



Notes from the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission



Keep Oconee County Beautiful would like to request your assistance this year for the Great American Cleanup! We have chosen the month of September to highlight the importance of all of us working together for the greater good. All of us work in the county, and some of us live and play here, as well. Let's all pitch in to help keep it the great place we know and love! It is as simple as cleaning up after yourself, and sometimes others, wherever you find yourself during the day.

If you want to do a dedicated cleanup of a certain section of road or simply clean a specific spot, send us a picture and/or the amount of litter and the time it took you to clean up. If you need grabbers, vests, or bags, let us know, and we will get them to you! August marked the 30th anniversary of KOCBC, and it all started with a county-wide cleanup. If your department would like to be Adopt-a-Mile partners, reach out, and we will make it happen! Thank you for all each of you do to help us keep Oconee County clean, green, and beautiful!



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!

Civic Center

Edwyna Arey	09/05/2017
Shawn Wheeler	09/07/1993

Clerk of Courts

Carrie Hayes	09/16/2014
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Jail

Chuck Johnson	09/20/1988
David Knowles Jr.	09/09/2016
Danial White	09/23/2019

Law Enforcement

Jeremy Wasdin	09/15/2008
Sonyia Wallace-Burchett	09/15/2015
Stanley Swisher	09/25/2017

Parks & Recreation

Janine Lynn	09/16/1997
Lisa Davol	09/27/2004
Pat Sebring	09/11/2017
Ally Holloway	09/05/2018

Caleb Bar-Haim	09/05/2018
Jacob Barnhart	09/03/2019
Tyler Lewis	09/05/2019
Henry Hansen	09/30/2019

Planning/Code Enforcement

Linda Patterson	09/16/1985
Kyle Stephens	09/04/2018

Public Works

Will Parks	09/21/1998
Amy Morrison	09/27/2004
Randy Dillard Jr.	09/27/2004
Alan Breedlove	09/12/2018

Senior Center

Pat Anderson	09/17/2018
Angela Helwig	09/07/1999

Superior Court

Tommy Hewell	09/08/2009
Edward Brumby	09/25/2017

Tax Commissioner

Patti Childers	09/28/2009
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Water Resources

Jenanne White	09/06/2005
Eddie Fouche Jr.	09/04/2007
Nick Hensley	09/26/2012

Welcome!

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

Law Enforcement - Michael Downs

Facilities - Lena Lapsky

Parks & Recreation - Jenna Race and Andrew Ashe

Water Resources - Chad Wohler

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!

Leigh Anne Aaron	09/02
James Seagraves	09/02
Yashica West	09/02
LC Hudson	09/03
Stephen Richwine	09/03
Brian Bray	09/04
Lena Lapsky	09/04
Amy Brewer	09/05
Dylan Pulliam	09/05
Craig Bryant	09/06
McKenzie Hudgins	09/07
Janine Lynn	09/07
Donna Fee	09/08
Lance Raines	09/09
Ryan Meeler	09/11
Sandy Maxwell	09/12
John Donnelly	09/15
Greg Hayes	09/15
Jenanne White	09/15
Sarah House	09/16
Shirley Finch	09/18
John Jackson	09/18
Crystal Berisko	09/19
Jerry Marshall	09/20
Joan White	09/20
Kathy Hayes	09/24
Brandy Ervin	09/25
Joel Allen	09/26
Ruth Watson	09/26
Richard Connelly Jr.	09/27
Chuck Horton	09/27
Diane Horvath	09/27
George Kull	09/27
Joshua Warren	09/28
Harold Haggard	09/29



Notes from IT

Five Best Practices to Protect Yourself from Cybercrime

Keep Everything Up to Date

Make sure your operating system and software applications are kept up-to-date. Software updates are designed to fix security flaws that hackers will use to break in. Most companies that have been hacked had outdated software still running in their environment. Always use anti-malware and anti-virus software to scan your system on a regular basis. Here at the county, those updates scans are done in the early morning hours.

Use Strong Passwords

Create passwords that are more complex with numbers, punctuation, or symbols. Do not use the same password for all of your accounts. Never leave devices like your Wi-Fi router or home security device with the default factory-set password.

Enable Multi-factor Authentication (MFA)

Many websites, such as banks, are requiring users to type in a separate code from an app or text message when logging in to their site. Whenever you have an option, enable MFA. This also makes it much harder for hackers to break into your accounts.

Backup Your Data

Whether you upload your data to the cloud or copy to an external drive or thumb drive, keeping another copy is critical if you want your data recovered. In the county, we have off-site backups as well as secured cloud backups for our data.

Be Careful Using Public Wi-Fi

It is okay to use public Wi-Fi if you are going to use a VPN (virtual private network) to connect to your system. Never use public Wi-Fi to access secure systems like your bank account.



HR Masks Up!



Human Resources recently upped their mask game with Dr. Seuss-themed face coverings personalized to their department!

Thanks for always making us all smile, Jill and Beth!

Welcome Back - We've Missed You!

We are thrilled to be able to welcome Dwayne Collins back to the office this month! We are so glad you are feeling better, Dwayne – we've missed your smiling face!

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.