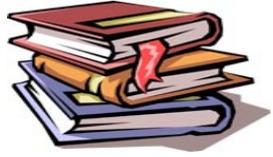




Reminders And Information June 2011

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.



Sec. 105-202. Purpose and intent of article.

The city deems it necessary and desirable in the interest of public health, safety and welfare to enact an ordinance for the conservation, planting and replacement of **trees** and to prevent the indiscriminate **removal** of **trees** in the city without denying the reasonable use and enjoyment of real property. The importance of **trees** is recognized for their shade, cooling, noise and wind reduction, soil erosion prevention, oxygen production, dust filtration, carbon dioxide absorption, aesthetic and economic enhancement of all real property, and their contribution to the general well-being and quality of life of the citizens of the city. Consistent with the expressed purpose of this article, all persons shall make reasonable efforts to preserve and retain existing, self-supporting **trees**. It is also the intent of this article that all applicable sites within the city maintain or obtain a minimum **tree** density.

(Ord. No. 239-00, § 6-9-2, 8-21-2000; Ord. No. 292-06, § IV, 8-21-06)

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR

**Next Dumpster Day is
July 9**

On May 23, Council approved the final payment of \$185,000 to the law firm of Schulten, Ward and Turner. Our city attorney, Brandon Bowen, negotiated this settlement which the city will borrow from its Enterprise fund and begin to pay back ASAP. The optional offer from SWT of \$20,000 a month payments for 10 months was not accepted to save the city \$15,000. I would like to compliment the representatives of SWT, Scott Shulten and Kevin Ward, for their cooperative efforts and willingness to compromise. This represents a substantial savings to the citizens of Mountain Park based on the original \$911,000.00 balance outstanding. The Council and I will continue to work diligently to identify alternative means of restoring our lakes and maintaining them into the future while we continue to await the final ruling by the Judge on the remaining 2 defendants.

Respectfully,

Jim Still

Code Compliance Reminders – Boating and Fishing Permits are required in the City of Mountain Park. They are available at City Hall. All Dogs must be on a leash in public areas.

City Hall will be closed for Independence Day July 4 2011

Free Fishing Days

June 4 & June 11 are the two Saturdays that occur during National Fishing and Boating Week. **September 24** is National Hunting & Fishing Day (fourth Saturday in September of each year)

DUMPSTER DAY INFORMATION

As a service to our residents, the City of Mountain Park provides a dumpster on the first Saturday of every month. This is a first come, first serve basis. In order to ensure that it is available to all please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Must provide proof of residence in the City of Mountain Park.
2. One truckload or trailer load per residence.
3. All yard debris must be cut into 3 feet sections or less.
4. **NO PAINT or BATTERIES**

SIREN TEST – There is a Siren Test the first Wednesday of every month at 12:00 noon. We are served by Cherokee and Fulton Counties, so you may hear 2 sirens.

Mountain Park Civic Club presents 'Market on the Green'! There is a new fundraiser in town.

Come sample fantastic food, art, games for children, music and more!

You'll find produce, flowers, hot n ready food, gourmet food items, crafts and games for children, jewelry, art, decor and even music! It will be held on "The Green" on June 11th; you'll find the party kicking off at 4pm and ending at 8pm! Come to enjoy all the fantastic food, art, and music!

For more information check out marketonthegreen.blogspot.com or contact Cristina Packham 760-580-7186

COME JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

The annual 4th of July Celebration is quickly approaching!

The schedule for the day begins with the Opening Ceremony and the Parade.

-Car decorating at 10:00 a.m. in the community bldg. parking lot

-Opening ceremony begins at 10:45

-Parade begins at 11:00

-Free watermelon after parade and announcement of float winners

-Pool games begin at 2:00

-Food vendors, Gitta Sno Ball will be set up at 6:00

-Music will begin at 6:00 as well

-The Civic Club will have raffle tickets, glo necklaces, snacks and drinks available for sale as well

We need volunteers to make this event a success, If you can volunteer for this annual event and/or you would like to be added to the e-mail list please send your e-mail info to bradpatboz@aol.com.

MOUNTAIN PARK ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT –

Eligible projects include - Insulation and Weather Stripping, Appliance upgrades

This is a great time to invest in the energy efficiency of your home and start saving energy and money! Stop by City Hall to fill out the Prequalification form and get details of how to proceed. *This project, program or service is funded in whole or in part by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, in cooperation with the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority"*

HOW TO REMOVE IVY FROM TREES

Tools for ivy removal are: work gloves, pruning shears, lopping shears, pruning saw .So you don't lose your tools in the ivy, paint handles red or wrap handles in red tape. (Also don't use your best pruning shears, you will lose some anyway.)

Safety

For safety don't pull ivy out of tree above you. You may bring down dead branches or a hornets' nest! Wear proper clothing, long sleeves, long pants, gloves and sturdy shoes even in the summer.

In some people ivy can cause contact dermatitis, a mild rash or blistering that develops when bare skin comes in contact with ivy sap. Berries and leaves are toxic if eaten in large quantities.

Protect Flora and Fauna

During spring exercise caution when removing ivy so you do not disturb nesting birds. Also avoid work on the slope during the late winter/early spring when native plants may be sprouting.

Trees First

First remove ivy from trees and then remove ivy from the ground. If you don't remove it from the ground, it will just grow back up on the trees.

Depending on the thickness of the vines, use either loppers or a pruning saw to cut through each vine at shoulder height and at ankle height. Be careful not to wound the bark of the tree when cutting the ivy vines. Strip the ivy away from the tree between the two cuts (some vines may be so big that you will need to pry them away from the tree). Be careful not to damage the bark.

Next start pulling up as much ivy as possible and as deep as possible around the base of the tree. Keep extending the pulled area around the base of the tree until the pulled area is at least six feet from the tree's base all the way around -- this is the tree's lifesaver.

General Ivy Pulling

When removing ivy in the ground, get up all the roots you can. Free up native plants by cutting the ivy around them first and then removing the ivy so other plants are not damaged.

KNOW YOUR CODE continued

Sec. 105-203. Exemptions.

(a) The following shall be exempt from the provisions of this article:

(1) The removal of trees other than specimen trees from an owner-occupied, single-family lot, provided that the removal does not reduce the tree density of the lot below the minimum specified in section 105-206.

(2) The necessary removal of trees within dedicated utility easements.

(3) The removal of trees on public rights-of-way (and adjacent areas within the construction limits of rights-of-way) conducted by, on behalf of, or any activity pursuant to work to be dedicated to, a federal state, county, municipal or other governmental agency in pursuance of its lawful activities or functions in the construction or improvement of public rights-of-way.

(4) The removal of trees from lakes and drainage easements.

(5) The removal of any tree which has become or threatens to become a danger to human life or property.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, all reasonable efforts shall be made to save specimen trees.

(Ord. No. 239-00, § 6-9-3, 8-21-2000)

Sec. 105-204. Approval letter required for nondevelopment activity (activity which does not require a building permit).

(a) Except for routine or seasonal pruning or transplanting of trees, and except as exempted in section 105-203, no person shall engage in any nondevelopment activity without first obtaining an approval letter. The request for an approval letter shall be submitted to the city and shall be, unless waived by the city clerk, in the form of a brief, written narrative stating the reason for the proposed work and either a site sketch or photograph of the tree proposed to be removed, identifying such tree by size and species. If the application is complete, complies with this article, and requests tree removal for one of the purposes identified in subsection (b) of this section, the city shall issue an approval letter not later than 30 working days from receipt of a complete request, and shall inform the applicant if replanting will be required. If the application is incomplete or denied, the city shall notify the applicant in writing regarding the specific reason for denial.

(b) The city shall allow submittal of dated photographs instead of an approval letter for the following if a letter of approval or denial has not been issued within 30 working days:

- (1) The removal of dead, substantially injured, damaged or diseased trees; and
- (2) The removal of trees occupied within ten feet to the side, front or rear of an existing authorized structure, provided that the applicable minimum tree density requirement is maintained.

(Ord. No. 239-00, § 6-9-4, 8-21-2000; Ord. No. 296-08, § 2, 11-17-2008)

Sec. 105-205. Application requirements.

(a) When a person applies for a permit, such person shall also file an application providing the following information:

- (1) A complete tree survey and inventory, as described in section 105-207;
- (2) An integrated site plan showing specimen trees, the trees to be saved and those to be removed, utilities to be installed, grading, the approximate location of all structures, driveways and curb cuts, and proposed tree planting and other landscaping;
- (3) A detailed plan to protect and preserve trees before, during and for a period of two years after construction, which plan shall contain the following information:
 - a. Calculations showing compliance with the required site density factor, using existing trees and replacement trees;
 - b. Locations of all existing and proposed utility lines or easements;
 - c. Locations of all specimen trees and indications whether they are to be removed or preserved;
 - d. Locations of all tree protection devices, materials to be used in each location and details;
 - e. A delineation of tree save areas in which trees have been inventoried for density calculations; and
 - f. Additional information as may be requested on a case-by-case basis.

(b) The items in subsection (a) of this section may be integrated into the normal permit application requirements and submittals.

(Ord. No. 239-00, § 6-9-5, 8-21-2000)

