

official newsletter of Monroe, Georgia

inside
this issue...

3



Tips on Keeping
Cool This Summer

4



Refunds and
Unclaimed Funds

5


Housing Team
Monroe

Community Impact
Day & Housing
Symposium

SUMMER FUN

Summer in Monroe is equated with fun. We are not a big city, but we aren't country backwoods either. We have enough recreation and entertainment to quell the boredom that creeps up on a Saturday afternoon.



From the summer concert series to Saturday morning spent strolling the farmers market on Court Street, the city is abuzz with activity.

This summer local shops will offer special shopping hours every first Thursday in each month to allow local residents and out-of-town shoppers alike a unique shopping experience by rolling back the hours and keeping Downtown Monroe Alive After 5. Enjoy after hours downtown and enjoy shopping from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.



Follow up shopping on First Thursday, with a concert on First Friday. This year's line-up is filled with favorites from the Tams to the Swinging Medallions.

Come out this summer and enjoy all our city has to offer. Take part in our arts & culture at the Monroe-Walton Center for the Arts, eat at our great restaurants, and revel in all that it means to be from a small town.



Winter is becoming but a distant memory with cold, crisp nights turning into warm nights abuzz with crickets, and frogs, and grasshoppers. No more overcoats or winter socks to keep the cold air from biting at your skin. No more Jack Frost and no more heat. But with the disappearance of Winter comes Spring and the pollen and the bugs that quickly turns into hot, sticky summer nights enjoying music on the screened-in porch and a glass of lemonade.

With the change in weather comes the way we think about cooling our homes and conditioning the air in our homes.

We go from wanting it to be warm to hoping to get some cool relief from our air conditioning units. When it's hot outside, we want the luxury of going indoors and feeling instantly cool.

With these changes, we must think about getting the maximum benefit from our cooling systems without wasting energy and running up our utility bills.

Before the season really starts, and we're met with 90-degree temperatures when we step outside, conduct an evaluation or energy audit on your home to see where improvements can be made to maximize energy usage.

The key to maximizing energy usage is using cost-effective ways to cool the home in the summer.

USE YOUR WINDOWS

If it is significantly cooler at night, turn off your cooling system and open your windows. In the morning, close the windows to trap the cool air in. Don't forget to close the blinds. Closing blinds and drapes prevent heat gain through your windows.

OPERATE YOUR THERMOSTAT EFFICIENTLY

Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible in the summer. It takes significantly less energy to cool a home to 78 degrees than 70 degrees if it is 95 degrees outside. The smaller the difference in the inside temperature in your home, the easier it is to cool. Seventy-eight (78) degrees may seem a little high, but it is much more pleasant than 95 degrees and a lot less expensive over the long haul than cooling to 70 degrees.

Most people make the mistake of moving the thermostat to their desired temperatures and then raising or lowering the thermostat when they're comfortable. For our purposes (which is to save money and energy), we want to keep our thermostat set at a steady temperature. Let's not work our A/C units overtime for a couple of degrees of difference in temperature.

And, also, I know most of our minds tell us the same thing when our homes reach the desired temperature. We want to turn the A/C unit off. That's not exactly what we want to do. Remember that overtime conversation we had earlier? When it gets hot again, and you have to turn the A/C unit on again, it's going to have to work double time to cool your home again. Put it on automatic. It'll save you in the long run. The best way to handle an A/C unit is to program it and forget it.

If you don't have a programmable thermostat, it may be worth the investment.

And one more thing, avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

USE FANS AND VENTILATION STRATEGIES TO COOL YOUR HOME

If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4°F with no reduction in comfort.

Turn off ceiling fans when you leave the room. Remember that fans cool people, not rooms, by creating a wind chill effect. It's like hitting that little button in your car to circulate the air and keep the car cooler. Same effect.

, and Savings

Turn on a ceiling fan and circulate the conditioned air.

When you shower or take a bath, use the bathroom fan to remove the heat and humidity from your home. Your laundry room might also benefit from spot ventilation. Make sure the bathroom and kitchen fans are vented to the outside (not just to the attic).

KEEP YOUR COOLING SYSTEM RUNNING EFFICIENTLY

We tune up our cars, we wipe our hard drives on our computers when they're sluggish, but how many of us think about maintenance on our HVAC systems? Just like any other machine, HVAC systems need regular maintenance as well.

Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Next is air vents. Let's not cover those up, okay? Your ventilation system is just that; ergo, it needs to ventilate. Don't cover them with drapes, coverings, and let's not let them get dusty. Clean them and the air will, well... flow.

DON'T HEAT YOUR HOME WITH APPLIANCES AND LIGHTING

How many days do we really want to cook in the summer? Or even at all? We all go through it, but it may actually be a good thing for your air conditioning unit if you don't. Well, not completely, but let's explore this a bit. When you use your oven, how much hotter does it get in your house? A lot hotter. On hot days, avoid using the oven; cook on the stove, use a microwave oven, or grill outside.

Install efficient lighting that runs cooler. Only about 10% to 15% of the electricity that incandescent lights consume results in light—the rest is turned into heat.

Take advantage of daylight instead of artificial lighting, but avoid direct sunlight. Use those blinds. Let in enough light to take advantage of natural light, but keep the heat out.

Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes. Consider air drying both dishes and clothing.

Take short showers instead of baths. Now this only works if we, indeed, take short showers.

Minimize activities that generate a lot of heat, such as running a computer, burning open flames, running a dishwasher, and using hot devices such as curling irons or hair dryers. Even stereos and televisions will add some heat to your home.

KEEP HOT AIR FROM LEAKING INTO YOUR HOME

Seal cracks and openings to prevent warm air from leaking into your home.

Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

LOWER YOUR WATER HEATING COSTS

Water heating accounts for about 18% of the energy consumed in your home.

Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120°F). You'll not only save energy, you'll avoid scalding your hands.

Now that we've figured out how to weatherproof our home, we can relax a little easier knowing we'll be saving money and energy.

For more information on conservation visit www.monroega.com or www.energy.gov.

Do You Have Money Lying Around: Un

The City of Monroe issues checks for a variety of reasons whether it be for payments or refunds. We generally will mail these payments to the address that we currently have on file. In some cases individuals or companies may have moved and the checks are returned to the City of Monroe or are never cashed or deposited. Take a look at these Monroe Utility customers & vendors who we mailed a refund or payment to, but the checks have not been cashed. If you are on this list or know someone who is, please contact us at [770-266-5125](tel:770-266-5125) so we can begin the process of reissuing these payments.

AGFA Healthcare Corporation

Akins Ford

Marganta Alacantar

Grant Allgood

Charsity Almond

Jennifer Autry

Rachel Bailey

Timothy Barber

Edward Barefoot

Vincent Barfield

Marvin Barnes

Beau Battaglia

Tommy L. Beall

Elizabeth Bilbrey-Hegwood

Jaylen Biscoe

Brenda Bishop

Donnell Blackshear

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Rohan Boswell

Robert Breeton

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Paul Britt

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Delia Brown

Lance Brown

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Jimmy Choy

Elijah W. Connell

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Novella Crain

Nona Kathryn Crowe



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Davita

Stefanie Dekranes

Greg Dombrowski

Kimberly Drake

Paul Duncan

Charles Dunn Jr.

Karessa Durham

East Metro Wireless

Jessica Edwards

Romell Edwards

Emmanuel Praise Church

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Jammie Evans

Pam Evans

Andrew Evelyn

Fannie Mae

Noel Fazio

Jennifer Finley

Tatiana Fuentes

Raymond Edward Gilbert

Kendra Gordon

Ashley Griffith

Erica Grindle

Martalian Hannah

Pamela Henderson

Thaddeus Henderson

Inn Holiday

Annie Holloman

Columbus Jackson

Laquita Jackson

Sergio Jackson

Crystal Jefferson

Anastasia Johnson

Kashawn Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Laprel Kelly

Stefanie Kopacz

Victoria Lawrence

James Lawson

Heather Leggett

Charles Lemaster

April Lewis

Lit Property Services

Little Groceries

Larry Little

Kila Lockridge

Loganville Recycling Llc

Elizabeth Lovitt

Claimed Funds from the City of Monroe

Michael Lowe
Gary Lowen
Lux Homes Llc
Patricia Madison
Lindsey Malcom
Elizabeth Martin
Nolan McCauley
Essie Lou McCullers
Joshua McGuire
Angela Meeler
Mhmad Auto Motors Inc
Ashley Millwood
Cedrika Mitchell
Randall Moore
Kristy Moran
Willie Moreland
Chip Morris
Brittany Neese
Jacqueline L. Nero-Buckingham
Jeffrey Newton
Janice Norman
Jolonda Norman
Willie Odum
Dominique Overstreet
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Ashley Peterson
Heather Phelps
Ammunition Precise
Natalie Quintero
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Matthew Reagin
Jimmy Reed
Mary Reynolds
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Ronald Simmons
Shyrl Slappey
Esther Smith
Jason Smith
Katelyn Sommer
Southeastern Housing Found
Jeuletta Taylor

Marcus Thomas
James Thornton
Kishore Tilak
Michael Towe
Jason Tross
Aurtavious Turner
Alfonzo Udell
Value Automotive Service
Verizon Wireless
Renwick Vicks
Kandice Leigh Vinson
Mildred Vonderheide
Antonio Walker
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Stephen Watson
Mary Webb
Where There's Smoke
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Matthew Wilson
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Lashanda Wright
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FOR _____

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Our City Administrator

Logan Propes was appointed as the new City Administrator for the City of Monroe by City Council on May 2, 2017. A native of Oakwood, Georgia, Logan and his wife Tracey have made their home in the Monroe area since 2006. Before working for the City, Logan was the Finance Director for the Jackson County Board of Commissioners for three years and had worked for Jackson County's Finance Department since 2006. Before getting into government finance, Logan worked in the Hall County Court System in Gainesville and also interned in Washington D.C. for then U.S. Representative Nathan Deal. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, both from the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega. Logan also holds certifications as a Local Government Finance Officer through the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government as well as certification from the Georgia Academy of Economic Development.



Monroe Housing Team and Community Impact Day



For a little over a year, the City of Monroe Housing Team has been working with several organizations to develop a sense of what the City of Monroe needs in regards to housing. The Team's goal is to educate the residents of Monroe about available housing as well as encourage the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing within the city.

On July 8, 2017, the Monroe Housing Team will join Hope Monroe and the Walton-Barrow Board of Realtors in hosting a housing fair to provide information on the current housing market in Monroe. The housing fair will give first-time home buyers an opportunity to gather information on what lenders look for when applying for a home loan. The GICH Team along with Hope Monroe looks to facilitate an increase in home ownership.

The Community Impact Day & Housing Symposium will take place on June 8, 2017 at the City of Monroe Community Center from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

There will be concurrent sessions which will cover the following topics: First time homebuying programs, How to Read and Repair Your Credit, and How to Purchase HUD Homes. There will be speakers from the Department of Community of Affairs, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Homeownership Center, and local realtors.

The event will also feature vendors, food, and activities for children. For parents who want to come out to the event and don't have childcare, no worries, there will be child care provided.

The Monroe Housing Team and Hope Monroe invite the community to take part in the Community Impact Day.

For more information regarding the involvement of the Monroe Housing Team and to learn more about the upcoming housing fair, contact Sadie Krawczyk at sadiek@monroega.gov. Follow the Team's success by joining the Monroe Housing Team-GICH on Facebook.



for business

The following businesses received new licenses from the City of Monroe since July.

• **Audiology Consulting & Hearing Service**
500 Great Oaks Suite 13

• **Body Wize Therapy**
1169 Criswell Road

• **Bug House Pest Control of Lake Oconee**
106 Bold Springs Ave

• **Clearview Urgent Care Monroe**
2161 W Spring St Ste C

• **DC Enterprises**
107 C Vine St

• **Eyes-rite**
311 Alcovy St Ste B

• **F.T. DUI Risk Reduction**
301 Alcovy St

• **Favor Caribbean Cuisine**
1110 E Church St

• **Hollandsworth Construction**
118 North Wayne Street

• **Kendra's Beauty Bar**
230 C N Hammond Dr

• **Land Whisperer**
120 2nd St Ste 107

• **Peachy Keen**
127 N Broad St

• **R.D.S. Management Co**
533 Plaza Drive

• **Restaura Health**
924 W Spring St

• **Sage at Georgia Walton Academy**
1 Bulldog Drive

• **SC Wholesale and Resale**
1004 S Broad St

• **TS Rescue**
303 Alcovy St

• **U.S. Renal Care Monroe Dialysis**
1004 S Broad St

• **Virtual Properties Realty**
118 N Broad ST

• **Vittles Diner**
1408 Hwy 78

• **X-Stream Plumbing**
107 A Vine St

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for
BUSINESS

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Postal Customer
Monroe, GA 30655

UPCOMING EVENTS

official newsletter of Monroe, Georgia

J June

- 1 Alive After 5 5:00 p.m.
- 2 First Friday Concert: Kinchafoonee Cowboys
- 6 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 13 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Farmers Market Each Saturday 8:30 a.m.

A August

- 1 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 3 Alive After 5 5:00 p.m.
- 4 First Friday Concert: The Tams
- 8 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Farmers Market Each Saturday 8:30 a.m.

J July

- 6 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 6 Alive After Five 5:00 p.m.
- 7 First Friday Concert: The Jake Bartley Band
- 28 Movie at the Mill 6:30 p.m.
- Farmers Market Each Saturday 8:30 a.m.



**DOUBLE FOODSTAMP
OH DOLLARS
SNAP!
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AT LOCAL • PRODUCER ONLY**



Unless otherwise noted, City of Monroe meetings are at City Hall, 215 N. Broad Street. Dates subject to change; check monroega.com for updates.

**City of
Monroe
Georgia**

Mayor Greg Thompson
Vice-Mayor Wayne Adcock-District 6
City Council Lee Malcom-District 1
Myoshia Crawford-District 2
Nathan Purvis-District 3
Larry Bradley-District 4
Norman Garrett-District 5
Nathan Little-District 7
Jimmy Richardson-District 8

City Administrator
Director of Public Safety
Director of Planning & Development
Director of Water, Sewer, & Gas
Director of Solid Waste
Director of Streets & Transportation
Director of Electric & Telecom
Designer & Editor

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