



From the Mayor

Greetings, Residents of Our Great City! I sincerely hope you are all well. The City continues to grow and the City Council, Staff, and I are working hard on your behalf to accommodate that growth and improve services. We hope you enjoyed Saturday's Heritage Festival, the first of many events to be held this spring and summer. As you will read below we will begin our Farmer's Markets in June and we are looking at options for the annual July 4th BBQ.

In order to increase transparency and get information to more citizens we have begun to live-stream our monthly City Council meetings, held the second Monday of the month, on our City of Grovetown Facebook page, and we plan a series of Town Hall meetings this year beginning in June. Robinson Avenue improvements will be done this fall, Ember's Grille will open on Robinson Avenue this summer, residential development continues to boom, we have a number of infrastructure improvement projects planned, and we hope to get funds to improve the parks across the City. Below are a couple important department updates.

Thank you for your continued support!

Utility Billing & Collections Department

As you know the City began construction of a new \$24M wastewater treatment plant last year. This facility will allow the City to treat its own wastewater, whereas now nearly half of all wastewater generated in the City is sent to Columbia and Richmond Counties for treatment. This is a critically important capital improvement for our City as the new plant will have the capability to accommodate growth over the next 20-30 years.

When the treatment plant is completed next spring (2019) the City will need to begin repayment of the loan principal, which unfortunately will require increasing the New Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction Fee that is currently \$5 per month per account. To meet loan requirements we will follow the following fee schedule.

1. Present day thru Jun 30, 2018 -- \$5 per month per account
2. July 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2018 -- \$10 per month per account
3. January 1, 2019 thru August 31, 2019 -- \$15 per month per account
4. September 1, 2019 onwards -- \$20 per month per account

Department of Public Safety

CITY ANNUAL HYDRANT FLUSHING & TESTING PROGRAM

The Grovetown Department of Public Safety Fire Division flushes the fire hydrants throughout the City during the months of April thru July on Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. There is also night time flushing and testing in the business areas and high traffic zones. During this process it is not uncommon for a yellow, brown or reddish tint to appear in the water. Harmless mineral deposits settle in the water mains and flushing and testing the system stirs the deposits causing the discoloration. Flushing removes the sediments from the mains and also serves the following purposes:

- Improves water quality in the distribution system
- Verifies the proper operation of fire hydrants and valves

- Helps find weaknesses in the water system
- Checks for closed valves and weak flows in the water Mains
- Verifies adequate flows for firefighting

What should I do when the fire department is flushing in my neighborhood?

If you see the Fire Department crews flushing a hydrant on your street, avoid running tap water and using the washing machine or the dishwasher until the flushing is completed. If you see the flushing crew working in the area please drive carefully.

What can I expect before and after flushing?

- If tap water is used during flushing, it could come out discolored and contain sediment. If you encounter discolored water, shut the water off and wait several minutes. After waiting, check the clarity by running cold water for several minutes allowing new water to work its way into your pipes. If the water is clear it is OK to use. If not, wait several minutes and check again. In some cases, there may be slight discoloration for a few hours. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water; it does not affect the taste or water quality.
- The water may also have a milky appearance. This is due to tiny air bubbles that will dissipate out and is not harmful.
- Avoid washing laundry during scheduled flushing times. Wait until the water runs clear at the tap, then wash a load of dark clothes first. Hot water tanks can hold discolored water for some time after the cold water runs clear.
- If pressure or volume seems low, check your faucet screens for trapped particles. There may be a temporary drop in water pressure. Flush your hot water tanks by running the hot water tap for a few minutes after the cold water clears.

Check the City of Grovetown web page at the beginning of each week to see which areas of the city are being tested that week. www.cityofgrovetown.com

Department of Leisure and Recreation Services

Monthly Farmer's Markets will begin again on Saturday June 9th at Goodale Park!! All are welcome to attend.



Department of Planning and Development

On **Saturday, June 2nd, at 11:00 a.m.** we will hold a **Town Hall meeting** at city hall in the council chambers where the **topic will be Growth**. Come hear the staff and elected officials discuss issues and answer your questions related to planning, zoning, economic development, and infrastructure.