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JUNE 2023 • The City of Morganton Local Government Newsletter



Friday, 6/16 Brandon Bethel 7pm @ Courthouse Square



Sunday, 7/2 Air National Guard Band of the South 3pm @ CoMMA

Saturday, 7/1 Dogs on the Catwalk Pooches on Parade 10:30am - Noon @ Courthouse Sqaure



Every Saturday & Wednesday (May-Oct) Morganton Farmers Market Sat - 8am - Noon @ 300 Beach St. Wed - 11am - 2pm @ 111 N. Green Street

Comprehensive Plan website launched



The IMAGINE Morganton 2040 Comprehensive Plan website is now LIVE.

Visit **www.engagekh.com/im2040** and make your way to the interactive map and short survey. This is your chance for your voice to be heard about the future of land use in the City of Morganton. Check out these three different ways you can be involved.

- The **Strengths and Weaknesses Map** is an interactive map where you can mark the strong places (locations that should be protected and celebrated), the weak places (locations that need extra attention), and areas of opportunity.
- The **online survey** gives you the chance to answer questions that will help us understand issues, needs, opportunities, and priorities as we get started on the new Comprehensive Plan.
- Once you have completed the interactive map and survey, scroll down to the bottom of the website to submit your email to receive the latest updates and announcements about the IMAGINE Morganton 2024 Comprehensive Plan.

The website will remain active throughout the comprehensive plan update process. Check back regularly for information on new events, additional surveys and interactive materials.

The update to the City's comprehensive plan, which has been given the name "IMAG-INE Morganton 2040", with the tagline of "Dream. Plan. ACT." was created to help build the vision for land use in the City of Morganton. Help us to "Dream. Plan. ACT" for the future of Morganton. Thank you for your participation in these efforts.

Fireworks show set for 4th of July

Celebrate the birthday of our country with the annual City of Morganton 4th of July Fireworks show sponsored by City of Morganton Parks and Recreation Department.

What you need to know:

- Show time is July 4th starting at 9:45 pm (dependent on weather)
- Location is Freedom Park on Independence Boulevard in Morganton
- Please park safely in nearby areas. Freedom Park will be closed that day in preparation of the fireworks show
- The show will last approximately 15 to 20 minutes
- Please take photos and videos and tag "City of Morganton Parks and Recreation" on Facebook
- Last, but not least... HAVE FUN!



Summer activities endless with Morganton Parks and Recreation

Mountain View Recreation Center

Archery Class will be held August 8 – September 17 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5 pm. Age range is 8 -12 years old. Cost is \$30 for city residents or \$40 for non-city residents.

Summer Kid's Camp will be held Mondays – Fridays on June 12 – July 7 from 8:30am – 4:30pm. Age range is 8 – 13. Cost is \$60 per week for incity residents and \$70 per week for non-city residents.

Catawba Meadows

Adult Sand Volleyball registration is from May 15th – June 14th. Ages 16 and older as of June 1st. Cost is \$125 per team with teams ranging between 2-6 players.

Collett Street Recreation Center

Corn Hole League registration is from June 5 – July 5. Ages 18 and older as of July 1st. Cost is \$50 per team. Each team has two players.

Adaptive Programs will have a Movie & Pizza Night on June 28 from 5–7pm showing the movie Free Birds. There will also be a Canvas Painting Class on July 26 from 2–4 pm. Both of these events are FREE.

Tennis lessons will be held June 12 – June 23, June 26 – July 7, July 10 – July 21, July 24 – August 4 and August 7-18. Age range is 4 – 17 years old. Cost is \$30 for city residents and \$40 for non-city residents for a two week session. Lessons will be held Monday – Friday of the above weeks with your choice between an 8:30am or 9:30am slot.

Swim lessons will be held June 19 – June 30, July 3 – July 14, July 17– July 28. Age range is 4 – 17 years old. Cost is \$40 for city residents and \$50 for non-city residents for a two week session. Lessons will be held Monday – Friday of the above weeks with your choice between 45 minute slots of 10am, 10:45am or 5:30pm.

A beautiful Morganton starts here... **Every "litter" bit hurts**

Trash belongs in a trash can, not on our roadsides and waterways so always:

- Reuse or Recycle when possible
- Throw trash away in appropriate containers
- Secure your load when hauling

You can report a litterbug anonymously by filling out a Swat-a-Litterbug report on NCDOT's website. If you see someone littering, fill in the required information and hit Submit. They will send a letter asking the litterbug to stop trashing our state. Information needed for the report is the litterbug's NC license plate number, date, time, county, roadway, and description of the violation. We need everyone's help to keep Morganton and North Carolina beautiful and clean.

Did you know? : NCDOT spent \$2.1 million in our surrounding counties and \$22.4 million state wide on litter pick up in 2022. That funding might have been better used elsewhere if everyone would dispose of trash properly.

Cigarette butts are litter.

Thank you, Community Appearance Advisory Commission



Main Street program receives national accreditation



The City of Morganton Main Street Department recently received national accreditation from the North Carolina Main Street & Rural Planning Center.

Abby Nelson, Main Street Manager said, "It is a true honor to be recognized for our hard work and achievements for our community. Through the Main Street program, we will continue to help Morganton thrive and flourish."

A press release from the NC Department of Commerce said. "The Main Street & Rural Planning Center works in partnership with Main Street America to identify the local programs that meet the performance standards. To qualify for national accreditation status, communities must demonstrate a commitment to building grassroots revitalization programs, fostering strong public-private partnerships, nurturing economic opportunity for small businesses and entrepreneurs, and actively preserving historic places, spaces, and cultural assets."

Downtown Morganton became a member of the North Carolina Main Street Program in 1982. Since 1980, N.C. Main Street programs have leveraged \$4.52 billion in private and public investment. In 2022, N.C. Main Street downtown districts generated 301 net new businesses, 1,941 net new jobs, 360 façade rehabilitations, 303 building rehabilitations, and recorded 103,277 volunteer hours.

City Manager Sally Sandy said, "Our main goal is to see Morganton grow and thrive and this accreditation is a testament to the hardwork that has been put forth. Congratulations to our Main Street Department on their achievements."

MORGANTON CITY COUNCIL

Ronnie Thompson • Mayor Butch McSwain • District 1 Chris Jernigan • District 2 Chris Hawkins • District 3 Wendy Cato - Mayor Pro Tem • District 4

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