



WORD ON WHITE HOUSE

October 2023- November 2023

A Publication of the City of White House

105 College Street • White House, Tennessee 37188

WWW.WHITEHOUSETN.GOV



It's Fall Y'all and there's no shortage of fun

The barns are smoking and that means cooler weather is on the way and with that bring fun, family friendly activities in the City of White House. The Gathering at the White House Inn Museum on September 23rd begins the season that is quickly followed by the Discover White House Expo & Safety Day on Saturday, October 7th. This year's event is sure to be full of fun as it will take over the City Park. The front entrance of the park will be closed so you'll be able to park in the back or utilized the lot between Kroger and the park. There will be booths, food trucks, police, fire and EMS vehicles plus a Bike Parade.

The following week the Harvest Moon Festival will be at the park on Saturday, October 14th. And then on Friday, October 20th the Fall Family Block Party complete with artisans, food trucks, a pumpkin patch, a family friendly Halloween movie, costume contest for pets and people and a fall Farmers Market with take place from 3 pm with the movie beginning at 7 pm.

The annual Trail of Treats is moving this year, you'll find it located at the White House City Park with loads of candy for the kids on Thursday, October 26th. There are so many great things to do in our community this fall, we hope you'll make the most of all that White House has to offer. Make sure you follow the Chamber and City on Social Media and we'll try to let you know about all of the Trunk or Treats that our area churches will host for Halloween too.



Enter in the annual Bike Parade at the Discover White House Expo & Safety Day on Oct. 7th. Bike Parade begins at 10:30 am.

OCTOBER 9
FOR COLUMBUS DAY

NOVEMBER 13
FOR VETERAN'S DAY

NOVEMBER 23
FOR THANKSGIVING



City of White House
Billy S. Hobbs Municipal Center
105 College Street
White House, TN 37188
www.whitehousetn.gov

Phone: 615-672-4350

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White House Postal Routes

Greetings

FROM YOUR CITY ADMINISTRATOR
Gerald O. Herman



Greetings,

NO NEW TAXES! The Board of Mayor and Alderman passed a balanced budget with no request for a property tax increase on your city properties. This is the fourth year in a row that your city property taxes remained the same.

Every five years Robertson and Sumner County reappraise the value of property within their jurisdictional limits. As the appraised value of property goes up the tax rate according to the State of Tennessee equalization law must go down. This past year Robertson County completed their appraisals. And as we could expect the value of your properties went up significantly. The tax rate certified by the State for our Robertson County property owners dropped from 1.28 to 0.82. This fiscal year, which began July 1, 2023, Sumner County will reappraise all properties within their jurisdiction. We expect that properties will show an increase in value and that the rate will go down. The rate adjustment for Sumner County will occur next year.

It's important for those new to the city to know that the city sends out a separate tax notice than the counties. For many of you with mortgages and escrow your taxes and insurance are paid by your mortgage company directly to the City. It is your responsibility to verify. City property taxes are due without penalty by February 28, 2024.



Did you know that in fiscal year 2022-23, ending June 30, 2023:

- Your city finished the year with all 12 budgetary funds at or below budget.
- Your Administration processed 1,517 purchase orders with a total dollar amount of \$41,380,107.
- Your city had 360,611 visits to the city website.

- Your Finance department processed 4,455 invoices.
- Your city employee turnover rate was 9.71%. The goal is to be less than 10%.
- Your Police Department earned accreditation with the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation program in 2014 (a three-year accreditation). They are in the process of earning their 4th accreditation.
- Your Fire Department logged 6,302 hours of training and completed 1,207 fire inspections.
- Your Public Services Street Division filled 324 potholes.
- Your Public Services Sanitation Division made 6,624 stops picking up brush from your properties.
- Your Public Services Wastewater Division processed waste from 6,603 connections travelling through collection lines into the wastewater treatment facility.
- Your Planning and Codes Department issued 368 single family home permits and conducted 4,885 building inspections.
- Your Senior Center provided weekly meals, weekly programs, travel trips, etc. to 3,186 members.
- Your library provided quality programs and valuable services to 7,835 members.
- Your City Court collected \$38,288 in fines from citations issued in the city. Be nice to get that number down to zero. 😂

May you be safe, happy, and healthy during the fall months 😊

Parks & Recreation



Thank you for your patience with our construction this year! We have been building and growing in several different ways this year. The tennis court project has been completed, construction has been started on the new recreation center, and we still have other projects out to bid. In addition to the changes to our facilities we continue to see growth across our department in sports registration numbers, senior center attendance, and museum program offerings. To help us continue to grow and move forward we have started the process to build a comprehensive master plan! Be on the look out on how to get involved so your voice can be heard in the planning process.



**Tennis Courts Ribbon Cutting/
Dedication**
October 16th at 4pm



**Scan the QR Code for more information
on our Leagues and Special Events!**



Save the Date
2023 Christmas Parade
December 2nd
Theme: Christmas Movies

Youth Basketball

1st-8th Grades

Season: November- February

City Resident: \$100

Non-Resident: \$112

Registration Deadline: October 22nd

615-616-1014 ● **www.whitehousetn.gov/parks** ● **Find us on Facebook!**

SENIOR CENTER

**Monday- Thursday
7:15a-5:00p**

Stop by for cards, pool, dominos or board games anytime!

Upcoming events include a Halloween party, trip to Jackson Orchard, Kasey and the Cowboys concert, Veteran’s Day Celebration, and the Robertson County Band veteran’s Performance.

Join one of our groups!

We have a garden club, quilting class, bowling, country western dance lessons and more!

Check out the full calendar online!

Senior Citizen's Lunches

Wednesdays at 11:30am

Reservations are required by noon on Mondays.

	EAT IN	CARRY OUT
SENIORS	\$3.00	\$3.50
NON-SENIORS	\$6.00	\$6.50

JOIN NOW!



A Special Thank You!

Thank you so much to Dr. Griffin and Allan Haynes for your recent support of the Senior Center. Dr. Griffin generously donated to help support our activities and weekly lunch. Mr. Haynes donated his time to to help us digitize the high school class photos that hung in the old senior center.

615-616-1016

www.whitehousetn.gov/seniorcenter

105D College St. White House, TN 3788



HOW STORMWATER AFFECTS YOUR RIVERS & WHAT ARE THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) EXPECTATIONS

Rivers are dependent on their surrounding lands (known as the WATERSHED) for a consistent supply of clean water. Altering a watershed does many things; one of the most significant is to alter the way stormwater soaks into the ground or flows to the local river.

When managed properly, this water is a valuable resource. However, when stormwater is managed like a waste product, it exacerbates FLOODING and becomes contaminated with pollutants.

Impervious surfaces such as roads, parking lots, and roofs associated with sprawling urban development significantly change natural river flow patterns and the recharge of underground water supplies.

Rainfall cannot soak into the ground through these surfaces and thus does not replenish groundwater supplies. Impervious surfaces also increase the amount and speed of water entering rivers and other water bodies.

The result is an increase in the severity and frequency of floods, the displacement and destruction of habitat for fish and other water dependent species, and a decrease in base flows in our streams and water in our aquifers.



Through the city's MS4 Management measures, stormwater infrastructure cannot be designed, built and maintained to infiltrate, evapotranspiration, harvest and/or use, at a minimum, the first inch of every rainfall event preceded by seventy-two (72) hours of no measurable precipitation.

This first inch of rainfall must be one hundred percent (100%) managed with no discharge to surface waters.

A permittee who has submitted a notice of intent (NOI) and received permit coverage has the duty to comply with all provisions of the general permit, statutes, and regulations. Coverage under the general permit does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility for damages to surface or ground water. The permittee must maintain records of checks and repairs on site or at a nearby office. These records must be maintained for a minimum of three (3) years. The permittee must notify the Division of any changes to their NOI information. The NOI is not transferable and new owners must submit a new NOI. If the operation experiences any emergency that could impact the waters of the state, they must notify the Division as detailed in the regulations.

As we can see, the city has strict policies in place to keep our city safe and to keep preservation intact.

ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITY IN THE MIDDLE OF WHITE HOUSE, TN

The City of White House Public Services department is currently accepting an individual company that is wanting to advertise in the median between Kroger and Speedway. The awarded company can install a sign at either end of the median to advertise their company. In return, the company advertising must maintain any landscape concerns throughout the year. If you are interested in this rare opportunity, please reach out to the City of White House Public Services Department for additional details 615-672-3654. This will be on a first come first served basis.





White House INN MUSEUM



MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:00AM - 4:00PM

THE WHITE HOUSE INN MUSEUM IS A REPLICA OF THE ORIGINAL WHITE HOUSE INN. COME AND LEARN ABOUT LOCAL AND REGIONAL HISTORY. SCHEDULE A GROUP VISIT, OR HAVE MUSEUM STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS COME TO YOU!

Visit today!



615-672-5223



WWW.WHITEHOUSE.TN.GOV/MUSEUM



Online Cemetery Map and Deceased Search

See available plots, and find your loved one's location within Hillcrest Cemetery.

<https://www.whitehousetn.gov>





POLICE DEPARTMENT



TRICK or TREAT

SAFETY

Costume Safety

- All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant
- If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags, or give them glow sticks
- Opt for nontoxic Halloween makeup over masks, which can obscure vision; always test makeup in a small area first to see if any irritation develops
- Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation

Motorist Safety

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing
- Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween

Trick or Treater Safety

- A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review a route acceptable to you
- Agree on a specific time children should return home
- Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home, and take care to avoid any food allergies

**WHPD and White House Kroger
"Drug Take-Back Day"**

Saturday, October 28th from 10am-2pm

HOW CAN WE MAKE HALLOWEEN SAFER FOR PETS?

Costumes and masks, lights and decorations, and a constant parade of strangers coming to your door— Halloween can be a downright spooky experience for pets. You can protect your pets by taking these steps to reduce the risk of them being hurt, poisoned, or lost.

- Don't feed pets Halloween treats. Raisins can cause your pet's kidneys to fail, and candy may contain substances toxic to pets, such as chocolate or xylitol (a common sugar substitute found in sugar-free candies and gum). Often, you won't be able to tell what a treat or piece of candy contains just by looking at it.
- Make sure your pets have identification (microchip, collar, and ID tag) that will make it easy for someone to contact you and return them home in case they escape through an open door while you're distracted with trick-or-treaters.
- Keep lit candles, jack-o-lanterns, and other Halloween decorations out of reach of pets.
- Keep all human costume pieces away from pets, along with glow sticks, decorations, batteries, and other holiday items. When chewed, glow stick items can release liquid that tastes really bad and can make pets drool excessively or act strangely (though it isn't likely to be harmful). Other costume parts and decorations might cause choking, internal injury, or illness.
- If you plan to put a costume on your pet, make sure it follows these guidelines:
 - Fits properly and is comfortable
 - Doesn't have any pieces that easily can be chewed off or cause choking
 - Doesn't block your pet's sight, hearing, breathing, mouth, or movement
- Take time before Halloween to get your pet accustomed to the costume, and never leave a costumed pet unsupervised.





FALL FAMILY BLOCK PARTY

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 3:00 PM

WHITE HOUSE CITY PARK • 420 HIGHWAY 76

FREE FUN ZONES

- BALLOON TWISTERS
- PUMPKIN PATCH
- FACE PAINTING
- NORTH NASH INFLATABLE

HALLOWEN FAMILY MOVIE

- FARMER'S MARKET
- VENDOR BOOTHS
- FOOD TRUCKS
- FIRE ENGINE RIDES

COSTUME CONTEST

for PETS & PEOPLE



Ryan Homes

NISSAN OF RIVERGATE

Discover White House Area Chamber of Commerce

Spirits Smoke & Salt

TUF SOLUTIONS



Jingle & Mingle AROUND TOWN

Presented By **Honey Run Boutique** Clothing & Gifts

Save the Date

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

Dozens of Door Prizes • Goody Bags for the First 200 Shoppers
Great Deals • Local Merchants • Pop Up Shops

WIN \$500 local shopping spree

WIN \$500 local shopping spree

CITY OF WHITE HOUSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

COOKING SAFETY with Firefighter Brandon Crimmons

October 8-14, 2023 is Fire Prevention Week, and this year, the focus is on cooking safety. According to The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), from 2014-2018, cooking and kitchen fires were the leading cause of residential structure fires and the second leading cause of home fire deaths. Unsurprisingly, WHFD answers many calls for service regarding small grease fires, and more frequently, small kitchen appliance fires.

Since cooking is such a routine activity, it's easy to become preoccupied or careless at times. But tragedy can strike in a second, and you need to be prepared. Below are some tips to prevent cooking fires, as well as what to do if you are faced with a fire in your kitchen.

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

-IF YOU HAVE A SMALL GREASE OR COOKING FIRE-

- Carefully slide a lid over the pan, turn off the burner, and allow to cool. DO NOT remove the lid until the pan is completely cooled.
- If the fire is relatively small, and it can be done SAFELY, baking soda or salt can be used to extinguish SMALL grease fires. A better option is to keep a kitchen fire extinguisher handy; they are inexpensive and widely available.

- NEVER attempt to extinguish a grease fire with water. The flames will spread, and you will very likely be injured. Let me say that again: NEVER!

- For an oven fire, turn the oven off, and DO NOT open the door until completely cooled.

- IF YOU ARE UNCOMFORTABLE OR HAVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT FIGHTING A FIRE-

- If you have ANY doubts whatsoever about fighting a kitchen fire, leave immediately, evacuate the home, and call 9-1-1.



ELECTRICAL COOKING APPLIANCES

Key Safety Tips

- Always use cooking equipment—air fryers, slow cookers, electric skillets, hot plates, griddles, etc.—that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
 - Follow the manufacturer's instructions on where and how to use appliances.
 - Remember to unplug all appliances when not in use.
 - Check cords regularly for damage. Do not use any appliance with a damaged cord.
- Slow Cooker: A slow cooker is designed to be left on while you do other things, even things outside of the home. However, there are few safety tips to keep in mind:
- Keep things that could catch fire away from the slow cooker.
 - Make sure the slow cooker is in a place where it won't get bumped. If the lid gets dislodged, the liquid could boil away,

This could cause the appliance to overheat and create a fire.

Pressure Cooker: A pressure cooker is designed to cook food faster than a stovetop or oven. Because it uses hot steam and pressure to cook food it is important that they are used properly to prevent burns.

- Place the cooker in an open space to give enough room for the steam to ventilate.
- Never cover the steam release valve on the pressure cooker.
- Do not leave the home when using a pressure cooker.

Air Fryers: Give your air fryer enough space. The air vents release heat and need airflow.

- Do not leave the home when using the air fryer.

• Make sure you clean grease and food debris after every use. Unplug and allow to cool completely before cleaning.

Hot Plate, Griddle and Electric Skillet: Stay with the hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when cooking.

- Do not touch the surface of a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet, as it could burn you.
- Unplug a hot plate, griddle, or electric skillet when not in use and before cleaning. Allow the appliance to cool before cleaning it.

Keep these tips in mind, and always be attentive when cooking. Make sure your home smoke detectors are in working order, and practice your home evacuation plan regularly. For more information about home fire safety, check out the following resources.

<https://nfpa.org/education>

<https://fpw.org>

<https://sparky.org>

<https://sparkyschoolhouse.org>



WINTER READING CHALLENGE

The winter reading challenge will begin on Sunday, November 5th and end on Saturday, December 30th. Sign up online on the library website or through the Readsquared app. Track your minutes on the app in order to reach benchmarks and win prizes. There will also be grab and go kits available each week for kids, tweens and teens to pick up and complete at home in addition to a guessing jars contest. Participants who guess the number of items in the jar the closest without going over will win a prize.



CLOSED OCT 9
NOV 11
NOV 13
NOV 23-26



The library board will meet on November 9, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Billy S. Hobbs Community Center located at 105D College St. White House, TN 37188. Per the TCA Title 8, Chapter 44 regarding public meetings, a Public Comment section is on the meeting's agenda. To speak during the Public Comment period, a sign-up sheet will be placed in the meeting location near the printed agendas and will be taken up just before the start of the meeting.

Children Programs

For ages 0-9

- Mondays: Crafternoon at 4PM for ages 5-9
- 1st Monday of the Month: Reading Dog at 4pm
- Tuesday: Story Time at 10:30am for ages 0-5
- Wednesday: Storytime at 10:30am for ages 0-5

Tween/Teen Programs

For ages 10-17

- Every Monday: Coding Club 4-5PM
- 1st Tuesday: Cooking Class at 4PM (limited)
- 2nd Tuesday: Craft Day at 4:30PM
- 3rd Tuesday: Anime Drawing day at 4:30PM
- 4th Tuesday: Comic Book or Song Writing 4:30PM
- 1st Thursday: Teen Advisory Board 5-5:30PM

Adult Programs

- Every Tuesday: Adult Knitting and Crochet 4p
- 1st Thursday: Adult Stitch Club at 4PM
- 2nd Thursday: Creative Writing Club 4:30p
- 4th Thursday: Bingo 1:30p-3p
- Last Thursday: Creative Writing Club at 4p

It's time to start planning your entry in the City of White House Christmas Parade!

Parade Powered By

It's a great theme with so many possibilities....

HOLIDAY MOVIES

Saturday, December 2nd at 8 pm

Christmas On Main Street

Santa • Tree Lighting • Choirs • Cocoa • Cookies & Milk
Popcorn • Santa's Workshop & Letters to Santa

Christmas on Main Powered By

ProAmpac



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 Agricultural Uses 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.

LET'S TALK CHICKENS... AGAIN!

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 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.

Because of the volume of inquiries and complaints we receive, we held a study session and allowed citizens to voice their thoughts our ordinance. From this meeting, staff will present the Planning Commission with a proposed ordinance to adopt that would allow chickens within city limits. There would be strict rules and regulations to follow, and would be enforced by our Code Enforcement Officers. In the event the Planning Commission Board and the Board of Mayor and Alderman approve the new ordinance, we will write a follow up article providing the details.

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.

Discover White House Expo & Safety Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7TH • 10 AM - 2 PM

WHITE HOUSE CITY PARK • 420 HWY. 76

**BOOTHS • FOOD TRUCKS
• PERFORMANCES & MORE**

FREE FUN ZONES

**FACE PAINTING • BALLOON
TWISTERS • CARICATURES**

SAFETY DAY

**BIKE PARADE & RODEO • POLICE • FIRE
EMS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT & MORE**



Powered by



THE FARMERS BANK



CONTRACTORS GROUP
Kitchens - Baths - And More...

