

City of Satsuma Newsletter

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July 2018



The City of Satsuma is proud to announce the Grand Opening of the Satsuma Splash Pad on July 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. There will be food, drinks, plenty of activities and of course Fun in the Water. Go to www.City of Satsuma.com for rules and regulations

PUBLIC NOTICE

On May, 20, 2017, the City received over 7.6 inches of rain in a 2 hour period. With several houses flooding and others being threatened, the City Council reviewed and is reevaluating the drainage issues.

Since that event, the city has hired an outside contractor to blow out culverts on Old Highway 43; has requested assistance from Mobile County Maintenance to assist with the cleaning of ditches. This crew along with public works employees recently preformed work on Orchard Street. The current plans are for the county maintenance crew to return to do work on 3rd Street. This is tentatively scheduled for the week of July 1st and 2nd.

Another observation was that several culverts are clogged because of leaves and debris. The City's Stormwater Management Plan states that leaves, grass clippings or other debris should not be placed in the ditch or near drains. The City is requesting that the following rule be followed:

- Residents are not to place any leaves, grass clippings or any other type of debris in any ditches. If you are placing debris out for pick up it must be placed in a location that will not obstruct the flow of water. During the season of leaf pickup NO LEAVES can be placed in the drainage ditch or near a culvert. You will either have to bag the leaves, haul to the trash ramp (Open Wednesday and Saturday) or put in your garbage cart.**

Message from Mayor

This is the first newsletter since I became your Mayor in November 2016. It is my conviction that I along with the Council will work hard to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Satsuma. During these past 8 years, I served this City as a Councilmember and I have seen the ups and downs of each administration. My goal is to work with this Council to bring improvements and businesses to our community. Since taking office, this administration has seen the completion of the sidewalk grant on Old Highway 43, down Bayou to 7th. The City recently received bids to begin the work on the sidewalk from Juniper Avenue to Powers Road running down Ryals, Vaughan Drive South and Granada/Harrison. Another sidewalk grant was recently approved for 7th Street which will complete the plan for a path to run from Robert E. Lee School to Wright Park.

The City will see a three year project come to fruition with the Grand Opening of the Satsuma Splash Pad on July 1, 2017. We hope that you, your family and friends will come out and help us celebrate this much anticipated project.

Drainage has been a problem in Satsuma for as long as most people can remember. It was very disheartening to hear from residents whose home were flooded during the rain event in May, This administration immediately began to take action by hiring outside contractors with the assistance of city employees (which included overtime) to make improvements in certain areas of concern. We have made several efforts to gain funding through State and Federal agencies, including ADEM and the National Conservation Resource Services, to do a major drainage overhaul of the Holcomb Ditch off 3rd. and other areas which have flooding issues. To date, no funding has been available but the City continues to pursue funding including reaching out to Representative Randy Davis for assistance and guidance. The City will continue to clean ditches and search for ways to help with the water flow, but the major work will have to come from a larger funding source.

As most of you are aware, the current building that houses public safety, police and fire, is in deplorable condition. A new public safety building has been a concern for many administrations, however this year through an effort of Bradley Byrne's office, particularly Frazier Payne, the City was made aware of funding through a USDA Community Reinvestment Program,. United Bank was given the task of handling these funds. The City reached out to United Bank and after presenting our financials was told that the only way to secure the funding was to increase revenues . City leaders made a decision to increase gas and diesel tax by 1 cent and are optimistic that funding will be forthcoming., Once conditional approval is received the City will begin the process of contracting an architect and engineering firm to oversee the construction.

In 2015, the City applied for an environment grant through the BP Gulf Coast Recovery Council. This is a 1.4 million dollar project to bring water and sewer to Satsuma Oaks and I-65 Service Road area. In order to bring the project out of the portal to be considered for funding, we had to have 4 votes of the 10 members. The City received 7 votes. This was only the first stage of the process. The City leaders will continue to lobby for this project.

Other items of interest are

- County Pay-As-You Go Program– This year Scanlan Way East, West and South, Emmitt, Augusta, Audubon Drive North, South, East and West , Thomas and Elvira were resurfaced.*
- A new generator was installed at the police and fire stations.*
- Improvements were made to Wright Park to make it more ADA compliant.*

As your Mayor and on behalf of the Council please know that we are working everyday to maintain and improve the quality of life for the residents and visitors to our wonderful City.

Mayor Tom Williams