



KEEP
ALBANY-DOUGHERTY
BEAUTIFUL

Go Green, Albany!

Find out what you can do
in the Albany area
to help the environment!

January 2, 2021



WHAT IS KEEP ALBANY-DOUGHERTY BEAUTIFUL?

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful (KADB) is a joint venture of the Albany City Commission and the Dougherty County Commission.

KADB is one of more than 650 certified affiliates of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., which is a non-profit public education organization, dedicated to environmentally improving communities.

KADB works through its standing committees, local businesses and industries, and interested civic and governmental groups to identify, develop, and coordinate programs that address relevant community environmental issues. We believe that, through education and community involvement, we will encourage a sense of pride and responsibility in all citizens which will promote a cohesive and more environmentally responsible community.

KADB special projects include: The Great American Cleanup, Duncan D. Trash Litter Containers, Adopt-A-Highway, Electronic Recycling, Adopt-A-Launch, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Spot, America Recycles Day, Tree Plantings, Arbor Day, Earth Day, Duncan D. Trash, Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, Recycling Drop-Off Sites, Litter Free School Zone, Office Recycling, Operation Pill Drop, Make A Difference Day, Rivers Alive, Water Festival, and Graffiti Abatement.

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful can be reached at PO Box 4868, Albany, GA 31706 or 2106 Habersham Road, Albany, GA 31701 or by calling (229) 302-3098, Facebook and www.dougherty.ga.us.

KADB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BALLOONS...

DON'T LET THEM GO!

- When a balloon is let go, it will float away, only to burst or deflate & return to pollute the Earth
- Balloons can travel thousands of miles, polluting the most remote & pristine places. Once they do, they become a danger to any animal that comes in contact with it.
- Birds, whales, sea turtles, bighorn sheep, & other wild & domestic animals have been killed by balloons.
- When an animal swallows a balloon, it can block its intestinal tract, leading to starvation.
- Sea turtles & other marine creatures are known to confuse balloons as jellyfish.
- Ribbons and string that are sometimes attached to balloons can cause entanglement & death.
- Falsely-marketed as "biodegradable", latex balloons contain chemicals and can take years to break down.
- Mylar/foil balloons can cause dangerous power outages & spark fires. They can also take several years to break down.
- Helium is a non-renewable resource & experts warn it should be conserved for more important applications.
- There are environmentally friendly alternatives that will not pollute the Earth or harm animals...blow bubbles; plant potted plants (a symbol of beginnings); plant trees, gardens, build birdhouses or organize a butterfly release.



Always be sure that the choices you make protect the planet that we all share.
For more alternatives, facts & photos, visit: BalloonsBlow.org

DID YOU KNOW?

It is unlawful to place signs of ANY KIND within the right-of-way of any public street or highway. Signs attached to utility poles, as well as free standing signs placed on public property, are placed there illegally.

Citizens can assist by advertising only on their property and/or by using local media outlets.

Businesses can assist by instructing their lawn care employees to remove all illegally

TREE ORDINANCE

It is illegal to remove trees on any **COMMERCIAL** property without a **PERMIT**.

It is also illegal to remove or alter public trees located on right-of-ways.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING A PERMIT, CALL THE CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
AT: (229) 883-6955

LITTER

Facts & Figures

- Tobacco products comprised about 38% of all litter on roadways in the U.S.
- Pedestrians contribute to over 98% of all litter at leisure areas such as parks, beaches, and other areas. Ad most roadway litter — 76% - appears to originate from motorists and pedestrians. Individual actions by motorists (52%), pedestrians (22.8%), improperly covered trucks and cargo loads (16.4%), and other behaviors are the source of roadway litter.
- The indirect costs of litter on quality-of-life are considerable. Indirect costs include the degree to which litter reduces the value of real estate, deters a customer from entering a business, or a new employer from locating to a community. To measure these impacts of litter, the 2009 KAB study surveyed homeowners, realtors, and business development officials.
- The presence of litter in a community decreases property value by 7%.
- Of homeowners surveyed 40% believe that litter reduces home values by 10% to 24%.
- 55% of realtors think that litter reduces property value by about 9%.
- Storm drains attract a significant amount of litter, which ultimately ends up in our waterways.
- On average, there are 6,700 pieces of litter per mile on U.S. roadways each year.
- Fast-food packaging represents about 5% of all litter in the U.S.
- Vacant properties cost city governments anywhere from \$5,000 to \$35,000 per property.
- Each year, at least 8 million tons of plastics leak into the ocean. That figure is equivalent to dumping the contents of one garbage truck into the ocean every minute.
- Keep America Beautiful affiliates across the U.S. clean, beautify, and improve over 100,000 miles of roads, parks, shorelines, and waterways each year.
- Recreational sites that are well landscaped and near residential areas are less likely to have litter. To prevent litter: make proper disposal convenient and accessible, provide sufficient trash, ash and recycling receptacles, ensure consistent and ongoing cleanup efforts, and make the most of awareness and motivational campaigns.
- With the vast increase in plastic use over the past few decades, the amount of plastic in the litter stream has increased over 165%

Consider our
roadsides before
you litter.



#reconsiderlitter
www.kgbf.org



Easy Ways to Keep YOUR Neighborhood Clean



LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND DON'T LITTER!
The less litter in an area, the more likely people will keep it clean.

- o Set a goal to pick up a piece of litter every day.
- o Keep the front of your home and surrounding areas clean and inviting with flowers, plants and wreaths. Don't forget to mow your lawn!
- o Teach children to properly dispose of litter and to recycle.
- o Pick up after your pets.
- o Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by carpooling or using public transportation.
- o **Report junk vehicles to 311.**
- o Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other.
- o Use reusable bags when shopping to reduce waste.
- o Properly dispose of cigarette butts.



Always recycle on the go....

hold on to your recyclables until you can get to a recycling container.

- o Organize a community initiative – community garden, neighborhood watch group, yard sale, etc.
- o Place a litterbag or box in your vehicle and cover your pickup loads to prevent littering.
- o Adopt your road and keep it clean.
- o Keep storm drains free of all debris.
- o Revitalize or clean up a local park.
- o **Report graffiti to KADB at (229) 302-3098.**

RECYCLING DROP-OFF SITES

West Albany

2521 Meredyth Drive

At Fire Station #6

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

& 12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

& Saturday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Downtown Albany

At The Intersection of Front Street and Mercer Avenue

Behind The James H. Gray, Sr. Civic Center

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday,

8:30 – 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 – 5:30 p.m.

& Saturday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

ILLEGAL DUMPING PREVENTION

Illegal dumping is the unlawful disposal of everything from household trash, yard waste, furniture, junk, construction/demolition materials, and tires in any area other than an approved disposal site. **ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A CRIMINAL ACT.**

Illegal dumping is not only unsightly, but it's a serious environmental problem that creates health hazards.

Public awareness, education, and enforcement are the key to addressing this growing problem. It will take a concerted effort on the part of individuals, businesses, and government working together at the grassroots level to effectively deal with illegal dumping.

To report information on illegal waste hauling or dumping call the code enforcement department at 438-3913. To assist you in describing the incident you witnessed, the following details outline the type of information that code enforcement officials need.

1. **What happened?**
2. **Where did the activity take place?**
(Name the highway, road, street or nearest intersection)
3. **When did the activity occur?**
(Time and Date)
4. **What kind of vehicle was involved?**
(A pickup, dump truck, van, make and model of vehicle, color, license number)
5. **How many people were in the vehicle?**
Describe them. (Race, sex, approximate age)
6. **Describe the person who physically did the illegal dumping.**
(Race, sex, age, weight, height, hair, etc.)



You should NEVER approach anyone you suspect of a criminal act. It is more important for you to provide accurate details of the offense to enforcement officials.



Calling All Significant Trees

The City Tree Board wants to identify Albany's Trees of Significance. Recent extreme weather events have substantially altered Albany's urban tree canopy, thus the Tree Board is seeking to identify the surviving significant trees. Significance means... a tree or group of trees that has a notable quality such as age, size, species, horticultural quality or historic importance. An application form to submit a tree for consideration can be obtained online at Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful's website, found at www.albanyga.gov and/or the KADB office located at 2106 Habersham Road, (229) 302-3098.

Volunteering can be a beautiful thing!



We cordially invite you to join our team of dedicated volunteers making this community a beautiful place to live, work and play. Through education and hands-on citizen involvement. Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful encourages a sense of community pride and personal responsibility.

To volunteer, call **229-302-3098**

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful
2106 Habersham Road, Albany



What Is Litter?

Litter is misplaced, improperly handled, uncontainerized solid waste. When it's bagged and placed in closed receptacles, waste cannot become litter!

Where Does Litter Come From?

The seven main sources of litter are:

1. Household trash
2. Commercial and business trash
3. Loading dock refuse
4. Construction site material
5. Uncovered trucks hauling loose materials
6. Motorists
7. Pedestrians

From these sources, litter is carried in every direction by wind, water, and traffic. It moves until trapped by a curb, wall, fence, a row of trees, a building, or other stationary object. Once trapped, litter becomes not only an eyesore, but an invitation for people to add more.

Why Do People Litter?

Research has shown that the main factor attributed to littering is attitude. People feel that it's okay to litter in certain situations.

- Where litter is cleaned up periodically (Shopping center parking lots or theatres, for example)
- Where they feel no sense of ownership (As in public parks, on city streets, or rented homes)
- Where there is already an accumulation of litter (At illegal "dumps" or where litter is trapped)

Ways You Can Help:

- Report problem areas that need to be cleaned up.
- Involve your business or organization in a clean-up project.
- Organize a neighborhood clean-up. Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful will help you with the planning.
- Containerize all Waste Making sure your outdoor receptacles are securely closed will prevent spillage and spreading. Work with city collection agencies when handling large items, brush, leaves and other special materials.
- Don't add to the problem Remember, keeping our community beautiful is a job for each of us. No matter where you are, please put waste material in proper trash receptacles, or carry it with you until you find a container.
- Join Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful for the city's annual community-wide litter clean-up event held on the THIRD SATURDAY in April. Participants receive a FREE t-shirt, gloves and trash bags. Call (229) 302-3098 to register.



PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

MAY 1, 2021 • 9:00 AM



Civic Center Back Parking Lot

**FREE
ONSITE**

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful
River Mill Data Management



Consider our
public health
before you
litter.

#reconsiderlitter
www.kgbf.org

HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OUTDATED/UNWANTED MEDICATIONS

NEVER FLUSH MEDICATION

Medications thrown in the trash can leach into the environment, flushed drugs can kill bacteria that break down waste in our waste water treatment plant, medications can damage septic systems, and can contaminate nearby waterways and harm aquatic wildlife.

The Albany Dougherty Drug Unit partners with KADB every September to host "Operation Pill Drop". The event gives citizens an opportunity to properly dispose of unwanted/outdated medications. The 2021 event will take place on September 11 from 9:00 til 1:00 in the back parking lot of the Civic Center.



A permanent medication drop off box is located on the first floor of the Judicial building at 225 Pine Avenue.



BUSINESS RECYCLING

RECYCLING IN THE WORKPLACE is a responsibility that every business needs to accept. Set the example...commit to improve our environment by signing up today. Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful can tell you how to recycle and what to recycle. Participants receive FREE desk recycling containers, a window/door decal denoting that you recycle, and a recycling certificate.

To sign up, call (229) 302-3098 or complete the online form.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO REDUCE WASTE IN THE OFFICE?

You can reduce the amount of waste generated in your office by following these guidelines for reusing and recycling. Not only will you be helping the environment, you'll be saving your company money!

Actions speak louder

- Make double-sided copies and set the copier to duplex as the default.
- Use e-mail for correspondence.
- Print drafts in a lighter font.
- Use reusable envelopes for internal mail.
- Use a reusable mug for coffee.
- Purchase condiments such as sugar and creamer in bulk instead of individual serving packages.
- Post personnel or human resource information (e.g. phone directory and annual benefit packages) electronically.
- Provide a short lesson on how to use various pieces of office equipment to avoid excess waste generated by trial and error.
- Use the least toxic correction fluid or correction tape.
- Reduce the image so that two pages can be copied on one page, often called "image combination."
- Use Post-it fax notes instead of a fax cover sheet.
- Copy-on-demand instead of mass copying.
- Circulate one copy of a document or memo rather than making multiple copies.

Donate or Reuse?

Before you recycle or throw away an item, check to see if it can be reused.

Donate:

- Furniture, computers, binders, and styrofoam peanuts to a non-profit or school.
- Attach a piece of clear tape before you place a label on a file folder - when you want to use the folder again, simply remove the old label and replace it with a new one.

Reuse:

- "Half-used" paper (or paper that has information on only one side and is blank on the other side) to print drafts.
- Store excess office supplies in a central location.
- Check to see if the item you are throwing away can be recycled. Many items commonly found in an office are recyclable.

Buying recycled

Close the loop by purchasing recycled content products.

There are thousands of products made with recycled content including: clothing, soda bottles, pencils, insulation, index cards, mouse pads, mulch, playground equipment, steel appliances, carpet and paper.

MATERIAL THAT CAN BE RECYCLED IN ALBANY

- shredded & non-shredded paper
- plastic bottles
- aluminum cans
- newspaper
- magazines
- toner cartridges
- printer cartridges
- corrugated cardboard
- glass
- batteries
- paperboard
- electronics



HOW TO CARE FOR YOUNG TREES

By Ili Si Malone,
City Arborist, Engineering Department, City of Albany



Due to the loss of so many trees from the storm events during the past four years, many residents of Albany and surrounding areas are planting trees. Tree losses from severe storms can be heavy, and homeowners often lose large trees or trees that have sentimental value. These kinds of trees cannot be replaced. But new properly planted and maintained trees add beauty, protection, diversity, and value to almost any property. Trees provide these benefits whether they are planted in a park, in front of your house or along a street or highway.

The first five years are critical for the long-term health of a tree. Proper watering, pruning, and other tree care will ensure a healthy, mature tree and drastically reduce further maintenance cost.

Proper selection is key

- Successful tree planting requires knowing growth characteristics, site requirements and intended landscape function of each selected species.
- Consider your location and watch for overhead and underground utilities. Remember that small trees grow into big trees.
- Foresters, arborists, landscape architects and nursery professionals are a good source of technical information when selecting and planting trees.
- It's best to choose trees that have been grown in your USDA hardiness zone. Albany is located in hardiness zone 8b.
- While planting larger trees may create an immediate impact, smaller trees will recover from transplant shock more quickly and typically will catch up and outgrow the larger trees due to increased vigor.

Planting tips

- Locate all underground utilities before digging. By law, everyone-including homeowners-must contact Georgia 811 by visiting my.georgia811.com or by dialing 1-800-282-7411!
- Dig the planting hole substantially wider than the root system of the tree to be planted. The finished hole should be narrower at the bottom than at the top and be at least 2 feet wider than the root mass.
- During planting, place the root ball on solid soil at a depth where the root flare is at, or slightly higher, than the original grade.

- Do not use soil amendments such as compost, bagged garden soil, peat moss or fertilizer.
- If the plant is in a wire basket, cut the wire and remove it.
- If girdling roots (roots visibly wrapped around the root ball) are present, loosen them by hand and spread out as much as possible or cut with pruning shears. Add back-fill soil in layers and use water to help settle the soil. Be careful not to tamp or work the soil after the plant has been watered or the soil will become too compacted.

Additional considerations

- Prune trees at planting time only to remove branches damaged during the handling and transplanting. **Do not prune the main leader on single-stemmed trees unless it has been damaged. Do not remove lower branches completely because they manufacture critically needed food and help protect the lower trunk.**
- Staking is recommended for most tree plantings. Remove after one growing season.

Watering

During the first couple of growing seasons, your newly planted tree is expending a lot of energy trying to get its roots established in the soil. Not enough water is harmful for a tree, but too much water is bad as well. Over-watering is a common tree care mistake. Please note that moist is different than soggy, and you can judge this by feel.

Deep watering

- Young trees require regular watering for good health and disease prevention.
- Check soil moisture once a week 4-6 inches below the surface. Soil should be moist but not wet. Use your finger to touch the soil. If it is moist to the touch, then it does not need water.
- Watch for signs of drought stress. Are leaves wilting, yellowing, curling or browning at the edges?
- Plants and weeds compete with the tree for water and nutrients. Keep the base of the tree free of other living plants such as weeds and grass.
- Lawn irrigation does not provide adequate irrigation for trees. Lawn irrigation or light sprinkling 5 to 10 minutes waters only a few inches of soil and encourages weak surface roots.



FIGURE 14-4 Thinning (removing) cuts remove branches at their points of origin (dashed lines, no arrow) or thinning (or a lateral) reduction) cuts remove a lateral large enough to assume the terminal role of the leader or to a branch (dashed lines with arrows). This applies to mature (left) as well as young (right) trees. The vegetative responses of trees to these two cuts are similar.

Pruning

When to prune

- Depends to a large extent on why you prune. Light pruning and the removal of dead wood can be done anytime. It is important to trim away minor branch defects at the time of planting,

but hold off on pruning young trees for at least a year. Significantly trimming trees in the middle of the growing season can limit their growth potential next year.

Winter pruning

- Pruning during dormancy is the most common practice. It results in a vigorous burst of new growth in the spring and should be used if that is the desired effect. It is usually best to wait until the coldest part of winter has passed.

Summer pruning

- To direct the growth by slowing the branches you don't want or to "dwarf" the development of a tree or branch, pruning should be done soon after seasonal growth is complete.

Pruning Flowering trees to enhance flowering

- For trees that bloom in the spring, prune when their flowers fade. Trees that flower in mid to late summer should be pruned in winter or early spring.

When not to prune

- Because decay fungi spread their spores profusely in the fall and wounds seem to heal more slowly on fall cuts, this is a good time to leave your pruning tools in storage.

Pruning sprouts

- Sprouts, also called suckers, are thin shoots that steal water and nutrients from the rest of the tree they are growing off. Use sharp pruning shears to clip the sprouts off as close to the soil or trunk of your tree as you can.

Fertilize sparingly

Fertilization is seldom required for trees, but may be used to increase growth rates. A simple, effective way to apply granular fertilizer is to broadcast it evenly around the base of the tree. A small tree with a 4-foot branch spread will require ¼ lb. of 13-13-13 fertilizer.

Monitor for pests

Insect and disease pests can cause considerable problems for transplanted trees. Any pest that destroys foliage during the spring and early summer or attacks the trunk of a tree is especially serious.

Consult a garden center, arborist, forester or your University of Georgia/Dougherty County Cooperative Extension agent at 229.436.7216 to learn the correct control.

Mulching

Newly planted trees are under stress due to their new environment, so they will need extra care! Mulch is just what new trees need to retain moisture, control soil temperature and ward off weeds. You want to avoid piling too much mulch, though. Known as "volcano" mulching, this creates a cool, damp environment, which can attract fungi, pests and diseases.

- Mulching prevents soil compaction and reduces lawn mower damage.
- Mulch with an even 4-inch layer of pine straw or other organic material. Do not use grass clippings.
- Leave a 3-inch ring between the trunk and the mulch. This prevents the mulch from smothering your tree.
- Replace old mulch in mid-to-late spring.

Protect young trees from chemicals

Pesticides and herbicides can burn or damage a young tree's roots and leaves.



JUNK CAR REMOVAL

Did you know... **FREE JUNK CAR REMOVAL** ... is available? As a public service, the following salvage companies have agreed to remove abandoned or junk cars from private property **FREE** of charge.

AAA USED AUTO PARTS
1441 N. Washington Street
(229) 438-0460

GEORGIA PUBLIC BOADCASTING
Vehicle Donation Program
1 (877) 472-1227

IVEY'S USED AUTO PARTS
107 Johnny Aultman Road
(229) 776-3938

NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA
1 (800) 488-CARS (2277)

Auto owners can make arrangements to have their cars removed by calling one of the businesses listed above.

Let's Keep the Albany Scene Clean

Dougherty County Landfill

By Campbell Smith,
Dougherty County Solid Waste Director



The Dougherty County-Fleming/Gaissert Road Municipal Solid Waste Landfill is located approximately four miles southeast of Albany, Georgia on Gaissert Road. The Landfill property consists of 601 acres with 215 acres adjoining for soil borrow material to support landfill operations. The first load of waste was received at the site in February 1983. The site consists of a closed Sanitary Landfill, an operational "Subtitle D" Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, a Construction/Demolition Waste Landfill, a solidification operation, a recycling station, a convenience center for public drop off of garbage and white goods and administrative offices. The Landfill also has an active gas extraction system that fuels a cogeneration plant which generates electricity and steam for the Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany (MCLB) operations. The green energy project has been operational since 2011 and allows the MCLB to produce approximately 20% renewable energy, which helps the base meet congressionally mandated goals for renewable energy. As a result, the project has won multiple awards including EPA's 2013 Energy Star Award. During 2020, approximately \$490,000 was spent to upgrade the gas system to provide landfill gas for this project. In 2021 the landfill will be upgrading its original inground scales to above ground scales at an approximate cost of \$230,000. The landfill will also be replacing its flare for the gas system at an approximate cost of \$250,000.

The Landfill is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm. The Landfill accepts waste generated in Dougherty County as well as out of county waste. Homeowners residing in Dougherty County can bring up to 250 pounds of garbage per day at no cost. Any additional garbage will be prorated up to the gate rate of \$38.97 per ton. Credit cards, checks and cash are all acceptable methods of payment. Special conditions for certain residential waste are as follows:

- White goods such as stoves, refrigerators and freezers may be brought to the Landfill at no charge.
- All coolant must be removed from refrigerators and freezers before delivery.
- Solidify paint using absorbent (e.g., kitty litter) or sand prior to transporting to the Landfill.
- Tires cannot be commingled with solid waste and should be brought separately to the Landfill. There is a designated tire disposal area onsite that customers will be directed to place tires. A fee of \$1.00 per tire, \$4.00 per truck off-road tire and \$40.00 per farm tractor tire will be charged.

The Landfill does not accept lead acid batteries. Only non-hazardous waste may be disposed of at the Landfill. Any liquid waste or special waste must be approved prior to shipment to the Landfill. Asbestos customers must give 24 hours notice and is only accepted Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. For additional information or questions, please call (229) 302-3227.

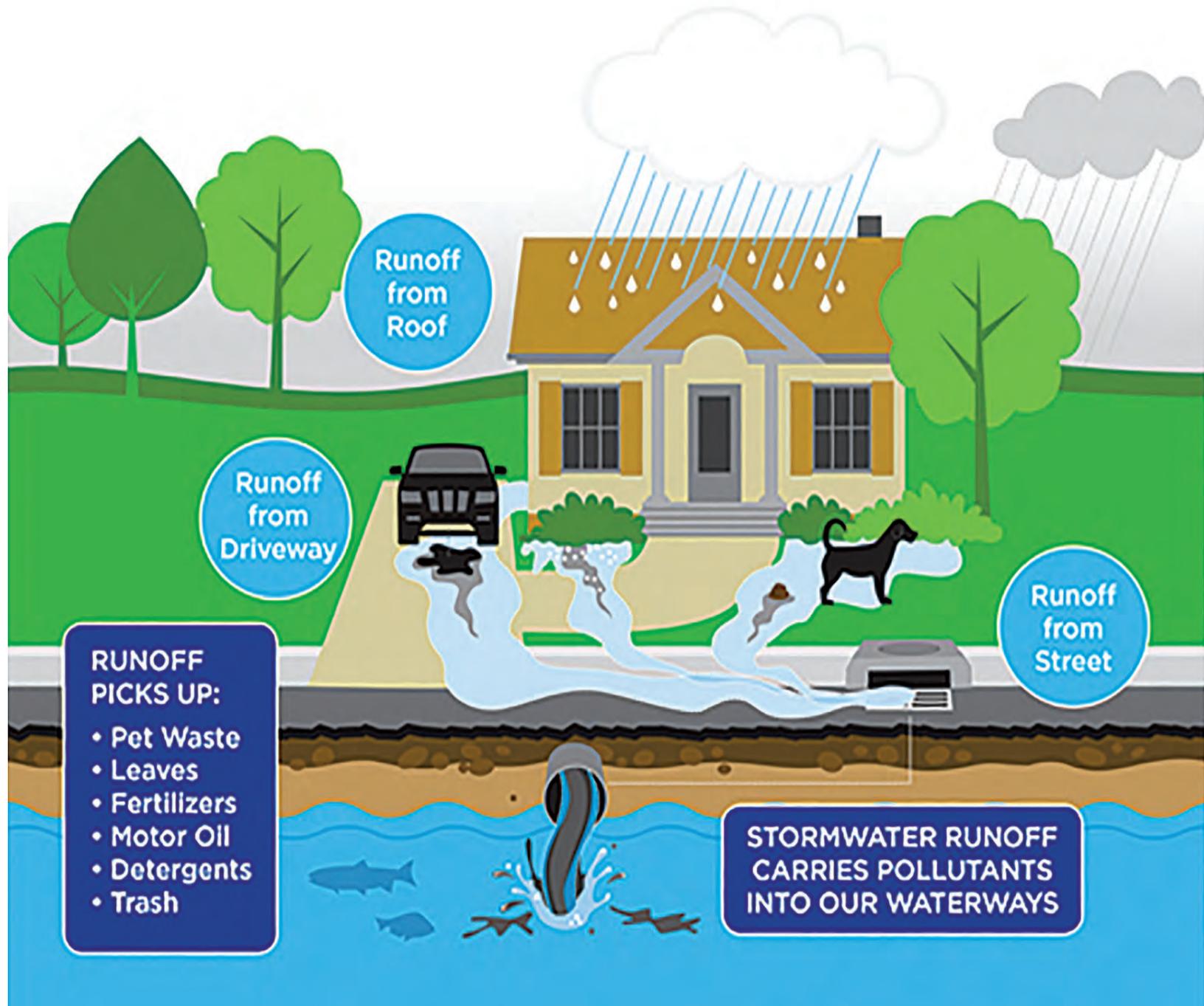
What Is Stormwater?

Submitted by Jeremy Morris,
City Engineering Inspector

Stormwater is rainwater and that runs off buildings, streets, and lawns. Stormwater carries dirt, oil, trash and other pollutants into the storm drains. This run off is discharged into local streams and the Flint River. It is estimated that over 60% of water pollution comes from stormwater discharge.

What Can Residents Do To Prevent Stormwater Pollution?

- **Pick up the poop!** Dog waste carries high levels of harmful E. coli bacteria and is a major contributor to local water pollution.
- **NEVER** dump anything down storm drains. Take unwanted chemicals and paint to a hazardous waste collection site.
- **Prevent** irrigation systems from spraying water onto pavement.
- **Don't** pile yard waste near streams, wetlands, or storm drains.
- **Start** a compost pile.
- **Use** a rain barrel to collect rain water for lawn and garden watering.
- **Never** use a hose to wash down the driveway or sidewalk.
- **Collect** all used oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids and recycle at a local service station or parts store.
- **Always** apply fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides according to manufacturer's directions.



How Illicit Discharges Hurt Our Waterways

Submitted by Bradd Little, Dougherty County Engineering Specialist

An illicit discharge is defined by the State of Georgia's General *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System* (NPDES) Stormwater Permit as "any discharge to a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) that is not composed entirely of stormwater, except those discharges authorized under NPDES permit and discharges resulting from firefighting activities."

Examples of illicit discharges include:

- 1.) sanitary wastewater (including washing machine drains)
- 2.) vehicles fluids (gasoline, motor oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, and antifreeze)
- 3.) household cleaners and chemicals
- 4.) litter
- 5.) soapy wash water
- 6.) Paints
- 7.) lawn and yard wastes (dirt, mulch, and grass clippings)
- 8.) pesticides, fertilizers, and weed killers
- 9.) restaurant grease and cooking oil
- 10.) pet wastes.



Motor Oil Draining Into Waterway



Sanitary Sewer Draining Into Storm Drainage Ditch

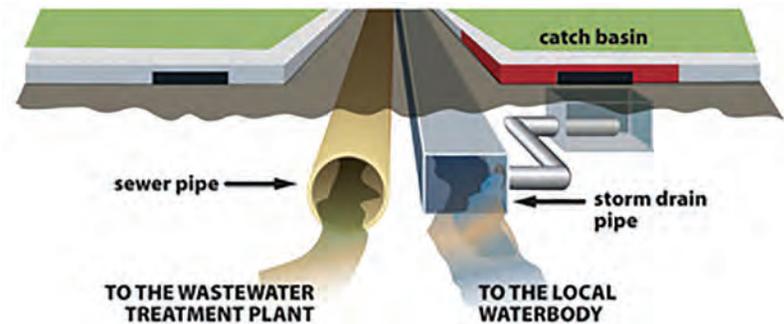


Soapy Water Draining Into Waterway



Paint Dumped in a Storm Drain

In Dougherty County, discharges into the storm drainage system flow untreated into one of the local waterways, which include the Flint River, Coolewahee Creek, Muckalee Creek, and Percosin Creek. If illicit discharges are allowed to enter the storm drainage system, they can introduce high levels of pollutants, including heavy metals, toxins, oil, grease, solvents, nutrients, viruses, and bacteria to the receiving water bodies. Pollutant levels from these illicit discharges have been shown in EPA studies to be high enough to significantly degrade receiving water quality and threaten aquatic, wildlife, and human health.



How to prevent Illicit discharges:

- 1.) Do not dump household cleaners, paint, vehicle fluids, grease, and other pollutants onto driveways, streets, or directly into storm drains or ditches.
- 2.) Do not apply pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers to lawns near storm drains or ditches and prior to expected rain events.
- 3.) Keep leaves, grass clippings, mulch, and composts from entering storm drains.
- 4.) Clean up your pets' waste.
- 5.) Regularly service septic systems to prevent drain field failures.
- 5.) Wash your vehicle on a grassy area or take it to a commercial car wash facility.
- 6.) Do not litter, properly dispose of trash.

If we all do our part and avoid dumping or adding litter or contaminants of any kind to our storm drain systems, we can help keep our local creeks and the Flint River as viable natural resources we all can enjoy. If you know of or suspect anything that could potentially be an Illicit Discharge occurring within Dougherty County, please contact Dougherty County Public Works at (229)-430-6120 or dial 311.

GO GREEN! at your festival or event

It's easy:

- **CALL** Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful @ 229-302-3098 to reserve the **FREE** Away From Home Recycling Trailer
- **PICK UP** the trailer the day before your event
- **SET UP** the recycle and trash bins
- **COLLECT** the materials
- **DELIVER** the recyclables to a city recycle drop off site
- **RETURN** the trailer



Bring
RECYCLING
to a higher
level

Cigarette Butts are Litter! and they are toxic

DID YOU KNOW ...

- Smokers discard BILLIONS of cigarette butts each year.
- A large percentage of cigarette butts are "tossed" directly into the environment.
- Cigarette butts accumulate outside of buildings, in parking lots and on streets where they can be transported through our storm drains into our streams and rivers.
- Cigarette filters look like cotton, but are made of cellulose acetate, a plastic that is slow to degrade in the environment.
- A pack and a half a day equals more than 10,000 cigarettes a year. 10,000 cigarette butts are equivalent, in volume, to five liters.
- Nicotine is a power insecticide and, in its pure form, among the deadliest of all plants products.
- Tobacco residue, along with the toxic chemicals left in cigarette filters that are tossed as butts, quickly leach into our water supply.
- Cigarette butts are the most common type of litter on earth.
- Cigarette butts harm our environment.

PLEASE DISPOSE OF CIGARETTE BUTTS PROPERLY

2021 FREE ELECTRONIC RECYCLING COLLECTION DAY

Our growing dependence on electronic products both at home and in the workplace has given rise to a new environmental challenge: electronic waste. Research indicates that electronic waste is growing at three times the rate of other municipal waste.

Electronic equipment contains metals and other materials that can become hazardous to human health and the environment if they are not properly managed.

- **Cadmium:** The largest source of cadmium in municipal landfills is rechargeable nickel-cadmium (NiCd batteries, commonly found in laptop computers).
- **Lead:** Monitors and televisions contain a picture tube known as a cathode ray tube (CRT). The CRTs contain leaded glass, and are the largest source of lead in municipal landfills.
- **Mercury:** Electronic waste is a leading source of mercury in municipal landfills.

Additionally, discarded electronic equipment is a concern because electronics are made with valuable resources such as precious metals, engineered plastics, glass and other materials, all of which require energy to manufacture. When equipment is thrown away, these resources cannot be recovered and additional pollution will be generated to manufacture new products out of virgin materials.

Electronics account for 2 percent to 5 percent of landfill volume, but it contributes up to 70 percent of the toxins found in landfills.

A FREE e-recycling collection day will be held **September 11, 2021** to promote the proper disposal of unwanted electronic equipment.

Rain or shine, the electronics recycling collection will take place in the parking lot behind the James H. Gray Sr. Civic Center at the corner of Front Street and Mercer Avenue in downtown Albany from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT

ITEMS ACCEPTED

Test & Network Equipment	Disk Drives	Typewriters
Stereos	Keyboards	UPS/Battery Back-up
*Computer Monitors	Cameras (digital, too)	Cables
Copiers	Scanners	Portable Radios
Computer CPU's	Record Players	CD ROMS
Video Machines	Electrical Panels	Projectors
Laptops	CB Radios	Cell Phones
VCR's	Circuit Boards	Computer Mouse
Printers	Speakers	*Televisions
Camcorders	Fax Machines	Telephone Modems
	CD Players	

*There will be a **\$20.00** handling fee for each television set at the **September 11** event. The average TV set contains 4 pounds of lead, therefore, we do not want to place TV sets in the Dougherty County landfill. There will also be a **\$10.00** handling fee for each computer monitor.

Items not accepted include vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, washers, dryers, freezers, gas-powered equipment and all non-electronic equipment.

Business, industry, schools, hospitals and government offices can call (229) 302-3098 to schedule a pick-up of large quantities of electronics.



311 CALL CENTER

The 311 Call center was created for the public to have one central point of contact for all local government services and general information for the City of Albany, Dougherty County and Albany Utility departments.

Our Mission is to provide the public with this free service allowing quick, easy access to all City of Albany, Dougherty County, and Albany Utility government services and information while maintaining the highest level of customer service by dialing one easy number 311.

The 311 Call Center is proud to participate in assisting citizens in striving to make our community a great place to live, work and play. The 311 Call center encourages all citizens and Neighborhood Watch Groups, to report issues requiring city or county action, reporting criminal activity such as unsightly graffiti. The 311 service prides itself on maintaining the highest level of customer service.

Common 311 citizen calls include:

Where do I?

- Report a Code Violation?
- Go to pay a ticket?
- Get an Albany Transit Schedule?
- Report a pothole?
- Report a burned out street or traffic light?

How Do I?

- Obtain a birth certificate or marriage license?
- Request yard debris removal?

Call Center:

Calls are answered by a live operators Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by dialing either 311 or 878-3111.

Website & New Mobile Application:

The 311 website www.311answers.com is available 24/7 as well as our mobile application. If you would like assistance in navigating through the web portion, or downloading the mobile application albanya311, please call 311 and we'll give you a guided tour through our software.



Tricia Borsdorf 225 Pine Avenue, Suite 120
Customer Resource Supervisor Albany, GA 31701
311 Call Center 229-446-2799
 Phone: 229.446.2799

P.O. Box 447
 Albany, GA 31702
www.albanya.ga.us



STORM DRAIN ALERT

Albany's storm drainage system is experiencing a major problem. The catch basins located throughout our city blocks are meant to capture water **ONLY**.

When leaves and other debris are placed in the system, they clog up our only means of diverting rain water from our roadways.

Please assist by not blocking the drainage system with leaves or other debris and by not disposing of **ANYTHING** in the system. All materials collected in the drainage system return to **OUR** water system... untreated. Failure to comply with these regulations will result in a monetary penalty.

FLOODING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Submitted by Mary Teter, Planning Manager, Planning & Development Services

History of Flooding

Flooding of the Flint River Basin has been recorded as far back as 1841. Since then, there have been over 100 flood occurrences.

The flood stage of the Flint River in Albany is 26 feet. Minor flooding begins at the lower elevations on Front Street, Third Avenue, and Highland Avenue. Thirty-two floods have been recorded at a stage of 26 feet or higher since 1925.

The flood of July 1994 was the worst flood in Georgia's recorded flood history. The intense flooding triggered by Tropical Storm Alberto flooded the City of Albany with a record crest of 42.7 feet. Five people died in Albany. Over 7,000 people were left homeless, and repairs were needed on over 12,000 homes. Over 768,000 tons of contaminated flood debris was disposed of in landfills.

Flooding also occurred in March of 1998. Heavy rainfall hit southwestern Georgia on March 3rd and 4th and again on March 7th through the 9th. Major flooding developed along the entire Flint River and crests reached 36.9 feet in Albany.

The most recent floods occurred in January 2016, with a flood stage of 32.17 feet, and in March 2020, with a flood stage of 33.76 feet.

General Flood Information

Flood maps, Elevation Certificates, references on flood protection, and other flood related information can be viewed at:

- Planning and Development Services, 240 Pine Avenue, Suite 300 or online at <http://www.albanyga.gov/>
- The FEMA website: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>
- The Central Library at 300 Pine Avenue has flood management and protection materials at the reference desk and materials that can be checked out.

Computers are available at all libraries to access the websites listed.

All development in the flood plain **REQUIRES A PERMIT**. Contact Planning and Development Services before commencing any construction or renovation activities to determine compliance with the Floodplain Management Ordinances.

There are several ways to protect a building and its contents from flood damage. Some of these actions may also reduce your flood insurance premium. Call Planning and Development Services and your insurance company for specific information.

- Install a backflow valve in sewer taps to prevent floodwater from backing up into the drains of your home.
- Raise the house above the base flood elevation. Elevate the HVAC units, ductwork, water heater, electrical panel and other utilities servicing the building above the base flood elevation.

- If your house has a crawl space, install proper floor vents in your foundation.
- If flooding is likely and time permits, move your valuable items up to a higher level. Place sandbags and plastic sheeting in front of doorways and other low entry points.
- All structures, most structural additions, and all substantial improvements to existing structures, including substantially damaged structures, located in a flood hazard area must meet floodplain management ordinance requirements. If the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, additions, or other improvements equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same floodplain management ordinance requirements as a new building.
- Buy flood insurance! Protect what matters! Homes in a flood hazard area have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. If you don't have flood insurance talk to your insurance agent or visit www.floodsmart.gov to learn more about flood insurance.

If flooding occurs:

- Listen to local radio or TV or NOAA weather radio for information.
- If there is any possibility of flash floods evacuate to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to move.
- Have your electricity turned off by your power company or turn off all electrical circuits at the circuit box.
- Shut off the water service and gas valves in your home.
- Do not walk through flowing water.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.

For additional Dougherty County flood information contact:

Planning and Development Services: 229-438-3901

City Engineering: 229-883-6955

County Public Works: 229-430-6120



Aluminum and Glass Recycling Facts

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS SAVINGS



- 1.) Making beverage cans from recycled aluminum cuts air pollution by about 95%.
- 2.) Tossing away an aluminum can wastes as much energy as pouring out half of that can's volume in gasoline.
- 3.) Twenty recycled aluminum cans can be manufactured with the energy needed to produce just one can from virgin ore.
- 4.) Mining raw materials for aluminum takes 20 times more energy than recycling aluminum.
- 5.) Recycling aluminum saves more than 90% of the energy required to produce new aluminum products versus producing new metal from virgin ore.
- 6.) Recycling 40 aluminum cans provides the energy saving equivalent of one gallon of gasoline.
- 7.) Recycled glass reduces emissions and consumption of raw materials, extends the life of glass manufacturing equipment, such as furnaces, and saves energy.
- 8.) Over one ton of natural resources are saved for every ton of glass recycled.



**KEEP ALBANY-DOUGHERTY BEAUTIFUL:
FROM EDUCATION TO APPLICATION**

Making A Difference

**A SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL
"TIP OF THE HAT"**

The businesses listed below have joined environmental hands to set an example for our business community. They have committed to **RECYCLE** in their workplace.

2020 Recycling in the Workplace Participants

1 Key Realty, LLC
AB&T
Albany Area Chamber of Commerce
Albany Area Hand Therapy
Albany Auto Service
Albany Diagnostic Center
Albany High Complex
Albany Museum of Art
Albany Realty Company
Albany Symphony Orchestra
All American Fun Park
American Peanut Shellers Association, Inc.
AutoZone Inc.
BAM Property Management
Baymont Inn & Suites
Berg Eye Center
Burks Real Estate
City of Albany - Albany Utilities
City of Albany - Albany Utilities Customer Service/311 Call Center
City of Albany - Finance Department
City of Albany - Office of the City Manager
City of Albany - Recreation and Parks Department
Clean Start, Inc.
Courtyard by Albany
Crown Networking Consultants
Dasher & Padgett Financial Advisors, Inc.
Doco Driving School, Inc.
Dougherty County Board of Commissioners
Dougherty County Farm Bureau
Dougherty County Finance Department
Dougherty County Landfill/Solid Waste
Dougherty County Probate Court
Dougherty County Public Works
Dougherty County State Court

Flint River Golf Course
Flint RiverKeeper
Flint RiverQuarium Environmental Education Center
Fox 31
Hall Booth Smith, PC
Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful
Kirbo & Kirbo PC
Lanier Engineering, Inc.
Logos-Plus, Inc.
MADLab
Mauldin & Jenkins
Molson Coors Beverage Company
P&T Rentals/P&T General Contracting
Plant Mitchell - Southern Company Services
Pratt (Target Container) Inc.
Procter & Gamble Paper Products Company
Reeves Construction Company
Robert J. Pinnerd, P.C.
Southwest Georgia Legal Self-Help Center
Southwest Georgia Living Magazine
Sowega Chlorinator Co., Inc.
SRJ Architects, Inc.
Stonebridge Golf & Country Club
Tara Foods
Technical Associates
The Albany Herald
The Law Offices of William F. Underwood, III
The Phoenix at Albany
Theatre Albany
Thronateeska Heritage Foundation
United Distributors, Inc.
United Way of Southwest Georgia, Inc.
Ware Health Care Services
Watson Spence LLP

