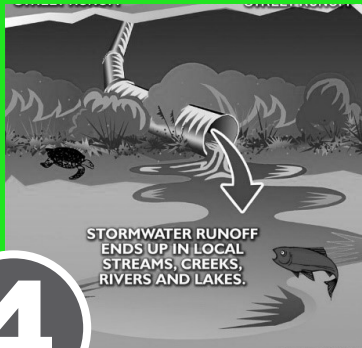


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From the  
Administrator's  
Desk

## Why Conserve Water?

Water conservation is about preserving our planet's second most valuable resource for future generations. Water is second only to air and is most necessary for our survival.

Fresh surface-water sources, such as rivers and lakes, only constitute about 22,300 cubic miles, which is about 1/150th of one percent of the earth's total water. It's this small percentage that we mostly focus our conservation efforts on.

Everyone can join in the conservation effort, even you! If you are concerned about keeping your water bill low or just want to do your part, there are many practical things that you can check around your house. For example, 75% of water used indoors is in the bathroom, and 25% of this is for the toilet.

### Here are some examples of conservation:

- Toilets** - For older toilets, installing a simple tank bank that costs about \$2.00 can save 0.8 gallons per flush. Check the rubber flapper inside the tank; when flappers age, they can warp and allow seepage of water from the tank. If you are suspicious that your tank is leaking water into the bowl, simply empty a pack of dry powder Kool-Aid into the tank and wait to see if the water in the bowl changes color. If it changes color, then the flapper needs to be changed or adjusted. Consider replacing old toilets with a new ultra-low volume model. ULV toilets, with no more than a 1.6-gallon flush, represents about 70% savings in water.
- Shower** - Low-flow showerheads can be installed as a simple fix by the home owner.
- Laundry** - Only wash full loads, and for partial loads, always adjust the water level to match the load size.
- Faucets** - Keep drinking water refrigerated, which will also reduce the amount of water wasted while waiting for it to cool enough to drink.
- Leaks** - Check faucets and spigots for leaks. Over time, the rubber washers in both become worn down and need replacing. Check pipes under the house for leaks. If you are filtering well water, be sure the filters are tightly secure and not leaking.
- Reusable Water** - Consider using already used "gray" water from your kitchen sink or bath to water flowers and other plants with.
- Rain Barrels** - These harvest rainwater from your downspout to be used on the lawn or garden. Rain water is eco friendly and best of all it's free!

## Airport Upgrades and Updates

In recent months, the Monroe-Walton County Airport (D73) has added an Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) which provides radio transmitted weather reports to pilots in the vicinity of the airport or by telephone to anyone calling into the tower system. Also placed into operation, are Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) lights to assist pilots with landing procedures and accuracy. By the end of 2018, the airport will see the addition of an 8-unit t-hangar for the housing of more planes, thus generating additional revenue for the airport through fuel sales, maintenance opportunities, and general aviation traffic. In conjunction with the hangar build, the eastern side apron will receive an overall rehabilitation and expansion to incorporate more tie-down areas, a safer flow of plane traffic to and from the parking and fueling areas, and travel to and from the new hangar location.



## Businesses

Skydive Monroe has been in business for over 20 years and is the only skydiving location on the east side of Atlanta. It offers the most current and state of the art skydiving instruction and equipment, and also provides tandem jump-masters and instructors certified by the United State Parachute Association (USPA).

Flight Train Monroe offers both private and commercial pilot certificates. All certificates and certifications follow the minimums and requirements provided by the Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR).

Fair Weather Flights started as a commercial helicopter flight service in 2004 and has expanded into a fixed wing maintenance facility located in Monroe. It serves as the current fixed-based operator (FBO) for the Monroe-Walton County Airport (D73).

Mid-Georgia Soaring Association (MGSA) is one of the oldest and largest soaring clubs in the southeastern United States. Discovery flights are available for those who want to experience soaring flight and are provided by certified commercial pilots. Flight instruction is also available and provided by Certified Flight Instructors for Gliders (CFIG).

## Events

Skydive Monroe will be hosting and operating its annual Big Jump Fundraiser event in coordination with the Extra Special People (ESP) organization. This fundraiser will benefit the ESP summer camp program for special needs children to attend. In 2017, the fundraiser raised over \$100,000 to benefit the organization and looks to exceed that number in 2018 and future years. The event will provide for volunteers and sponsors, and have food, fun, and entertainment for all those involved. For details about this event and future events, please visit <http://extraspecialpeople.com/big-jump>.



# Damage Prevention Prior to Excavating & How to Recognize a Natural Gas Leak

There are thousands of damage incidents in the United States every year associated with digging. Damaging an underground pipeline may lead to expensive fines, serious injury, or death. Gas pipelines are built with safety and reliability as top priorities, following state and federal guidelines, regulations, and specifications. Natural gas leaks may result in fire, explosion, and/or asphyxiation.

## Here are five easy steps to damage prevention steps:

1. **Survey and Mark** – Survey the proposed excavation area and mark the dig sites in white paint.
2. **Call Before You Dig** – 48 hours prior to digging, call 811 to get free staking of underground utility lines which helps reduce the chance of injury and unneeded expense.
3. **Wait!** – Wait the required time to allow utility owners to locate and mark all underground lines.
4. **Respect the Marks!** – Maintain visibility of the marks and safely follow them when digging.
5. **Dig** – Dig with care. Hand excavate within 24-inches of each side of the lines. If you plan to dig anywhere in a marked area, especially when using power equipment, use a shovel and carefully hand dig to expose the lines.

## If your equipment contacts a gas line:

- **Leave the equipment;** jump clear and shuffle away, without turning off engines or generators.
- **Warn others and leave** the area quickly.
- **Do not operate** any gas pipeline valves or stop the flow of gas.
- Leave the **excavation open**.
- In a natural gas emergency, **call 911**, then the City of Monroe.

Some of the signs of a gas leak include bubbling water, hearing a hissing or blowing sound from a pipeline or appliance, dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area, dirt or dust blowing from the ground, or the smell of rotten eggs.

## If you smell gas or think you may smell gas:

- **Leave** the area immediately!
- **Call** your local gas provider at 770-267-3429 or 911 **from a neighboring home or business**.
- **Never** flip switches, use a flashlight or phone in the presence of the gas smell, because an electric spark could ignite the gas and cause an explosion.
- **Stay** in a safe location until the emergency responder arrives and gives you clearance to return to the area.

Over the past 20 years, risk exposure has been rising through increased populations, energy consumption, and pipeline miles. At the same time, the number of serious pipeline incidents involving death or injury has declined by 50%.

## Follow These Guidelines to Prevent Damage While Working Near Natural Gas Pipelines

To learn more about our natural gas service and the benefits of natural gas, call the City of Monroe at 770-267-3429, or visit our website at [www.monroega.com](http://www.monroega.com).

# Water Conservation Continued

Stormwater runoff is generated from rain and snowmelt that flow over land or impervious surfaces, such as paved streets; parking lots, and building rooftops, and does not soak into the ground.

One of the biggest assumptions concerning stormwater is that it is filtered and treated before it discharges into our rivers, creeks, and streams. The runoff picks up pollutants

like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment that can harm our rivers, streams, lakes, and coastal waters. These pollutants go directly into our waterways untreated!

The City of Monroe has a piped stormwater system. There is a combined total of approximately 1,650 inlets and catch basins, 170 junction boxes, 390 outlets, 159,310 feet of storm ditches, and over 172,200 feet of storm pipe. This kind of system requires constant maintenance and expansion is an ongoing challenge for our stormwater department.

Public safety is always a concern with stormwater. Intense rain fall can overwhelm any system and can cause ponding of the water. If grates over drains become blocked or clogged with debris, the water will have nowhere to go and can cause vehicles to hydroplane. This can place you and your family at risk of having an accident. One of the many system responsibilities is to make sure grates on our city streets are clean and ready for the next rainfall event.

Our city code concerning stormwater can be found on the city website at [www.monroega.com](http://www.monroega.com). The website contains additional information that will be helpful to understanding the seriousness of stormwater pollutants.

Pollutant means anything which causes or contributes to pollution.

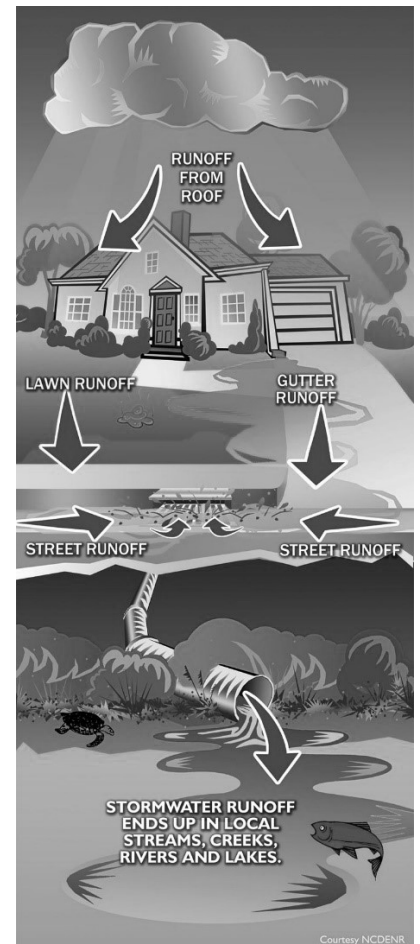
Pollutants may include, but are not limited to:

- Paints
- Automotive fluids
- Detergents (biodegradable or otherwise)
- Yard wastes
- Refuse
- Garbage
- Litter
- Other discarded or abandoned objects and accumulations

Keeping drains clear are important and here is how you can help:

- Never place anything on a storm drain,
- Never place or pour anything into a storm drain,
- Never place leaves, brush, trash, or anything in a storm ditch,
- Help keep the drain near your home clear,
- Adopt a portion of your street for litter pickup,
- Report flooding immediately, or call 911,
- Report all stormwater concerns by calling 770-266-5324.

All this can be summed up in one statement, "Only Rain Down The Drain!"

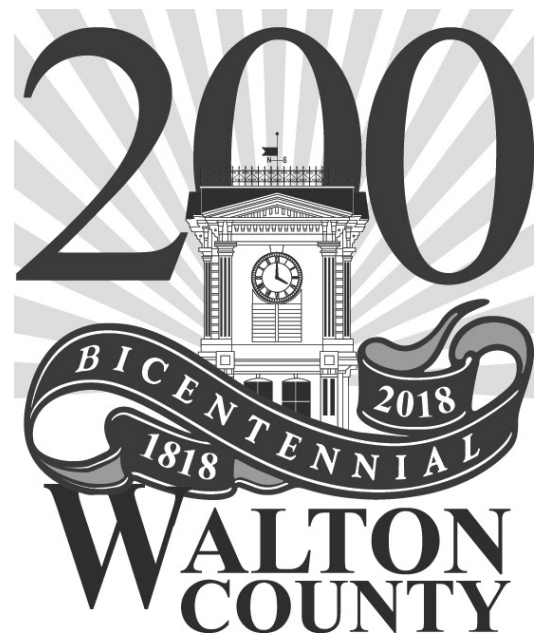


# Bicentennial Celebration

The City of Monroe and Walton County Government are joining forces to celebrate our County's Bicentennial (200<sup>th</sup> Birthday). As the county seat, the City of Monroe is proud to host the Bicentennial Freedom Fest celebration on July 4, 2018 at Legion Field. There will be fireworks, food, and lots of fun! Bring the family out and enjoy all of the festivities!

**Where:** Legion Field (Athens Tech Football Field)  
212 Bryant Road  
Monroe, Ga 30655

**When:** July 4, 2018  
4:00 p.m. until



## Housing Expo: Community Impact Day

On July 21, 2018, 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 Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (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 21, 2018 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, there will be child care provided.

The Monroe Housing Team and Hope Monroe invite the entire 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](mailto:sadiek@monroega.gov). Follow the Team's success by joining the Monroe Housing Team-GICH on Facebook.

# From the City Administrator's Desk

## So much going on in Monroe!

2018 is looking to be a game-changing year for the City of Monroe. There are many amazing projects being facilitated by the city government, our local entrepreneurs, and some of our largest area employers. For its part, the City of Monroe strives to create a welcoming and solid environment in which to do business and to live in by offering an array of quality, low-cost utility services and enhanced quality-of-life services such as police, fire, streets, and parks. It is exciting to see our downtown filled with shops and restaurants (with many more to come) and our sidewalks filled with residents and visitors each day. Areas outside of downtown are just as vibrant making Monroe an attractive area for future retail growth without impacting the character and charm of our historic district.

I'd like to update you on various projects of interest that are helping to transform Monroe:

- **West Spring Street Streetscape:** This 1.5 mile stretch of new sidewalk, street lighting, and trees is under construction and will be substantially completed later this summer. It will run from Childers Park in Downtown Monroe west to White Oak Lane.
- **North Broad Street Streetscape:** This almost 1 mile stretch of new and upgraded sidewalk, street lighting, and trees on both sides of the road will hopefully begin construction later this spring and is anticipated for completion in early 2019. It will run from Marable Street north to Mayfield Drive near the Hwy 78 bridge. We will also dress up the utility yard and water plant area in conjunction with the project.
- **Childers Park:** Staff is constantly working to improve Childers Park by improving the dog park area, removing dead or diseased trees and replacing them with new specimens. The ultimate goal is to make Childers Park the crown jewel of Monroe's park system.
- **Transportation Plans:** The City of Monroe along with leaders from Walton County and other municipalities within the county have spent the past several months working diligently to create a forward-looking but achievable Transportation Master Plan with the goal of "Keeping Walton County Moving". We look forward to partnering with the County and the State of Georgia on many major project initiatives to give our citizens a better quality of life and boost economic productivity through better roads.
- **Truck Connector Route:** According to the Georgia Department of Transportation, the connector is on schedule for right-of-way acquisition beginning this September. Construction will commence in 2019 and continue through 2020. This new truck route will shift heavy truck traffic out of downtown and route it from Hwy 83 to Hwy 11 south of the city.

There are many more great city projects in the works and I look forward to updating you on those in the very near future!



# for business

Where do you do your shopping? Do you leave the city to shop? Did you know that you can get everything you need right here in your own neighborhood? Monroe is home to many unique shops where you can do a lot of shopping. Our Downtown boasts many award-winning retail spaces with new stores coming this summer.

In addition to our beautiful downtown, Monroe also has several stores along West Spring Street that offer a variety of services as well. We are home to department stores such as, Goody's, It's Fashion, City Trends, and Roses.

This summer opt for a more personal experience by supporting local businesses and shopping small. Take time to visit one of our furniture and antiques stores for your home decor needs. Downtown Monroe also boast several other apparel, accessories, and specialty shops. With over 45 shopping and dining locations to choose from, come out and enjoy all Monroe has to offer this summer.



Open

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

- **B & M Performance Garage LLC**  
522 E Spring Street
- **CB Auto**  
116 Hubbard Street
- **Cheely's General Store & Cafe**  
113 N Broad Street
- **Corey Alana Moon Photography**  
127 1/2 Broad Street Suite 10
- **FB Driving Inc**  
126 S Broad Street
- **Fine As Frog Hair**  
113 N Broad Street Suite C
- **La Boheme Salon and Spa**  
603 Alcovy Street
- **Med Cross Imaging LLC**  
333 Alcovy Street Suite 9
- **Medlink of Georgia Inc**  
924 W Spring Street
- **Monroe Art & Antique Mall**  
530 S Madison Avenue
- **Monroe Small Engine Repair**  
1625 S Broad Street
- **Olive Branch Antiques & Home Decor**  
113 N Broad Street
- **Rust & Dust Antiques LLC**  
516 S Madison Avenue
- **Southern Pro Contracting Inc**  
129 N Broad Street
- **Team Impact Fitness**  
129 N Wayne Street
- **The Little Daycare LLC**  
142 W Spring Street
- **The Posh Cakery**  
127 S Broad Street



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

official newsletter of monroe, georgia

## J June

- 1 First Friday Concert
- 5 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 7 Alive After 5 5:00 p.m.
- 12 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Farmers Market every Saturday 8:30 a.m.

## A August

- 2 Alive After 5 5:00 p.m.
- 3 First Friday Concert 7:00 p.m.
- 7 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 14 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Farmers Market every Saturday 8:30 a.m.

## J July

- 3 City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 4 Bicentennial Event 4:00 p.m.
- 5 Alive After 5 5:00 p.m.
- 27 Food Truck Friday 11:00 a.m.
- 27 Movies at the Mill 6:30 p.m.
- Farmers Market every Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Unless otherwise noted, City of Monroe meetings are at City Hall, 215 N. Broad Street. Dates subject to change; check [monroega.com](http://monroega.com) for updates.

**City of  
Monroe  
Georgia**

**Mayor** John Howard  
**Vice-Mayor** Wayne Adcock District 6  
**City Council** Lee Malcom District 1  
 Myoshia Crawford District 2  
 Ross Bradley District 3  
 Larry Bradley District 4  
 Norman Garrett District 5  
 Nathan Little District 7  
 David Dickinson District 8

City Administrator Logan Propes  
 Director of Public Safety Keith Glass  
 Director of Code Patrick Kelley  
 Director of Water, Sewer, & Gas Rodney Middlebrooks  
 Director of Finance Beth Thompson  
 Director of Solid Waste Danny Smith  
 Director of Streets & Transportation Jeremiah Still  
 Director of Electric & Telecom Brian Thompson  
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