



# *August 2020 Newsletter*

## Mayor's Message



Another long hot summer is coming to a close but our current situation with COVID-19 has not gotten better. Because of the recent increases in COVID-19 cases we are continuing to encourage the 10-6 rules (10 people or less/ 6 ft. or more) for the City of Mountain Park. As of the most current information I have received we still are the City with the least confirmed COVID-19 cases (total of 2) in Fulton County.

Also we have added another member to our Code Enforcement staff with Whit Engle who will be enforcing more typical noncompliance issues such as boating & fishing infractions as well as building without a permit etc. We look forward to the starting back up of our court to deal with some of the matters that have been on hold for the past few months. Craig will continue to serve as our Storm water and S&E enforcement officer for the city.

Thank you for your continued patience and perseverance during the challenging times.

Jim Still  
Mayor



# Civic Club News

The Mountain Park Civic Club will hold its August meeting on **Wednesday**, August 12th rather than on Tuesday the 11th. A primary election run-off for Fulton County will be held in the Community Building on the 11th.

Once again we will take precautions because of COVID-19. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Persons living in the same household may sit together; others should sit in chairs set up for six foot distancing.

At this meeting, in addition to other topics, we will continue our discussion of how to effectively promote projects that will benefit our city.

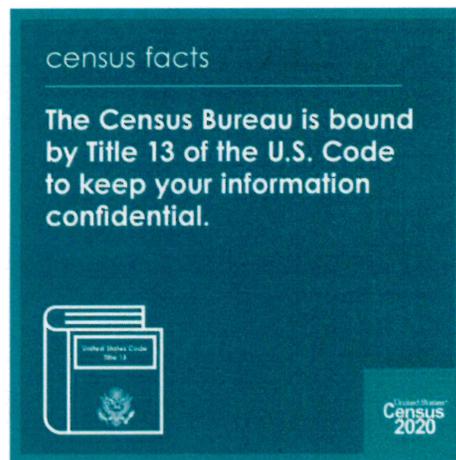
Ice cream cones at the door, chocolate and vanilla. Hope to see you there.

## Respond Now to the 2020 Census

Every 10 years, the United States counts its population. It's a requirement, written into the Constitution. And the first count dates back to the first years of our first president, when U.S. Marshals conducted the census on horseback. It's carried on once a decade since then, as the country has continued to grow, as innovators have found new ways to ensure that everyone is counted. This year, make sure you make history by participating in the 2020 count. If you received a paper survey please

make sure you send it back in the mail or you can also go online to respond. Census takers will begin interviewing households in person that have not responded online, by phone, or by mail starting on August 11<sup>th</sup> and going through October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not responded to the Census yet please do so today at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).

Mountain Park's current response rate is 70%.





# MPVFR MESSAGE



This year has been a turbulent and trying year for us all.

Businesses, big and small closed. Churches closed. Schools closed. Even as some of these have re-opened, some still remain closed. Some people have been able to return to work while some still work from home. Some people could not work at all and still can not. Peaceful protests/ marches in some areas while violent riots, vandalism, and looting occurred in others. The flood gates of emotions were ripped open however; through it all we as nation... as a state... a county... and a city... remained strong.

The strength and resolve that we all have and that we share among each other MUST NOT waver. As we lean on each other during this trying year, we must also remember to continue to move forward. We as a country will, on the other side of all of this, come out stronger, better, and greater. Robert Frost said, "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on." The road ahead not only holds many mysteries but also holds many miracles.

Let us not take this time to lower our heads, turn away from our goals, and grow stagnant. We have grown stronger through this period both individually and as a community. And now is the time to show just strong we have become. We can't look back at how we used to be and drift into negative thinking and become lethargic. In the Marine Corps, one of the lessons that I learned was that whether as a single person or as a part of a team, no obstacle is too high or too wide to go over or go around. Moving forward is the key.

As I speak on behalf of The Mountain Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, a shared sentiment is to remain positive. Empty yourselves of any and all negativity. Maintaining positive energy and a sense of purpose will get us all through this. I promise. Now is the perfect time, while we have the time, to focus new ventures. What are some things that you wanted to do but because of the hustle and bustle before COVID, you didn't have time for? Start a business? Internet businesses are booming right now. Write and publish a book? Better your health through diet and exercise? Healthier meal recipes are all over the internet. Pssst.....now you can try them out on your families (especially your kids)! The possibilities are endless.

I know... I know... It's easier said than done to say, "Don't worry. It will all get better around here soon." But it's true. Erma Bombeck said, "Worry is like a rocking chair: It gives you something to do but never gets you anywhere." Let's stay strong, stay positive, and by all means... Let's all find something to do that gets us somewhere.

Let's embrace the good moments, hold on to them and use them as fuel to make more. There have been and will continue to be opportunities for laughing, loving, new successes, and moments of deep fulfillment. I know that this can be hard to believe while your head hurts and your hearts and eyes are blinded by tears of fear, anger, and despair but that doesn't change the fact that it will all get better. Lift yourselves and each other through this all because truly, the best is yet to come.

Remember to continue practicing social distancing as much as possible. Wear your masks while in public. Wash your hands before touching your face and eating. Cover your coughs and sneezes into the bend of your elbow. Check on the elderly in your families. And please, please, PLEASE stay positive. Stay strong. And let us all continue to move forward.

We at MPVFR stand for you, beside you, and behind you. We are here if you need us and always will.

*Lieutenant Michael Peck  
EMS Lieutenant  
Mountain Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue*



# Know Your City Code



## Sign Posting, Yard Sales and Weapons

### Sec. 38-4. - Posting signs on poles without consent.

It shall be unlawful for any person to post or display in or upon any bridge any sign or advertisement, or to post or display upon any telegraph, telephone or electric company's pole, or upon any public property or the private property of any person any bills, signs or advertisements without the consent in writing of the owner thereof.

### Sec. 42-9. - Posting signs.

It shall be unlawful for any person to affix any bill, sign or notice on any tree, building or fixture in any of the parks or on any city property. It shall be unlawful for any person to place any paper, books, refuse or trash of any kind in any of the public parks or on any city property, except in containers provided for such.

### Sec. 117-27. - Outside sales and yard sales.

(a) Outside sales are not permitted on any private lot, except as provided in this section. Yard sales (which shall include garage sales and estate sales) shall be permitted at any home within the city not more than three times per calendar year. Each such sale shall be for no more than three consecutive days, and shall be limited to Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and to Mondays that fall on a legal holiday. All remaining property for sale must be removed from the exterior of the lot by 5:00 p.m. on the next following business day. Consignment sales are not permitted, nor is the marketing of goods owned by individuals other than the residents of the lot on which the sale is being conducted.



(b) The persons conducting the yard sale shall apply for and obtain a permit from the city clerk prior to the sale being conducted, and shall prominently display such permit at the property where the sale is being conducted during all sale hours. The issuance of the permit shall entitle the permit holder to post not more than five 18" x 24" directional signs on the right-of-ways of the city, provided that such signs shall not obstruct traffic flow or traffic visibility. The permit holder shall remove such signs by 5:00 p.m. on the next following business day after the expiration of the sale permit. The fee for such permit shall be set from time to time by the city council.

[(c)] The fee for the issuance of yard sale permits shall be \$10.00. Such permit fee shall include the temporary parking permit fee provided for by section 58-128.

### Sec. 38-5. - Weapons; discharge in city.

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge a firearm, including pistol, rifle and shotgun, or to shoot an air gun, including BB gun and pellet gun, within the city, except by law enforcement officers in the line of duty, and the military when on drill or parade, or at a funeral in honor of the dead; provided, however, that it shall not be unlawful for any person to shoot a BB and/or pellet gun upon private property if that person shall have first obtained the express permission of the owner of that property to do so. This exception on private property shall not apply when the BB gun and/or pellet gun is discharged in such a manner that the projectile is intended or in fact does so leave the private property.

# IMPORTANT DATES

August 1st.....Dumpster Day 7am-10am

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.

*Please note that this is a service provided by Waste Pro as a courtesy and the City of Mountain Park does not have any control over what time they arrive/depart or the rate which the dumpster fills and the amount it can hold. Please plan accordingly. Thank you!*

August 5th.....Siren Testing @ 12pm

August 5th.....City Court @ 7pm

August 11th.....GA Primary Runoff Election 7am-7pm

The voting location for all Mountain Park residents is the Community Building. All Georgia voters are required to provide valid photo identification in order to vote.

August 19th.....Work Session @ 7pm

**FOR CITY COUNCIL: Citizen Participation is welcome – Please give at least 24 hours advance notice if you wish to be added to the agenda by contacting City Hall.**

August 24th.....Regular Council @ 7pm

**\*\*REMINDER\*\***

Water bills are due by the last day of every month. Please use the drop box at City Hall or pay online at [https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign\\_in](https://mtnpark.secure.munibilling.com/customers/sign_in). Payments received on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month or later will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

**\*\*REMINDER\*\***

Please ensure you put your cans out the night before after 6pm or by 7am on Wednesday and leave them at the curb until they are picked up. Please remove your cans from the curb by 8am on Thursday. No yard debris is allowed. If your trash or recycle pick-up is missed please e-mail City Hall at [utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com](mailto:utilitybilling@mountainparkgov.com) or call City Hall at 770-993-4231 the morning after.

**\*\*REMINDER\*\***

If you see a street light out in the City of Mountain Park please contact City Hall at 770-993-4231 to report it.

# 2020 Census Safety and Security



## **Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe.**

Your responses to the 2020 Census are protected by law. Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot release any information that identifies you individually. Every Census Bureau employee and contractor is sworn for life to always protect your information. Violating that oath carries stiff penalties for all Census Bureau workers — a fine up to \$250,000 and/or up to five years in prison.

The Census Bureau uses your information for statistical purposes only, such as helping to inform decisions for new hospitals, schools and roads.

## **Responses to the 2020 Census are secure.**

The Census Bureau has a team of cybersecurity experts who monitor and protect all agency technology around the clock. Our cybersecurity meets the highest standards for protecting your information. From the moment we collect your responses, our goal — and legal obligation — is to keep them safe. The Census Bureau's technology is protected by strong authentication and authorization methods and is fully "locked down" so that it can only be accessed by fully vetted individuals who are trained in data and cyber security. These individuals make sure we keep pace with evolving threats and security advancements.

## **No matter how you respond, your information remains protected.**

The Census Bureau designed the information collection process with layers of security to keep your information safe and secure.

Whether you respond online, by phone, by mail, or if a census employee comes to your door, your information is collected, transmitted and kept secure throughout the process. When you are on our secure website, you can verify it's safe by making sure the address begins with 'HTTPS' and includes a lock symbol. If you're visited by a census employee, know that the technology they use has the same strong security controls, and is fully compliant with the standards mandated for Federal systems.

The Census Bureau works with the federal intelligence cyber community and industry experts to stay abreast of emerging cyber threats to continuously update protections and safeguards for your information.

Connect with us:

[@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

For more information:

[2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov)

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