North Augusta
South Carolina's Riverfront

# Hometown Highlights

A City of North Augusta Publication

## MAYOR'S MATTERS

Below are the list of projects for the City of North Augusta. When you vote in the General Election on November 5th, there will be a referendum for these and all of the projects for Aiken County Capital Projects Tax. Aiken County and North Augusta voters have approved the Capital Project Sales Tax since 2000.

$48,633,586 for the following projects for the City of North Augusta, such projects listed herein in the priority in which the net proceeds are to be expended as determined by North Augusta City Council:

- $7,000,000 for Downtown Development and Improvements (pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety improvements, downtown greenway connector, utilities undergrounding, property acquisition, amenities)
- $4,250,000 for Park Improvements (Summerfield, Riverview Park, Creighton, Maude Edenfield)
- $500,000 for North Augusta/Aiken County Project - Martintown / Rt 1 / 5th Street bridge beautification and improvements
- $5,970,000 for Fire Truck/apparatus replacements including two ladder trucks, one engine, one support truck
- $3,000,000 for Martintown Road Traffic Construction and Improvements
- $2,988,586 for Automated Water Meter Reading (AMR) system
- $500,000 for North Augusta/Aiken County - Nancy Carson Library Improvements
- $1,250,000 for Riverview Park Activities Center Improvements
- $3,000,000 for resurfacing of the following City of North Augusta roads:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alta Vista Ave | W Hugh St | Rivernorth Dr |
| Amy Circle | Jackson Ave | Robinson Dr |
| Arrowood Dr | Jeffery St | Robinson Dr (Ct A) |
| Bluff Ave | Jersey Ave | Robinson Dr (Ct B) |
| Bolin Court | Knotty Pine Dr | Sapelo Dr |
| Boylan St | Le Compte Ave | Scenic Ct |
| Brooks Dr | Lodgepole Ave | Scott Dr |
| Burnside Ave | Longstreet Crossing | Shadow Lane |
| Center St | Main St | Southwood Dr |
| Chalet N Blvd | McKenzie Circle | Spring Grove Ave Stanton Dr |
| Clifton Ave | McKenzie Pl | Terrace Cir |
| Coulter Dr | McKenzie St | Torry Ave |
| Cumberland Ave | Meridian Ave | Thurmond St |
| Cypress Dr | Mill Branch Way | Thurmond Way |
| Deepwood Pl | Norman St | Walnut Grove Dr |
| Dunbarton Dr | North Ridge Dr | West Ave |
| E Hugh St | Northwood Ct | West Terrace |
| Euclid Ave | Norway Dr | Weston St |
| Fairfield Ave | Nutgrove Ave | White Pine Dr |
| Fairway Ave | Old Walnut Branch | Willow Run |
| Fairwood Ave | Pine Grove Ave | Womrath Ct |
| W Forest Ave | Pinewood Ct | |
| Hickory Place | Raborn Ct | |
| Hidden Hills Dr | Ridge Cliff Ct | |
| Hillwood Ct | River Bluff Ct | |

**North Augusta City Council may add roads located within the city area to the resurfacing list if funding is available as a city general resurfacing project.*

- $3,000,000 for the reconstruction of the following City of North Augusta roads: Arlington Heights, Bolin Road, and Ridgecrest Avenue
- $1,500,000 for stormwater system improvements:
  - Greenway culvert at Cypress
  - Paved ditch between Fairway and Crestview
  - Pipe ditch between Leyland Place and Chanticleer
  - Pinehurst Drainage Improvements
  - Austin Graybill Detention Pond Improvements
- $575,000 for Camera System additions and Lifecycle replacements
- $1,500,000 for Fire Station 2 Upgrades
- $500,000 for Carrsville Historic Area Public Infrastructure Improvements
- $1,350,000 for Tourism Facilities and Assets (Community Center, Palmetto Terrace, Trolleys, Wayfinding)
- $500,000 for Greenway improvements and connectivity to include facilities
- $750,000 for Water treatment and distribution improvements
- $500,000 for Wastewater infrastructure improvements
- $7,500,000 for design, development, property acquisition and construction of Fire Station 4 and related fire trucks/apparatus
- $2,000,000 for Public Safety Training Center
- $500,000 for Public Safety - Replacement handheld, vehicle, and dispatch radio equipment

Mayor Briton S. Williams


***Time Your Pruning:*** Don't prune your flowering plants down to the ground until after they have gone into dormancy. Only prune the spent flower blooms. Don't prune any of your shrubs past August and wait until your plants go dormant before any heavy pruning.

***Planting:*** Fall is the best time to plant trees & shrubs as we get fall rain showers. Take advantage of the wet weather and allow newly planted plants to get established before the cooler temperature and even better to prepare for the next summer's heat. Prepare your annual beds for a refreshing new array of color to your landscape by planting some violas, pansy's, snapdragons or mums.

***Irrigation:*** Adjust your irrigation for your turf yet continue to water any newly planted plant material every other day for a few weeks then you can water just twice a week. It's always best to water deeply and less frequent for the plant roots to seek out the water

***Fall Leaf Cleanup:*** Mulch your fall leaves and allow the nutrients to go back into the grass or spread around your plants prior to a fresh layer of mulch.

***Lawn Thatch:*** Fall is a great time to aerate your lawn to remove the thatch in the turf.



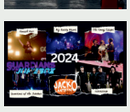
NORTH AUGUSTA FORWARD

**SEPTEMBER 28: Taste in the Tunnel, 5 pm**

**SEPTEMBER 19 • OCTOBER 17 • NOVEMBER 21**
**Third Thursday + UPBEAT Concert Series, 5-8 pm**

**OCTOBER 1-31: It's Spooky to be Hungry** Downtown Merchants Alliance will have decorated bins to collect canned goods and nonperishables for Golden Harvest Foodbank

## Explore NA Upcoming *Events*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| September 29 |  | Ironman 70.3 Augusta |
| October 25 & 26 |  | Jack-O-Lantern Jubilee |
| November 9 |  | Dave Matthews Tribute Band |

FOR MORE EVENTS GO TO
WWW.EXPLORENORTHAUGUSTA.COM

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**
**OCTOBER 6-12**


Riverview Park
October 12


Follow us on Facebook
North Augusta Public Safety and
North Augusta Public Safety Foundation


**20th Anniversary Concert**
**NOVEMBER 4th**
**7:00 PM**
**Grace UMC Wesley Center**

NORTH AUGUSTA Cultural Arts COUNCIL
www.naartscouncil.org

## *North Augusta Newcomers Connection*

For residents of 5 years or less, or enjoy meeting new people, join us

***Saturdays from 9am - 11 am***
***November 2 • February 1 • May 3***
1805 Partridge Lane, North Augusta

NORTH AUGUSTA CHAMBER

Call **803-279-2323** for info or visit **www.northaugustachamber.org**

# The Resource

A City of North Augusta Stormwater Department Publication

## What is in the stormwater?

Red stains, red-orange slimy surface film, oily-looking surfaces, and foam are commonly observed in streams in this area. Sometimes, the Stormwater Department receives calls about unnatural looking colors in our local creeks. The cause of discolored water can be a natural occurrence, but sometime it may be the result of pollution. Below are some common phenomena found in our streams that can be from natural causes along with some guidelines in determining whether the cause is natural or the result of pollution.

- **Brown or black water** – Especially in the southern portion of the City, streams like Mims Branch and Horse Creek, may have a very dark water coloration. This appearance is due to tannins released from the decomposition of leaves, as well as acids released from heavily organic soils, hence the name "blackwater stream". For example, take the Edisto River, portions of which are located in Aiken County, is the longest free-flowing blackwater river in North America.
- **Red-orange slime or reddish coloration** – This type of sheen is often the result of the natural bacterial breakdown of organic matter. A simple test differentiates a sheen caused by bacteria from sheen caused by oil. A bacterial film will fracture when disturbed (i.e. by dropping a pebble in it) while sheen that is the result of an oil product will flow back into place as if it had not been disturbed. Generally, a petroleum odor will also be present if pollution is the culprit.
- **Foam** – Generally foam is due to the mixing of air with organics. It most often occurs in the fall when leaves drop into the water and may be exacerbated by fast moving water and wind that contributes to the mixing of air and organics. Natural foam may build up against obstructions like log jams. Natural foam usually has a fishy or earthy odor while foam from pollution often has a has a fragrant or soapy odor and is usually localized near its point of discharge (often a pipe to something like a residential laundry connection). If you see an illicit discharge, like a laundry pipe or direct sewer pipe dumping into the creek, please let us know.
- **Muddy water** – Muddy water can be the result of very heavy stream flows following heavy rains. Storms can down trees and cause banks to erode making the water brown and discolored. On the other hand, it can also be from improper sediment controls on nearby construction sites. Muddy water from a rain event is typically different than a red clay colored muddy stream that may be from active construction.
- **Rotten-egg odor** – The rotten-egg smell is most likely hydrogen sulfide gas (H2S). It is a natural product of organic decomposition in wet environments such as swampland. H2S is also produced in wastewater, so the odor could indicate sewage pollution. If the water is gray and there is evidence of toilet paper in the stream, this smell may be a sewage leak. Report this when you see it.
- **Green water coloration** – Algae are present in all streams. Slow moving streams and stagnant pools of water may turn green with an overabundance of algae. Excessive algae populations may be caused by nutrients from fertilizer, stormwater runoff, sewage, or phosphorus. If these green colored algae are associated with white or blue algae, it is best not to touch the water as some blue-green algae can be toxic. Learn more about Harmful Algae Blooms at https://www.epa.gov/habs.

If you suspect the "weird stuff" that you encounter in a stream within the city is the result of pollution, contact the Stormwater Management Department at (803) 441-4246.

## Eco-Meet Competition is Coming Up

If you have middle school age children or grandchildren or are a middle school teacher, let them know about the upcoming Eco-Meet Competition, geared toward environmental science education. This is a competition put on each year by the CSRA – Environmental Science Education Cooperative and this year the event will be at McDuffie Environmental Education Center on Friday, November 1st. The Eco-Meet is open to middle school students in the CSRA of South Carolina and Georgia. Registration opened on August 26th and closes in mid-October. For more information, visit https://www.csraesec.org/eco-meet.html.

## Mosquitos and Stormwater Systems

The city has many stormwater structures including retention basins, storm sewer systems, treatment wetlands, rain gardens, and other green and gray infrastructure. The Environmental Protection Agency has some guidance for us here on how to handle mosquitoes and stormwater systems and what to look out for in your yard. Measures that lower mosquito production in stormwater structures are needed to protect public health. If designed properly, stormwater structures should not promote mosquito breeding. Ensuring that these structures are properly designed and maintained is the key to limiting mosquito production.

Often people think of retention basins as a mosquito breeding ground and this is not typically the case. There are two types of retention basins, wet ponds and dry ponds. Wet retention ponds are designed to hold permanent pools of water that can be between 3 to 8 feet deep. This water is deep enough that mosquitoes do not breed in this environment as they can only breed in shallow waters. Dry retention basins are designed to detain water after a storm for less than 72 hours and release the water slowly to a nearby drainage way. This is not enough time for the pond to become a habitat for mosquitoes and as the aquatic stages of most mosquito species take 7 to 10 days to fully mature. Maintenance considerations should be made to make sure that retention basins are not suitable habitats for mosquitoes. Private, commercial, and publicly owned retention ponds should receive regular maintenance to remove debris and sediment from inlets and outlets that can build up over time. Vegetation maintenance and removal of woody plants should be completed to remove potential habitat for mosquitoes and maintain a clear flow for water on a routine basis. The city does its best to ensure city-owned ponds are maintained. Private and commercial pond owners should do the same to ensure these facilities work properly to collect and treat stormwater. Improper maintenance or beaver activity can cause ponds to hold water for too long, and owners should inspect their pond regularly for this reason.

Structures like rain gardens and bio-infiltration cells are used for stormwater treatment and retention as well. Properly designed green infrastructure should not hold water for more than a day or so, and should filter the water underground pretty quickly. This means that mosquitoes should not be able to breed in a well maintained rain garden or bioretention basin.

Sometimes there are places mosquitoes can breed in our very own backyards. Homeowners should check around their property to eliminate places there may be standing water. Water can collect in flower pots, buckets, cups, trash can lids, and old things that are lying around the yard. Be sure to pick up garbage that might blow into the yard from the road, clear rain gutters regularly, and cover or move items that can hold standing water for long periods of time. Even the bird bath or pet water bowls should be changed regularly to prevent mosquitoes from using these areas as breeding habitat.

Within the city limits of North Augusta there is a service for residents by request for mosquito spraying services. To request spraying please use the online on the City of North Augusta website (https://www.northaugustasc.gov/online-services/mosquito-spray-request) or by calling 803-441-4240 Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. thru 5:00 p.m. within the city is the result of pollution, contact the Stormwater Management Department at (803) 441-4246.