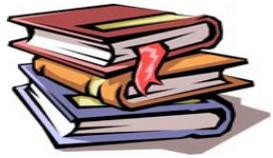




## Reminders And Information October 2014

### KNOW YOUR CITY CODE

We are using this section of our newsletter to familiarize residents with content found in the official City Code book. We will periodically print selected sections. See back for additional City Code. For a full version of the City's Code, please visit [www.mountainpark-ga.gov](http://www.mountainpark-ga.gov).



#### **Sec. 101-113. - Standards for determining unfit buildings and structures.**

A. Any building or structure that has any of the following conditions (as listed below under subsection B.), such that the life, health, property, or safety of its occupants or the general public are endangered, is hereby declared illegal and unfit for human habitation or use (as applicable) and shall be abated by repair or demolition. The complaint and inspection of an unfit building or structure shall be as set forth in section 101-114 of this article.

B. The code compliance officer is authorized to determine that a dwelling, building, structure or property is unfit for human habitation or use if he finds that conditions exist in such building, dwelling, or structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety, or morals of the occupants of such dwelling, building or structure; the occupants of neighborhood dwellings, buildings, or structures; or of other residents of the City of Mountain Park. (Continued at end of Newsletter)

#### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR

**Next Dumpster Day  
November 1, 2014**

The *Harmonies for Harper Faith Benefit* will take place this Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 11:00am until 7:00pm on the Green. Harper Faith Fry, daughter of Lance and Lindsay Fry, is a 3 year old girl who is suffering from a degenerative disease called Metachromatic Leukodystrophy, or MLD. The proceeds from this concert will help pay for medical expenses for Harper. There will be music, food, games, raffles, and activities for children. Please come out and show your support for the Fry family.

If you are unable to attend this event, online donations can be made at [www.gofundme.com/8ztcz4](http://www.gofundme.com/8ztcz4).

Jim Still

The state of Georgia will have an ENERGY STAR and WaterSense Sales Tax Holiday Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5, 2014.

During the sales tax holiday, these items will be exempt from sales tax if they have the ENERGY STAR label and have a purchase price of \$1,500 or less per item:

- Air conditioners
- Ceiling fans
- Clothes washers
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Doors
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Programmable thermostats
- Refrigerators
- Windows

In addition, these items will be exempt from sales tax if they have the WaterSense label and have a purchase price of \$1,500 or less per item:

- Bathroom sink faucets
- Faucet accessories (such as aerators)
- High-efficiency toilets
- High-efficiency urinals
- Showerheads
- Weather- or sensor-based irrigation controllers

The sales tax exemption will not apply to ENERGY STAR or WaterSense products purchased for trade, business or resale.

For more information, visit [www.gefa.org](http://www.gefa.org).

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:** Please be advised that a late fee will be charged to each account that we do not receive payment for a water bill on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. The late fee is \$25 and there will be ***no exceptions***. If the bill remains unpaid for more than 10 days, water service will be subjected to disconnection without further notice. In order to restore service in the event of a disconnection, the amount of the bill must be paid in full plus a \$50 service fee.

A *Late Fee Waiver* form can be obtained at City Hall to request the reversal of ***one*** late fee per calendar year. If your bank mails us a check, please make sure you allot adequate time for the check to arrive in our office *on or before* the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month to avoid this fee. We recommend mailing payments from your bank at least a week in advance to the due date. The city is not responsible for lost checks, slow postal services, or failure to obtain a copy of your bill. If you do not receive your bill in the mail, it is your responsibility to contact City Hall for a duplicate. We will be happy to verbally tell you the amount due or we can provide a hard copy for your records. Please check the website on how you can make emergency payments to your account. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

**Leash Law-** With cooler weather upon us, we all know how nice it is to take the dog for a walk. Just remember we have a leash law. Please do not forget to bring a doggy bag to pick up after your pet. There are also bags above the waste containers on the Green.

**Garbage Pickup-** Please put your Waste and Recycling Containers out by 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. If your residence is not serviced, please let City Hall know within 24 hours.

### YOUR DITCHES NEED YOUR HELP

The roads and streets of Mountain Park are lined by ditches which together form an extensive storm water system serving the entire city. As we enter the Fall Leaf season please do your part to help us maintain the City's ditches.

1. Include the ditches in the front of your house in your yard maintenance schedule. Keep them open to allow the free flow of water.
2. Keep all vegetation trimmed and pruned. This will help with the drainage as well as keeping vegetation out of the City right of way.
3. **PLEASE DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO THE DITCHES.** Compost your leaves in the back yard or use them as natural ground cover around your shrubs. You may also bag them and bring them to the dumpster the first Saturday of each month.
4. Keep your driveway culverts open and free-flowing. Remove loose leaves from the ditch around your culvert openings. Fall and Winter rain storms wash the leaves to the culvert opening and can block the free flow of water.
5. Please report blocked storm drains, culverts, and ditches to City Hall at 770-993-4231.

### **Code Continued:**

Examples of such conditions include, but are not limited to, the following conditions of any building or structure:

- (1) Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accidents, or other calamities;
- (2) Lack of adequate ventilation, light, or sanitary facilities;
- (3) Dilapidation;
- (4) Disrepair;
- (5) Structural defects;
- (6) Severe uncleanliness, rodent infestation;
- (7) Damage by fire, flood, wind or other cause to the extent that the structural integrity of the building or structure is less than it was prior to damage and is less than the minimum requirement established by the applicable state minimum standard codes for similar new buildings;
- (8) Construction or maintenance in violation of a specific requirement of the state minimum standard codes, of any other applicable building code or ordinance, or of any other applicable state law;
- (9) Decay, deterioration or dilapidation such that full or partial collapse is likely;
- (10) The stress in any material, member or portion thereof, due to all imposed loads, including dead load, which exceeds the stresses allowed by the applicable state standard minimum code for similar new buildings;

(11) The means of egress are not of adequate size or are not arranged to provide a safe path of travel in case of fire or panic; or the fire doors, closing devices and similar features are in disrepair or in a dilapidated or non-working condition to render the building or structure unsafe in case of fire or panic;

(12) Exterior siding that is inadequate and unsecured, or is not weather, water, and windproof, such that the building would not pass existing state minimum standard codes for similar new buildings;

(13) Conditions such that the structure or portion thereof, for whatever reason, is manifestly unsafe or unsanitary for the purpose for which it is being used;

(14) The dwelling, building or structure is vacant, dilapidated and being used in connection with the commission of drug crimes upon personal observation of the code compliance personnel or report of a law enforcement agency and evidence of drug crimes being committed; and

(15) Any other condition constituting a public nuisance, including, for example, maintaining stagnant or fetid water on the premises; an accumulation of trash, junk, filth, or other unsanitary and unsafe conditions; the generation of smoke or fumes in sufficient amounts to cause odor or annoyance to the inhabitants of Mountain Park; and/or maintaining a dangerous or diseased animal or fowl or maintaining such a number of animals in such foul and unsanitary conditions as to constitute a public nuisance.

Time to Trunk or Treat!!

**WHEN: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014**

**WHERE: COMMUNITY BUILDING PARKING LOT**

You and your kids will decorate your car for Halloween and once everyone has finished, parents and children can go “trunk-or-treating” from car to car. Please be safe and have fun!

**Please contact the Civic Club officers for further details on this event.**