



North Augusta

South Carolina's Riverfront

North Augusta **FORWARD**

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina

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CITY COUNCIL

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Counting Everyone Once – and Only Once – and in the Right Place

THE 2010 CENSUS

The foundation of American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. In order to achieve an accurate assessment of the number and location of people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census, or count, of the U.S. population every ten years.

One of the most significant changes in modern census history will occur in 2010. For the first time since 1930, all addresses in the United States will receive a ten question census short form. With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. The 2010 Census form takes about ten minutes for the average household to complete.

The data collected by the U.S. Census determines which states gain or lose representation in Congress. The 2010 Census also directly affects how more than \$4 trillion of federal funds will be allocated to local and state governments over the next ten years. As the South Carolina population increases (as measured by the Census) the amount of federal funds distributed to the state increases as well. The federal funds support the development of hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, public works projects, emergency services and more.

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IT'S IN OUR HANDS

United States®
Census
2010

Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required by law. All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and all are strictly confidential. For more information, visit the 2010 Census website www.census.gov/2010.

Counting Everyone Once – and Only Once – and in the Right Place

THE 2010 CENSUS continued

The goal of the 2010 Census is to count all residents living in the United States on April 1, 2010. To help ensure that the nation's increasingly diverse population can answer the questionnaire accurately and completely, 2010 Census questionnaire language assistance guides are available in several languages. Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) in many communities will also assist those unable to read or understand the questionnaire.

Start
here

KEY DATES The 2010 Census at a glance.



MARCH 2010:
Census forms are mailed or delivered to households.



APRIL 1, 2010:
NATIONAL CENSUS DAY
Use this day as a point of reference for sending your completed forms back in the mail.

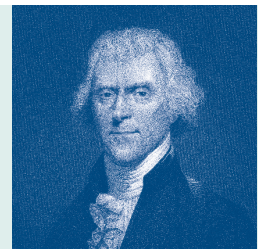


APRIL - JULY 2010:
Census takers visit households that did not return a form by mail.



DECEMBER 2010:
By law, the Census Bureau delivers population information to the President for apportionment.

The Census counts every resident in the United States and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years. As Secretary of State in 1790, Thomas Jefferson was chief administrator of the first census. During the first census, South Carolina was the last state to return its census count, five months after all other states were completed. A total of 3.9 million people nationwide were counted in the first census. By 2010, there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States.



What About Census Information Privacy?

Census information is collected to produce statistics. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other government agencies and law enforcement. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.

Responding to the census questionnaire is required by law. A prompt return of a completed census form in the envelope provided is the best way to safeguard personal information. Census Bureau representatives carry identification and will never ask respondents to submit information online.

2010 CITY BUDGET ADOPTED

The 2010 Consolidated Municipal Budget totaling \$25,897,871 was approved by the City Council on November 16, 2009. The City's mill levy for 2010 (2009 tax year) remains at 77.20 mills. Revenue from 68.69 mills will be collected for General Fund operating purposes and revenue from 8.51 mills will be applied to the City's Capital Projects Fund. The 2010 budget includes no tax or fee increases.

The major funds and functional areas of expenditures for 2010 are:

2010 CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL BUDGET						
Fund	Personal Services	Operations & Maintenance	Lease Purchase	Capital	Debt Service	Total
General Fund	\$8,595,729	\$3,652,569	\$339,830	\$52,400	\$0	\$12,640,528
Recreation Fund	0	52,000	0	0	0	52,000
Firemen's Fund	0	33,000	0	0	0	33,000
Street Improvements Fund	0	45,000	0	0	0	45,000
Riverfront/Central Core Fund	0	0	0	0	507,493	507,493
Capital Projects Fund	0	60,000	0	530,000	430,494	1,020,494
Sanitation Services Fund	1,777,357	1,050,147	288,882	7,450	0	3,123,836
Stormwater Utility Fund	411,802	83,932	19,508	51,450	0	566,692
Gross Revenue (Utilities)	0	28,000	0	0	1,950,347	1,978,347
Operations & Maintenance (Utilities)	2,327,042	3,380,738	81,001	86,700	0	5,875,481
Depreciation Fund (Utilities)	0	0	0	40,000	0	40,000
Construction Fund (Utilities)	0	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
TOTAL	\$13,111,930	\$8,400,386	\$729,221	\$768,000	\$2,888,334	\$25,897,871

2010 Business License Renewals DUE FEBRUARY 1

Business license renewal applications for calendar year 2010 will be mailed to current license holders during the last week of December. Completed applications must be returned to the City on or before February 1, 2010 to avoid a 10 percent delinquent payment penalty. The penalty will increase by an additional five percent each month until the application and fee are received.

License holders should carefully examine the information on the application to confirm its accuracy. Corrections or additions should be written directly on the application form. Once properly completed and signed, the application should be returned to the City with the correct fee. The turnaround time on a properly completed business license application is usually within ten days.

The business license office is located on the first floor of the Municipal Center, 100 Georgia Avenue. Questions about business license renewals can be answered by calling 803-441-4214.

Tax Notices Mailed IN JANUARY

Tax notices on real and personal property and on merchants' inventory for the 2009 tax year will be mailed to property owners in January. Tax payments are due by May 1, 2010. For those property owners whose taxes are escrowed by a mortgage company, tax notices will be mailed directly to the mortgage company.

The City tax office is located in the Finance Department on the first floor of the Municipal Center, 100 Georgia Avenue. Questions about taxes should be directed to 803-441-4215.

Winter Base Period for SEWER RATES IN EFFECT

The City of North Augusta uses a "Winter Base Sewer Rate System" for calculating sewer service charges. Three months of actual water usage are used to calculate sewer charges for the remaining nine months of the year. The three month base period covers the three water meter readings taken between December 10 and March 9. Water meter readings are based on the actual water consumed for the month preceding the reading.

Each utility customer is billed a sewer service charge based on actual water consumption during the three winter base months. The average consumption of these three months is then used for the remaining nine billing periods of the year. New customers with no winter base history are charged an amount equal to the average of all residential sewer customers. For more information about the Winter Base Period, please call 803-441-4212.

Holiday and Sanitation SCHEDULE

Christmas

Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25, City offices closed. Thursday's sanitation route will be collected on Wednesday.

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, City offices closed. No change in sanitation collection schedule.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 18, City offices closed. There will be no sanitation service on January 18. Sanitation collection routes will be delayed by one day.

Upcoming Exhibits ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTER

The Elegance that Was – A History of the Hampton Terrace Hotel
Through January 30, 2010

Portraying Lincoln – Man of Many Faces January 5 to April 3

The Story of the Palmetto Park and Pond February 2 to April 17

Call 803-441-4380 or visit www.artsandheritagecenter.com for more information.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY -----	911
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Non Emergency-----	279-2121
Administration-----	441-4251
Records/Court Services-----	441-4271
Investigations -----	441-4274
PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES	
Riverview Park Activities Center-----	441-4300
Activities Coordinator-----	441-4311
Community Center -----	441-4290
GENERAL SERVICES & FINANCE	
Taxes-----	441-4215
Utility - New Service/Disconnects-----	441-4219
Utility Billing Services-----	441-4212
Business Licenses (Non-Contractor)-----	441-4214
Human Resources-----	441-4205
Events and Facilities Supervisor-----	441-4350
ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS	
After-Hours Emergencies-----	279-2121
Engineering-----	441-4223
Building Standards-----	441-4227
Code Compliance-----	441-4258
Permits-----	441-4227
Business Licenses (Contractors)-----	441-4227
Animal Control-----	441-4298
Sanitation Services-----	441-4223
Sanitation - New Services-----	441-4219
Stormwater Management-----	441-4295
PUBLIC UTILITIES	
After-Hours Emergencies-----	279-2121
Utility - New Service/Disconnects-----	441-4219
Utility Billing-----	441-4212
Water and Sewer Repairs-----	441-4240
Streets and Drains Repairs-----	441-4240
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Zoning-----	442-4221
Planning-----	442-4221
Economic Development-----	442-4221
ADMINISTRATION	
Mayor-----	441-4202
City Administrator-----	441-4202
OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS	
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce-----	279-2323
Nancy Carson Library-----	279-5767
North Augusta Health Center-----	278-3621
Comcast (cable)-----	706-733-7212
S.C. Electric & Gas-----	442-2000
A T & T-----	1-888-757-6500
S.C. Department of Transportation--	1-800-442-1368
Magistrate-----	202-3580
Arts & Heritage Center-----	441-4380

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS are held every first and third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of the Municipal Center. Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings.



CITY of NORTH AUGUSTA
100 Georgia Avenue
PO Box 6400
North Augusta, SC 29861-6400

www.northaugusta.net

North Augusta Forward is mailed quarterly to every city water customer. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please write to:
North Augusta Forward
P.O. Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29861-6400
or call 803-441-4221.