and report it.

Mental Health Awareness

Life challenges confront us every day and can trigger mental health stressors. The City provides resources to its employees to recognize and use coping mechanisms in facing the challenges they may experience. The City partners with several organizations to help raise awareness, promote resilience and reduce stigma around mental health.

Additionally the city was awarded a grant to partner with the county to implement a mental health co-response program

when dispatched by 911. The program is currently under development.

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month. Do you need help finding free or low-cost substance use or mental health treatment providers? Visit FindHelp.org or call 988.

The Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) is available 24/7 at 800-715-4225 and via the MyGCAL app (free to download from the App Store and Google Play).

