



Notes from IT

KnowBe4 Training & Password Changes

KnowBe4 Training Starting Soon

Cyber security starts with you! Here at Oconee County, we have hardware and software in place that provide protection for our network . . . BUT, it just takes one end user to click a malicious link and allow criminals to break through and access our network. Learning to be a “human firewall” will be revisited with our KnowBe4 security training. We will be sending this training to all computer users in the next few weeks. Remember STOP, LOOK, and THINK - protecting our network is in your hands!

It's Time to Change Your Password

Passwords are critically important to cybersecurity. Each computer user will be forced to change their passwords in the next few weeks.

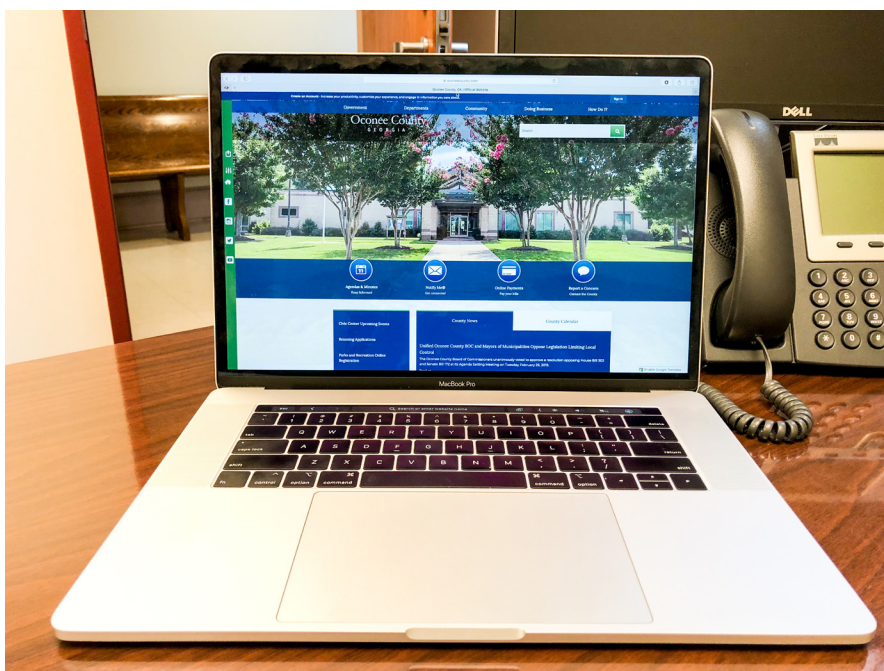
New passwords must:

- Be at least 6 characters long
- Include an upper and a lower case character
- Include either a number or a special character

Remember to follow these simple rules for all your passwords:

- Never share your password
- Don't write passwords down on a sticky note on your desk
- Don't use the same password for multiple accounts

Thank you for your continued vigilance!



Employment Anniversaries

Congratulations to everyone on our team celebrating another year of service to the residents of Oconee County! Thank you for making our organization an outstanding place to work and for your dedication to our community! We appreciate all that you do!

Board of Elections

Teresa Wallace	02/02/2016
Doug Hammond	02/04/2016
Pamela Hendrix	02/28/2019

Clerk of Courts

Lesia Weaber	02/15/2000
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Community Development - Civic Center

Danny Cottar	02/25/2015
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Finance

Donna Norton	02/15/1999
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Jail

Candeda Ayers	02/18/2010
Lucas Peck	02/18/2013
Susie Carlton-Gordon	02/13/2017

Joint Governmental Programs - Senior Center

Merry Howard	02/03/2014
Allison Burns	02/17/2015

Law Enforcement - Traffic Control

James Hale	02/15/2000
Scott Underwood	02/18/2002
Bradley Vaughn	02/22/2017

Parks & Recreation

Daniel Cochran	02/24/2014
Andy Dunston	02/12/2018
Nicholas Carter	02/13/2019
James Webb	02/13/2019

Planning & Code Enforcement

Liz Smith	02/20/2013
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Property Appraisal

Carol Gurley	02/01/1999
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Public Safety - Animal Services

Kayla McAllister	02/13/2017
Jessica Burnley	02/16/2017

Public Safety - E911/Communications

Deanna Smith	02/18/2008
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Public Safety - Fire Administration

Lara Crowe	02/14/2000
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Public Works

Deborah Smith	02/08/1999
Jody Woodall	02/19/2019
LC Hudson	02/25/2019



Employee Birthdays

Happy Birthday to everyone in the Oconee County Government Family celebrating a birthday this month! You have our best wishes for a wonderful day, and we hope it's the start of a fantastic year!

Lauren Truluck	02/02
Daniel Jones	02/03
Andy Corbin	02/05
Cameron Hale	02/07
Danny Cottar	02/08
Robert Elder	02/08
Mallory Mitchell	02/10
Lucas Peck	02/10
Edwynna Arey	02/13
Andrew Henderson	02/13
Stacy Carson	02/14
John Joiner	02/14
Pat Sebring	02/14
Tom Little	02/16
Amanda Mauldin	02/19
Golden Sanders	02/20
Kim Mitchell	02/21
Linda Patterson	02/21
Donna Norton	02/22
Tyler Hartzog	02/23
Christopher Thompson	02/23
John Ogle	02/24
James Webb	02/24
Trevor Higginbotham	02/25
Diane Baggett	02/26
Nickey Brooks	02/26
Patricia Fouche	02/27
Deanna Smith	02/28



Welcome!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest colleagues - we are so glad you have joined us!

Finance

Susan Gibson

Human Resources

Beth Armstrong

Jail

Matthew Towe

Parks & Recreation

Bryce Colvin
Emma Maisel

Departmental News



The **Human Resources Department** is pleased to announce the hiring of Beth Armstrong for the position of Human Resources Generalist. Beth has more than 17 years of experience in the Human Resources field and holds several certifications, including CHRM, ACHRM, PHR, and SHRM-CP.

Beth is looking forward to her new role and getting to know all of the great employees of Oconee County Government - stop in to HR to say “hello” and welcome Beth on board!

Congrats to the **Oconee County Parks & Recreation Department** on its successful renewal of the Better Sports for Kids Quality Program Provider designation for 2020-2021. This designation is awarded by the National Alliance for Youth Sports to programs that have demonstrated their commitment to providing a safe, high-quality youth sports environment.

The Parks & Recreation Department earned this designation after undergoing a review process and meeting key requirements in the following five categories: written policies and procedures, volunteer screening, coach training, parent education, and accountability.



Kudos to the **Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission**, which recently received the Governor's Circle Award in recognition of its continued outstanding work in keeping our community clean, green, and beautiful. The award, presented annually by the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation, honors exemplary work in litter reduction, waste minimization, and community greening.

As part of the requirements for the Governor's Circle Award, the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission conducts an annual litter index, engages volunteers to take responsibility for their community environment, and actively participates in the Keep Georgia Beautiful network.

Oconee Connections Employee Newsletter is published monthly by the Office of Communications. We want to hear from you! Please e-mail us with your department news, as well as employee announcements of births, engagements, weddings, and retirements. Please submit news items to dbaggett@oconee.ga.us by the 15th of the month prior to publication for inclusion in the newsletter. The Office of Communications reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity and length.