



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville

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Mayor
W. James Grogan

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City Hall now accepts
credit/debit cards for
water bill payments

service fee applies

Message from the Mayor...

Philippians 4:13

“Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.”

The wind is blowing 100+ miles per hour. It's raining at the rate of 10 inches per hour. Water is rising in the first level of my home and the next door neighbor's house is gone. It looks as if it will never stop. Will I be able to survive this storm? I am frightened, fearful, and faithless in what I perceive to be a potentially deadly situation.

I live in Dawsonville, Georgia; there is a storm brewing and is headed my way also. I, too, have a fear of what I don't know. I am frightened, fearful and faithless. I am just like the disciples on the Sea of Galilee. Instead of seeking peace in the midst of a storm, I am having a sleepless night. . . worrying about what may or may not happen. Did I think I was the only one concerned? Did I think Jesus didn't know there was a storm headed for the Sea of Galilee and Dawsonville, Ga.? In one moment things were fine and in the next, we find ourselves surrounded by the storm... no power, no TV, no internet, cell service out, trees down, power lines on roads and houses and the storm rages on..Matthew 6:34 says " Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes". What's the purpose for the storms in our lives? Sometimes it's for the cleansing, because of our own self absorbed world, we live in. We tend to develop selfish attitudes, mixed up priorities and ungodly habits. Hopefully, and with prayer, these storms will guide us back to godliness. Storms also help us become more compassionate, bring comfort to others. We are being equipped to help others. Our testimony during times of difficulty will be authentic, because we know and understand their pain. God promises us He will give us a path through any storm. He wants His power known through our trials. The most important thing we gain is an awareness of His presence. No one enjoys suffering, but Jesus wanted the disciples to experience the fear and anxiety of the boat in the storm. He wanted them to recognize their own helplessness and rely on Him.

So whether we were in the Florida Keys or in Houston, Texas or little old Dawsonville, Ga., we all experienced being frightened, fearful and faithless for a period of time. Did we learn and grow from this experience. I believe we did!

Psalm 86:7 “In the day of my trouble, I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.”

Your Mayor,

W. James Grogan

ATTENTION CITY RESIDENTS

Beginning next week, the City will pick up tree limb debris and will continue until the remnants of the recent storm are cleared. Please bring your limb debris to the curb and we will chip it and dispose of it. This is for limb debris only; no trash, dirt, stumps or yard clippings. Please have your debris at the curb by Tuesday morning, September 26th and the following Tuesday, October 3rd.

2017 Government Meetings held at City Hall upstairs in the G.L."Pete" Gilleland Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.

- 5PM Mayor & City Council Regular Mtgs: JAN 9 FEB 6 MAR 6 APR 3 MAY 1 JUN 5 JUL 10 (6:00) AUG 7 SEP 11 OCT 2 NOV 6 DEC 4
- 5PM Mayor & Council Work Sessions: JAN 23 FEB 20 MAR 20 APR 17 MAY 15 JUN 19 JUL 17 AUG 21 SEP 18 OCT 16 NOV 20 DEC 18
- 5PM Dawsonville Planning Commission: JAN 10 FEB 13 MAR 13 APR 10 MAY 8 JUN 12 JUL 10 AUG 14 SEP 12 OCT 9 NOV 13 DEC 11
- 6PM Historic Preservation Commission: FEB 20 APR 17 JUN 19 AUG 21 OCT 16 DEC 18



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City Hall Office Hours: MON - FRI 8 AM—4:30 PM

Home of the
 Georgia Racing Hall of Fame Museum
 Hours:
 MON - SAT 10 AM - 5 PM
 SUN 1 PM - 5 PM
 For Information Call: (706) 216-7223



Dawsonville Moonshine Distillery
 Stop in for a tour & a free sample!
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 For More Information Call:
 (770) 401-1211



Message from the City Manager ...

Remarkable and unprecedented, harrowing, devastating; these are terms used to describe the back-to-back landfall of two storms of historical proportion in Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Harvey brought rainfall indicative of a 1,000-year storm and Irma set record, sustained wind speeds. Early estimates indicate Harvey damage exceeds \$108 billion and Irma \$62 billion. \$200 billion, this is half the total cost of all hurricanes over the past 50 years.

What was most remarkable about these storms is they struck just over one week apart. One storm of the magnitude of Irma or Harvey would seriously tax those utility and public works resources tasked with putting our electrical infrastructure back together, let alone two that hit so close together. Power companies such as GA Power, Sawnee and Amicalola EMC rely in part on mutual aid to help restore power. Well this year, resources had to be sent to Houston and other parts of Texas and the Gulf Coast to help restore power and in many cases, rebuild the power grid. Then Irma comes along and requires aid to be sent into Florida and South Georgia, both hit harder than North Georgia. Thus, many of us were without power until Friday or Saturday, five or six days after the storm hit.

From Monday until Thursday, GA Power had to rely on just their local office resources as other resources were simply unavailable being tasked to aid victims elsewhere. Finally, additional resources arrived from Alabama Power, Diversified Power from Virginia and power crews from Canada. As of September 18th, there are still some customers without power. Contrary to the belief of many, city personnel have no control over the power companies nor can we influence where their priorities are. Simply stated, Mother Nature rules. I applaud the utility companies and their efforts to respond to two, back-to-back storms of historical significance.

I also applaud our city personnel who came in to keep city streets open, to identify power outages, damaged poles, to pump sewage lift stations and potable water wells with generators so public health was maintained. These people worked, many around the clock, despite that fact that their own homes and families were without power. I am thankful that damage in our city was not worse than it was and that the loss of life in our area was not greater. I pray for those less fortunate, those hit harder by these storms, and those that lost businesses, their homes and in many cases family members. Hurricane season still has several weeks to go so be ever weather ready.

Good news, the water meter project is drawing to a close and should be completed on or about September 22nd. If driving on Shoal Creek or Burt Creek Roads, please be aware that sidewalk construction connecting Shoal Creek to Red Hawk subdivision is underway.



Bob Bolz, City Manager

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