

June 2022-July 2022

# WORD ON WHITE HOUSE

A Publication of the City of White House

105 College Street • White House, Tennessee 37188

[WWW.WHITEHOUSE.TN.GOV](http://WWW.WHITEHOUSE.TN.GOV)



## Carlos Payne Sworn in as Alderman for Ward 2

On Thursday, May 19, 2022 Mr. Carlos Payne took an oath given by Alderman Clif Hutson, to become the new Alderman for Ward 2 of White House, Tennessee. The Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting was filled with Mr. Payne's family and friends, citizens, and City staff as they witnessed his first meeting as Alderman.

Alderman Payne was chosen for this position after a month long application and interview process. This process was ended with a public group interview hosted on April 14th where the current Alderman and Mayor Bibb anonymously filled out ranking sheets for their choice of candidate.

Mr. Payne's appointment as Alderman will extend through the November elections until January 2023, when whoever is elected will be sworn in. He has expressed that he would like to use his position to be a voice for White House residents. We are happy to have Alderman Carlos Payne join our Board of Mayor and Alderman.



City of White House  
Billy S. Hobbs Municipal Center  
105 College Street  
White House, TN 37188  
[www.whitehousetn.gov](http://www.whitehousetn.gov)

Phone: 615-672-4350

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# Greetings

FROM YOUR CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**Gerald O. Herman**



Greetings,

We are in a season of change and new beginnings. We welcome Mr. Carlos Payne to the Board of Mayor and Alderman. Mr. Payne was selected by the Board to fill a vacant position with a term expiring January 2023. We are also transitioning a move of administrative offices into the new Community Center building. We are projecting the move to occur the week of June 13th with a ribbon cutting set for June 16th. Some of our services such as finance will need to be closed for a day or two. We will let you know through social media posts.

We are near the end of expanding water service to the town center. This 2-million-dollar project included a 16-inch water main that runs from the water tower up 31W to Portland Road. We did not have the volume and pressure of water

needed to meet the demands of the municipal complex and the higher density housing and commercial buildings along that corridor. The cost of this project is being shared by the city and three private developers.

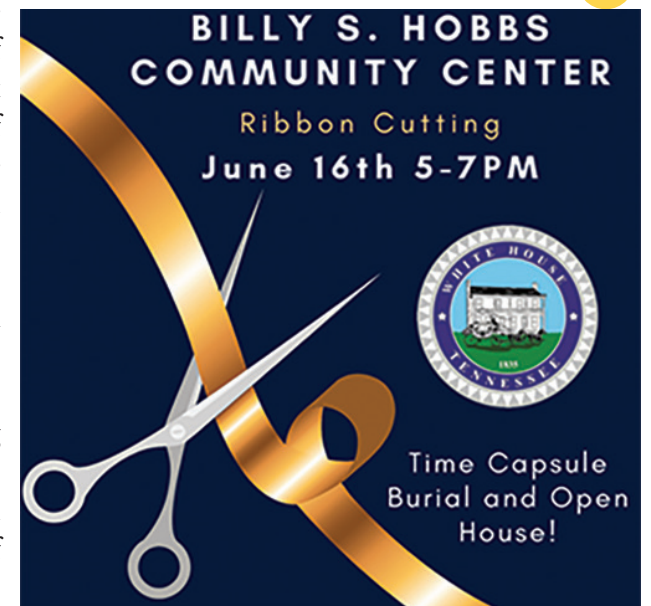
About two years ago we had a study done on our entire wastewater collection system. The study identified that our southern force main that provides for the collection of sewage from nearly half of our customers located south of SR76 was at or near capacity flow. Since we already had approved plans for many more lots to be built out in this area, we immediately jumped into action to design a solution. A new upsized line would be needed to run from the treatment plant south, go under SR76, then

head east to go under I-65 to Sage Road, continue under US31W all the way to the end of Cedarbrook Road. The projected cost was 7 million dollars. We broke the project up into phasing into such a way that would allow us to take immediate pressure off the current collection line. We budgeted 2 million for the first phase. We were going to need help funding the full cost of the line.

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 truly came to our rescue. We can use dedicated funding to us for this collection line.

This is great news! We received our first of two payments this past fall in the amount of \$1,874,932. The State of Tennessee through the Department of Environment and Conservation has dedicated a portion of their funds to cities for such projects. We are expecting to receive a non-competitive grant from them in the amount of \$1,373,645. We also

negotiated a contribution for capital recovery cost on this line from a private developer in the amount of \$550,000. Added up together of the projected \$7 million needed we are expecting to receive a total of \$5,673,509. What a blessing to our city. As a result of these funds, we expect to have this project completely built out at least three years sooner than we could have on our own. This new line will meet the collection needs for that area for many years to come. May you and your loved ones be safe, happy, and healthy throughout the summer.



## COOL OFF WITH A GOP

Enjoy a FREE popsicle and meet our officers!

**JUNE 22 • 4 PM - 5 PM**

**During the Farmers Market**

**at the Main Pavilion**

Discover  
**White House Area**  
Chamber of Commerce





**ALL AGES**

Due to the success with our first ever stick by number art project, the library will be putting one up every 2 to 3 months. These will consist of a poster with letters. Each letter corresponds with a color. You put a colored sticker on the letter that corresponds with it. When it is filled, we will have a completed poster.

Everyone is welcome to help complete these posters.

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

1st Thursday: Stitch Club at 4:00pm  
 2nd Thursday: Mystery Readers at 3:00pm  
 3rd Thursday: Stitch Club at 4:00pm  
 4th Thursday: Craft club at 4:00pm  
 Last Thursday of the month: Book-worms book club at 10am and Adult Creative Writing at 4:00pm

**CHILDREN PROGRAMS**

Story Time: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30am for ages 0-5. Join us for dancing, a book reading and a craft. The same story will be read both days. These events will be held face-to-face but are subject to change to online only. Check our website for updates.  
 Crafternoons: Kids ages 5-8 join us on Mondays at 4:00pm for crafts, Legos and sometimes a movie showing.

**TWEEN & TEEN PROGRAMS**

are held every Tuesday at 4:30pm. These events are for those ages 9-17. Below is the schedule for each Tuesday:  
 1st Tuesday: Creative Writing  
 2nd and 4th Tuesday: Sewing class  
 3rd Tuesday: Drawing club  
 Coding Club is every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30pm

*Want to be a part of planning tween/teen programs? Join our teen adversary board. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4:00pm.*

*\*All programs are being held face-to-face but that is subject to change to grab and go kits and virtual only should the need arise. Check the library website for up-to-date program info.*

The White House Library would like to thank everyone who came out to our storybook trail ribbon cutting on April 18th. We are excited to have the book Red House Tree House Little Bitty Brown Mouse available to view on the city greenway. This book is for those ages 5 to 7. The storybook trail starts at the Andrew Jackson Trailhead, which is located next to the Sonic in White House. This storybook trail was made possible through a grant from the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation. If you have not checked it out, we hope that you will!

**The White House Library Board will meet on July 14th at 7:00pm at City Hall, located at 105 College St.**

**THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 4TH IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY.**

**SUMMER READING PROGRAMS**

**PERFORMERS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS AT 10:30AM.**

- **JUNE 16: ANIMAL TALES ANIMAL SHOW (IN CITY GYM)**
- **JUNE 23: JILL THATCHER, VENTRILOQUIST (IN NEW CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM)**
- **JUNE 30: SCIENCE GUYS SCIENCE SHOW (IN NEW CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM)**
- **JULY 7: BLEDSOE CREEK STATE PARK, PARK RANGER (IN NEW CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM)**
- **JULY 14: RUNAWAY PUPPETS PUPPET SHOW (IN NEW CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM)**
- **JULY 21: WATER DAY (OUTSIDE LIBRARY)**

**SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE TEXT NOTIFICATIONS ABOUT LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

Sign up for one notification or all three by scanning the QR code.

**Children's Programs**



**Teen Programs**



**Adult Programs**



Made with PosterMyWall.com

Besides text messages, you can also stay up to date on all of the library happenings by signing up for our email newsletter, liking our Facebook page, or visiting the library website at [www.yousee-more.com/whl](http://www.yousee-more.com/whl). Our website not only contains our monthly calendar of events, but also features electronic databases, ebook and audio book downloads, and our online catalog. So be sure to check out everything the library has to offer.



# WHITE HOUSE LIBRARY

# FANDOMCON

JUNE 11th, 2022  
10am to 3pm

## OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

Hey everyone! Join us at the White House Library Fandomcon for a one-day event full of all things fantasy, sci-fi, comics, gaming, anime, and more. The event will be held outside on June 11th from 10am - 3pm. We will move the event inside if it rains. See our con guest list and activities below or visit the library website for more info at [www.youseemore.com/whl](http://www.youseemore.com/whl).

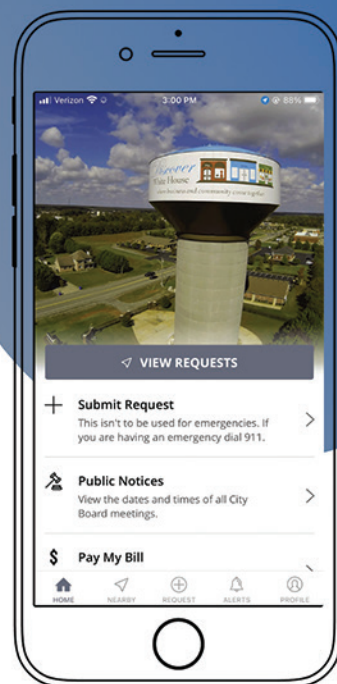
- Sean the Balloon Guy
- Writer Terry Maggert
- Illustrator Janet K. Lee
- Escape Rooms
- Petting Zoo
- Vendors
- Cosplayer Derek Gilbreath
- Cosplay Collective
- Jeweler Becky Smallwood
- Caricature Artist Cara Dunning
- Teddy Bear Mobile
- Cumberland Astronomical Society
- Lego Building Contest
- Larping
- Video Games
- Kids and teen crafts
- Panels and more!

## Download Our App!

The City of White House mobile app is the quickest and easiest way to communicate to City staff for any issues or requests.

[Download Now](#)

Find it in the App store by searching "City of White House"



[www.whitehousetn.gov](http://www.whitehousetn.gov)

## White House Word Search

A R R F C T C M N A S R I L A R I C E E  
 E R S B T E K R A M S R E M R A F H O N  
 U R W H S A A S O L R I I O E R W A O E  
 R M S U M N E R A T R S T R E E A M I A  
 R L R E R K C E R B R R S N L B T B G N  
 T B A E F C Y R P W A T E R T O W E R Y  
 E M F A R R A H A E S A M T Y M R R E R  
 C F A S M O R P S R Y F S B W A E N E L  
 M L P E Y L U O B A R O B E R T S O N P  
 M M N I L R F L M W P H W A A W B S W O  
 I N E A I P F I R E L I A E C H O R A R  
 A T A A A S R C O W I L L E K R A F Y E  
 M F G N T L R E E E Y R A R B I L K R I  
 E A K L M R A E G C M L L M N R L P A A  
 R N A N I C P R A Y A C I T Y H A L L T  
 I R C K A O E T A W M E E E U W R S R E  
 C A T T W H R S R E I M N T E R R S O P  
 A N Y R A D R L N R O C N N P H C S E O  
 N O C O P K O E H S P L A S H P A D L B  
 A M G P O R D R O N E B A O I O E L O W

Farmers Market  
Greenway  
Fire

City Hall  
Sumner  
Americana

Library  
Robertson  
Police

Water Tower  
Chamber  
Splash Pad



# SENIOR CENTER

Welcome to the White House Senior Citizen Center located in the White House Municipal Building.

A hot lunch is served in the cafeteria every Wednesday. This is a great time to fellowship with other seniors. The cost of the meal for a senior is \$3.00 (eat in), \$3.50 (take out), \$6.00 (eat in) for non-seniors, and \$6.50 (take out) for non-seniors. The meal includes meat, vegetables, bread, and dessert. Reservations are required by noon on Monday. Call Billie at 615.672.4350 ext. 2116 for reservations.

Enjoy Bingo after lunch twice a month. Check calendar for date. Bring a \$3.00 gift to participant in a single line Bingo. We clear the cards and everyone can participant in cover-all for a gift.

The first Monday of every month we celebrate all birthdays in that month with a potluck meal. The center is always open for card games; Hand & Foot, Shanghai & Farmers Rummy, and Canasta. A game of pool, dominos and board games is also available. Our center always has a puzzle in process and our book shelves are stocked with books to borrow. We schedule lunches at local restaurants, craft day, bunco, movie at the center, Bible Study, and bowling at Strike N Spare in Hendersonville monthly.

Join our exercise group Monday through Thursday at 9:30 am for a variety of excersies and energizing workouts, suitable for all levels of fitness.

Caris Healthcare is sponsoring a Vet to Vet Café in July. Veterans join us for coffee and donuts and fellowship with other veterans. Check our calendar for a date and time.

The Robertson County Community Band will be performing at the Amphitheater, at the White House Civic Center, June 14th at 7pm. Bring a chair

*Check our calendar for activities in June & July (4th of July)!*



and enjoy a night of music under the stars! There will be a dance with Casey & the Cowboys August 25th. Check August calendar for times.

Stop by the center located at 105 College Street, White House, TN to pick up a calendar and take a tour of our center or check us out on the City of White House website. There is

NO FEE and new residents are welcome!!!







As a reminder your **sewer and refuse bill** is always due on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. You can mail payments in to City of White House 105 College St White House, TN 37188 or they can be dropped off in person. There is also a drop box located in the roundabout.

Check our calendar for activities in June & July (4th of July)!



## What is a columbarium?

A columbarium is kind of like a mausoleum. It is an above ground burial tomb. The big difference is that it is only for cremations enclosed in urns. Do you know what you would do with your loved ones cremation? Hillcrest Municipal Cemetery now offers a lower cost alternative. Our columbarium has 48 niches (hollow spaces) for the safe keeping of your loved one. Each niche can accommodate two family members.

If you would like more information on purchasing a columbarium niche, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 615-672-4350 ext. 2114

### SCHEDULE OF FEES

#### Ground Burials

- Sale of Lots \$750
- Openings & Closings \$850 (\$650 if marker already exists)
- Burial of Cremains \$300
- Move Outside of Hillcrest \$500
- Move within Hillcrest \$1,000
- Monument Foundations Fee 25¢ per square inch
- Scatter of Cremains \$25

#### Two Cremation Limit Columbarium

- Sale of Lots \$750 (includes opening, closing and engraving for first interment)
- \$150 for second interment and engraving, additional opening and closing \$150
- Columbariums are 11.5"x11.5" spaces for up to two urns per niche

## Hillcrest Municipal Cemetery

### PURCHASING AND VENDOR REGISTRY

The City contacts hundreds of businesses throughout the year to get pricing on projects. Vendor Registry provides the city with a free database that allows companies to be notified automatically if their service is needed. If you are a business owner, or know someone who is, please register to be immediately notified and never miss opportunities to partner with the city.

To register, simply go to the city's purchasing website at :

[www.whitehousetn.gov/purchasing](http://www.whitehousetn.gov/purchasing)

If you have any questions about the city's purchasing policies or have trouble registering your company, please contact Carol Sturm, Purchasing Coordinator at 615-72-4350, ext. 2130 or by email at [CSturm@whitehousetn.gov](mailto:CSturm@whitehousetn.gov)



# MOVIES UNDER THE STARS



**JUNE 10**  
**ENCANTO**



**JULY 22**  
**ELF**  
*CHRISTMAS in July*



**AUGUST 12**  
**GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY**

POWERED BY



**WHITE HOUSE CITY PARK**

**NEAR THE MAIN PAVILION**  
**MOVIE BEGINS AT DUSK**  
**WWW.WHITEHOUSECHAMBER.ORG**

## THE CITY OF WHITE HOUSE



**WHITEHOUSE.TN.GOV**



## **The White House Police Department is now hiring!**

Starting pay begins at \$20.48/hr or \$44,728.32 annually base.

### **Basic Qualifications:**

- High School diploma or GED
- United States Citizen
- Valid Driver's License
- No Felony Convictions

### **Hiring Process:**

- Employment Application (whitehousetn.gov/careers)
- Background Investigation
- Written Exam
- Physical Agility Exam
- Citizen Board Interview
- Chief's Interview
- 12-Week Police Academy (Post hire if not already certified )

### **Opportunities:**

- Overtime Opportunities
- Bike Patrol, ERT, DTF
- Criminal Investigations Division
- K9 Unit
- Outer Vest
- Specialized Training
- Take Home Vehicle

### **Program**

- 12 Hour Shifts (every other weekend off)

### **Benefits:**

- Health, Dental & Vision Insurance (Employee coverage cost only \$30.10/month)
- Vacation (4 Weeks accrued during 1st year)
- Sick Days



# WHITE HOUSE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS NOW HIRING!

Starting pay \$20.48/hr or  
\$44,728.32 annually base

- Overtime opportunities
- Insurance (Employee coverage cost only \$30.10/month)
- Vacation (4 weeks accrued during 1st year)
- And more!

Apply at [whitehousetn.gov/careers](http://whitehousetn.gov/careers)

For inquires: Contact Human Resources at 615-672-4350 ext.2109

- Longevity Pay
- Pay Increases Annually
- 11.5 Paid Holidays & 20 hrs of Personal Time
- Tuition Assistance Program
- TCRS Retirement & Retiree Health Care

Apply at [whitehousetn.gov/careers](http://whitehousetn.gov/careers)  
For inquires: Contact Human Resources at 615-672-4350 ext.2109





## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Registration is open and space is going fast for the #NoFilter 2022 Girl's Summit on June 17th. This fun filled day teaches internet safety, self-defense, self-esteem with fun activities too!

#NoFilter is open to all area girls that are rising 5th through rising 9th grade! If you have questions contact the Chamber for more details. To register, you can use this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../nofilter-girls-summit-2022>



The White House Police Department partnered with the DEA for a drug take back event on April 30th. We collected 145Lbs of prescription drugs at this event and another 112Lbs from the drop box located at the police department for a grand total of 257Lbs of drugs. Thank you for everyone who participated in this event to keep these drugs off the streets and out of our water supply.



Discover **White House**  
Area Chamber of Commerce

**MUSIC UNDER THE STARS**

PROSPERITY MORTGAGE ADVISORS

at the Fran Hutson Amphitheater  
Music Begins at 6:30 pm **FREE**



**SPILT MILK BAND**  
JUNE 23

**VARIETY PAK**  
RESCHEDULED TO  
JULY 14



**FORTUNATE SONS**  
JULY 28

**KRUIZE KONTROL**  
SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 27



Thanks to our partners for powering this fun, family-friendly event!



**BEE DAY**  
at the Farmers Market  
JUNE 29 • 3:30 TO 7 PM

All demonstrations held in the main pavilion



- MORINGA TREE CAFE** "Health Benefits of Raw Honey" 3:30, 4:30 & 5:30  
Visit their booth where they'll offer smoothies made with Raw Honey
- HARBIN HOLLOW** "Benefits of Bee Pollen: A Teach & Taste Event" at 3:45, 4:45, 5:45 & 6:45
- CAUSEY BEE FARM** Basic Beekeeping Class 4:00, 5:00 & 6:00

Robertson County Beekeepers Association will be there with educational talks and demos about bees. Beekeepers will be present, so come by, say hello and ask all your bee questions!

& all the great vendors you love at the Market with a great selection of produce, bread, popcorn, artisan designs & more!

On Sale Now the Official & Limited Edition 2022

**MUSIC UNDER THE STARS T-SHIRTS**

Show your support of your 'Famous Friends' by sporting their name around town. Adult Small - 3XL available

**\$20**

Discover **White House Area** Chamber of Commerce  
412 Hwy. 76  
Open Monday - Thursday





# PARKS AND RECREATION



## Fall Baseball & Softball



**Registration Period: 5/30-7/3**

**Ages: 4-5-6- Coach Pitch/Tee Ball**

**7-8 Coach Pitch- 8U Softball**

**9-10 League- 10U Softball**

**Registration Fee: \$120 (includes complete uniform)**

**\*Out of City fee: \$132**

**\*\*\* Spring 2022 Dixie Youth players may stay on the same team they were on if they wish, as long as they are not moving up the following spring (Spring 2022)\*\*\***



## Girls Volleyball



**Registration Period: June 6th-July 17th**

**For Girls Grades 3 – 8**

**Registration Fee: \$65 for City Residents/\$77 for Non-Residents**

**Practices will begin in August and games will begin in September**

Be on the lookout for information about more programs/events that will be kicking off soon at:  
<https://whparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home>



## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Independence 5K

### 22nd Annual Independence 5K

The date for the 22nd Annual Independence 5K has been set for Saturday, July 2nd at 8:00AM. The race will start at the White House High School trailhead. Business Sponsorship Opportunities available for \$200.

### Early Bird Registration will begin May 2nd

Entry Fee: Early Bird Deadline by June 5th

\$25/Individual

\$20/Individual 10& Under

\$70/Family (up to 4 members)

### Fee after June 5th:

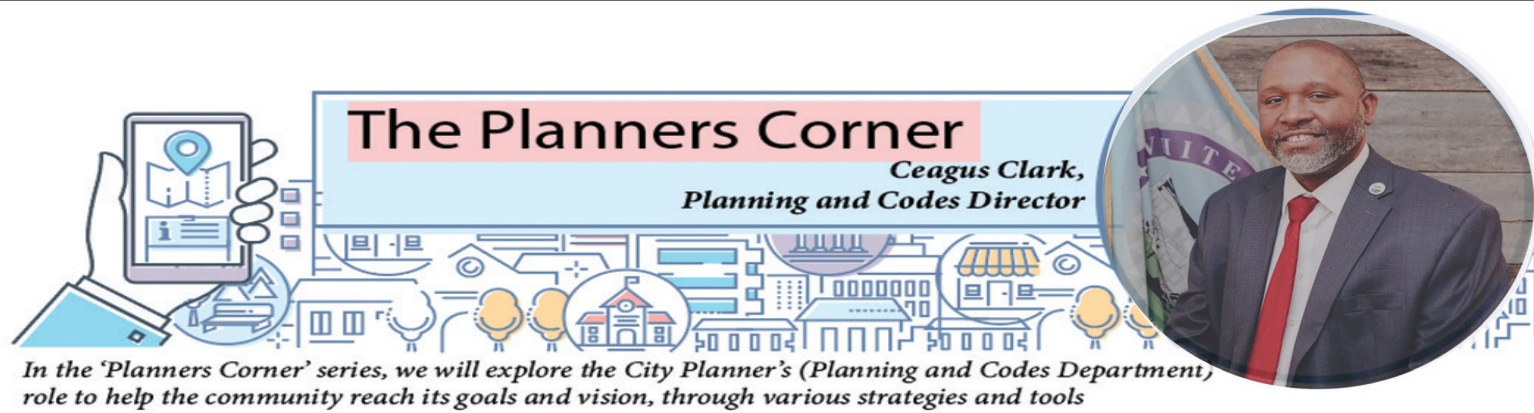
\$30/Individual

\$25/Individual 10 & Under - \$80/Family (up to 4 members)



Community  
Walking  
(FREE to ALL)  
LOCATION:  
CIVIC CENTER  
Gymnasium  
WHEN: 7:15AM-  
11:00AM (M-TH)





## Planning and Codes- Who are we and how do we serve the citizens of White House?- Part 2

### Chickens

Our office gets calls frequently asking if chickens are allowed in the city. Section 4.170 in the City of White House Zoning Ordinance provides detail for residential agricultural use. In residential zoning districts zoned R-40, R-20 and R-15, if the lot is larger than one (1) acre, then chickens are allowed. **4.170 Residential Agricultural Uses (Added by Ordinance 06-06, February 16, 2006)**

#### Regulations for properties between (1) and (5) acres:

1. Residential property must be designated as R-40, R-20, and R-15, Residential Zoning Districts on the official zoning map.
2. Property must be over one (1) acre in size.
3. Agricultural use shall be an accessory to residential use and shall only be a personal use by residents of the property.
4. Property must not be located within a suburban or urban residential and commercial area as determined by the Board of Zoning and Appeals to prevent adverse effects to adjoining properties and uses, including but not limited to, odors and rodents infestation.
5. The land area reserved for the agricultural use and number of animals shall be determined by the Board of Zoning

based on type of agricultural use proposed, acreage of the property, and adjoining property uses.

6. The agricultural use of the property shall not injuriously affect public health or become a nuisance because of noise, odor, etc.

7. All animals shall be within an enclosure and shall not run at large. The locations of enclosures and cages shall be determined by Board of Zoning and Appeals including preventing animal cages from being located in front yard and requiring adequate setbacks of animal enclosures from adjacent houses and property lines. No enclosure of poultry shall be within 10 ft of property line.

#### Regulations for properties between five (5) and twenty (20) acres:

1. Residential property must be designated as R-40, R-20, and R-15 Residential Zoning Districts on the official zoning map.
2. Property must be over (5) acres in size.
3. Agricultural use shall be an accessory to residential use and shall only be a personal use by residents of the property.
4. Property must not be located within a suburban or urban residential and commercial area as determined by the Board of Zoning Appeals to prevent adverse effects to adjoining properties and uses.

5. The land area reserved for the agricultural use and number of livestock shall be determined by the Board of Zoning Appeals based on type of agricultural use proposed, acreage of the property, and adjoining property uses.

6. The agricultural use of the property shall not injuriously affect public health or become a nuisance because of noise, odor, etc.

#### Regulations for properties larger than twenty (20) acres:

1. Residential property must be designated as R-40, R-20, and R-15 Residential Zoning Districts on the official zoning map.
2. Property must be over (20) twenty acres in size.
3. Property must not be located within a suburban or urban residential and commercial area as determined by the Board of Zoning Appeals to prevent adverse effects to adjoining properties and uses.
4. The land area reserved for the agricultural use and number of livestock shall be determined by the Board of Zoning Appeals based on the type of agricultural use proposed, acreage of the property, and adjoining property uses.

5. The land area reserved for the agricultural use and number of livestock shall be determined by the Board of Zoning Appeals based on the type of agricultural use proposed, acreage of the property, and adjoining property uses.

6. The agricultural use of the property shall not injuriously affect public health or become a nuisance because of noise, odor, etc.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel do not hesitate to call our office. The full zoning ordinance can be found at <https://www.whitehousetn.gov/departments/planning-and-codes/zoning-ordinance>

You can reach us at 615-672-4350 ext. 2120.







# FIRE DEPARTMENT



## IT'S HYDRANT TIME!

Well, it's that time of year again! In the coming weeks you'll probably notice the firefighters around town working on our fire hydrants. You'll see us opening them up, flowing water everywhere, possibly causing a scene. The kids love to watch, and it's actually a pretty impressive sight to see the volume and force of the water that comes out of the fire hydrants! But what are we doing exactly?

Needless to say, it takes water to put out a fire, a lot of it, probably a lot more than you might think. Now most people would (correctly) assume that we carry water on our fire trucks, and we do carry SOME. Our two mainline fire apparatuses, ENGINE 1 and LADDER 2, carry 750 gallons and 500 gallons of water, respectively. For smaller fires such as mulch or vegetation fires, appliances, even passenger vehicle fires, that amount of water is usually adequate. But it goes quickly, even if we just deploy one hose line, we will drain that tank in only a few minutes. Now think about if we have, say, a semi-truck on fire, and definitely a home or structure on fire, we will sometimes use thousands or even HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of gallons of water!

When we pull up to the scene of a fire, one of our first priorities is to establish a water supply, that is, hooking up our apparatus to the nearest hydrant. When we hook up that hose and turn the wrench, we have to be absolutely certain that we're going to get water! Not only must we ensure that water will flow, it's also helpful for us to know how much water is flowing. In order to ensure proper operation of our hydrants, yearly testing and maintenance is required.

Fire hydrants are not complicated mechanically, and in fact have relatively few moving parts,

but they do require a little TLC every now and then to operate smoothly. We test and service our hydrants annually, with each shift working in a certain area of town. The city currently has over 600 hydrants in operation, and we put our hands on every single one! Let's take a brief look at the testing and maintenance process:

1. We start with a simple visual inspection, where we're looking for things like obstructions, obvious damage, missing components, rust/corrosion, etc.
2. Next, we remove the twist-on caps located on the front and



each side, called "steamer caps", and inspect them for obvious damage, debris in the threads, or corrosion. If necessary, we will apply a light coating of grease to ensure smooth turning.

3. Next, we use a hydrant wrench to turn the large nut on top of the hydrant, called the stem nut, which is attached to the main "stem". This stem runs the full height of the hydrant and is the component that actually opens and closes the main valve located on the water line underground. We then turn that stem to open the hydrant, first to confirm water flow, and second to flush debris and sediment from the line. Additionally, we want to make sure the stem turns freely and without resistance. If needed, we can apply a few drops of oil into a little tiny hole on top of the stem nut, that usually does the trick if the stem is a bit hard to turn.

4. While we don't do it every year, we must periodically perform flow tests on our hydrants, as it is required every 5 years. During this test, we measure the rate of flow or discharge from the hydrant in gallons per minute (GPM) using a device called a Pitot Gauge (pronounced pea-toe). Additionally, we measure what's known as "static" pressure, which is the pressure on the system at rest or no-flow condition, and "residual" pressure, which is the pressure remaining under flowing conditions, typically tested by opening an adjacent hydrant.

5. Finally, we'll button everything back up tight. We'll perform any weed control as necessary, and if needed, we'll apply a fresh coat of paint. Sometimes we'll need to repaint the entire hydrant, but normally we'll just repaint the caps. Fun fact: if you've never noticed, the caps are color coded. Certain colors let us determine at a glance what that hydrant will flow in gallons per minute, which is as follows:
 

Light Blue=	1500+	GPM
Green=	1000 - 1499	GPM
Orange=	500 - 999	GPM
Red=	under 499	GPM

 Mostly what you'll see around

town are greens and oranges, we probably only have a few blues, but they're strong hydrants! Reds, as you can

tell, are very low flow, and are only adequate for refilling our tanks, not fighting fire. Thankfully we only have one or two of those.

So that's the process in a nutshell! For the most part, fire hydrants mostly go unnoticed by the general public. As a citizen, nothing is really required on your part, but there are a few things you can do to help us out.

1. Ensure the hydrant is visible, accessible, and clear of any obstructions. This means please do not plant bushes or shrubbery around the fire hydrants. Please help us make sure we have access to the fire hydrants.

2. DO NOT attempt to operate, modify, or repair a hydrant. If you notice a leak, damage, etc., just give either the Fire Dept or the Water Dept (615-672-4110) a call, we will take care of it.

3. DO NOT park your car in front of a fire hydrant

Now you know that we're not just out there playing in the water! We love being able to interact with and educate the public about the things we do as firefighters, and we pride ourselves on keeping our community safe. So, if you see us out there working, give us a honk or a wave, or come ask us any questions that you might have.





# PUBLIC SERVICES

## How Can I Be a Good Stormwater Neighbor?

Have you ever discussed stormwater with your neighbor or wondered how to be a better stormwater neighbor? Neighbor disputes over stormwater are very common. Water does not follow property boundaries and there are often instances where water flows from one property onto another and causes damage. It is important to realize that activities on your own property can adversely affect your neighbor's property.

When installing best management practices (or BMP's), do not direct stormwater flows onto a neighboring property and do not block stormwater from leaving your neighbor's property. Stabilize disturbed areas and maintain lawns, driveways, and gardens to prevent erosion and sedimentation on your own and on other peoples' properties. Changes from building and land development activities can alter natural flows of surface and stormwater. It is important to recognize that grading and re-grading can change how water moves across the land. It is essential to leave natural drainage paths undisturbed when possible and never intentionally

concentrate stormwater flows.

If you live near a stream, pond, or stormwater drain you can plant a riparian buffer or establish a "grow zone" along the waterbody to allow pollutants to be filtered before reaching the water. This will help prevent erosion on your property. Also, do not compost yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings, or mulch into or near a stream or stormwater drain. Clean up trash, litter, and other debris that may clog a drain or small stream that could potentially cause flooding or pollution from water run-off.

If you find yourself in a dispute with a neighboring property owner over stormwater issues remember: open communication and cooperation can prevent stormwater issues and help resolve existing stormwater problems. It is important to take steps to protect natural water courses, infiltration areas, and drainage paths. Be mindful of how your actions can affect adjacent landowners and take steps to prevent damage not only on your own property but also on your neighbor's property.

## Public Services and Public Outreach

In order to keep residents in the know, the Public Services Department has a list of Utility Projects that can be found on the city's website at [whitehousetn.gov/utilityprojects](http://whitehousetn.gov/utilityprojects). Once a month the projects are updated to inform residents of the progress and/or delays. Current projects that can be viewed are:

- Treatment Plant Expansion
- Force Main Replacement
- Springbrook Stormwater Mitigation
- McCurdy Stormwater Mitigation
- Wilkinson Stormwater Mitigation

This information is available to help shed light on how the process works. From the time a project is recognized

as a potential idea/concern, it could take upwards of 2 to 3 years depending on the size of a project. In some cases, engineer design and evaluation are required, acquiring budgetary quotes and then budgeting for the projects, approval phase, bid phase, and ultimately awarding and starting the project. Since the onset of Covid-19, we have seen an increase in lead times for products and supplies, and an increase in price due to supply and demand. The city does its best to shop around and find the best prices to ensure the residents get the best product at a quality rate. I encourage residents to review the project list monthly to understand where we stand on current and possible future projects.

- Public Services

+ Public Works Division

+ Sanitation Division

+ Stormwater Division

+ Wastewater Division

Utility Projects





## SPLASH PAD SCHEDULE

Memorial Day through Labor Day:

Monday: 9am-8pm  
 Tuesday: (Maintenance Day) 2pm- 8pm  
 Wednesday-Saturday: 9am- 8pm  
 Sunday: 11am- 6pm

Labor Day through September 25th:

Monday - Friday: CLOSED  
 Saturday: OPEN 9am - 8pm  
 Sunday: OPEN 11am - 6pm



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Please visit our website for a full job description and details on how to apply!

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