

# THE SIGNAL

January 2014 | Vol. 15 | No. 1  
www.chambleega.com

A Publication of the  
City of Chamblee

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## Chamblee Grows With, Gears Up for Annexation

The City of Chamblee kicks off the new year larger in size both geographically and by population, thanks to annexation approved by 61 percent of voters during the November 2013 general election.

Now reportedly DeKalb County's third largest city, Chamblee is adding the Dresden East Civic Association (DECA) area that stretches south along Clairmont Road to I-85.

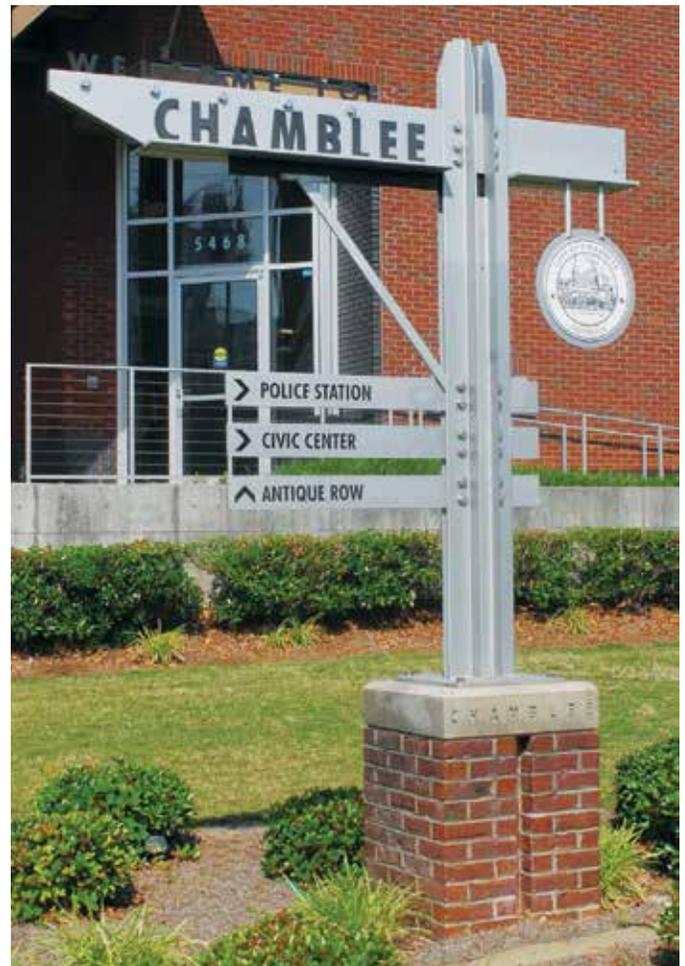
"We're excited to welcome our new residents," says R. Marc Johnson, Chamblee's newly appointed City Manager. "We look forward to continuing to provide the highest level of services — both customer and municipal — throughout the city."

Chamblee grows by an additional roughly 12,000 residents — from approximately 15,600 to 27,350. The city's square mileage expands from 4.81 to 7.85. As a result of annexation, the area will receive police, code enforcement and 911 services through Chamblee, with fire and EMS services continuing to be provided by DeKalb County. Public works and stormwater services also will come through Chamblee, with the Public Works Department returning to a traditional five-day work week (from four days) in order "to provide more flexibility for expanding the services," says Johnson.

Through at least the next year, DECA area residents still will receive sanitation services through DeKalb County.

Chamblee will begin to provide sanitation services for the Huntley Hills neighborhood annexed in 2011 — with an area bounded by Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Peachtree Boulevard and I-285 — after requesting to be added to Chamblee.

The latest annexation was the second opportunity for Chamblee to annex this unincorporated area of DeKalb County, following a referendum that failed by a slight margin in 2012.



*A City on  
the Right Track*

## New Faces Join Chamblee City Council

Chamblee City Council has two new members. Voters elected Brian Mock to fill the at-large seat previously held by incumbent Scott Taylor. John Mesa now fills the District One seat held by Mark Wedge.

Also, during the November 2013 general election, voters re-elected Chamblee Mayor R. Eric Clarkson who ran unopposed.

## New Hires

The City of Chamblee has added eight new hires since October, namely officers who will be crucial to the city's growth resulting from the recent annexation. The officers are:

- Nathan Wolf
- Son Phan
- Julieann Garcia
- Jermaine Felder
- Guy Antinozzi
- Oliver Dukes
- Ralph Jackson
- Michael Orlando

## Property Tax — Senior Homeowner Exemption

Resident homeowners 65 and over may apply for a Senior Homeowner Tax Exemption within the City of Chamblee. Those qualified are exempt from city taxes. In order to qualify, you must meet the following basic requirements:

- All parties listed as owners on the property deed must be 65 years or older before January 1, 2014.
- Hold a current Homestead Exemption designating the property as primary residence.
- Supply proof of age (driver's license or other identification) for all owners listed on the deed.
- Must apply for the exemption between January 1 and February 28 by filling out a simple form, in person at City Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can only apply for this city exemption at City Hall.

Your application will be processed and notification of the exemption will be sent to DeKalb County for the 2014 tax year. The exemption will be applied to your 2014 Property Tax Statement and you will not be billed for city taxes; however, you will be required to pay

stormwater and sanitation fees. You have to file for this exemption one time if you do not have any changes.

Additional exemptions that you may be qualified for from DeKalb County must be filed with the county separately. Check with the County Tax Commissioner's Office at 404-298-4000 to make sure you are getting all the county exemptions to which you are entitled. Persons who have 100 percent disability status from the Social Security Administration or the Veteran's Administration also are eligible for this city exemption. For more information, please call Linda McDaniel, assistant city clerk, at 770-986-5010, ext. 226 or email [lmcdaniel@chambleega.com](mailto:lmcdaniel@chambleega.com).

City of Chamblee  
5468 Peachtree Road  
Chamblee, GA 30341  
(770) 986-5010  
Fax: (770) 986-5014  
[www.chambleega.com](http://www.chambleega.com)

Mayor — R. Eric Clarkson  
District 1 — John Mesa  
District 2 — Leslie C. Robson  
District 3 — Thomas S. Hogan II  
At-Large — Dan Zanger  
At-Large — Brian Mock  
City Manager — Marc Johnson  
City Clerk — Emmie Niethammer  
Chief of Police — Marc Johnson  
Finance Director — Travis Sims  
Parks & Recreation — Joel Holmes

City Hall  
(770) 986-5010

Public Works/Animal Control  
(770) 986-5019

Development  
(770) 986-5010

Parks & Recreation  
(770) 986-5016

Police Department  
(770) 986-5005

Municipal Court  
(770) 986-5004

Code Enforcement  
(770) 986-5005  
[code\\_enforcement@chambleepd.com](mailto:code_enforcement@chambleepd.com)

Police Emergency — 911



The Signal is the official publication of the City of Chamblee and serves to provide timely information on events, activities and news related to Chamblee. Press releases, announcements and other materials submitted for potential publication are subject to editing.

# A ROUND CHAMBLEE

## City Completes Pair of Public Workshops for Chamblee Town Center

Following two public workshops, Chamblee has collected significant input for a Chamblee Town Center. The master plan involves updating the vision for Chamblee's Downtown and MARTA Station areas, with a focus on, among other things, enhancing the city's sense of place, increasing walkability, and providing a higher quality of life.

To help fund the master plan effort, Chamblee received a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). The city has plans to build on the original LCI — completed in 2001 — as well as a recent five-year update.

Public workshops, with participation from residents, property and business owners, took place on October 2 and November 20 at the Chamblee Civic Center.

Representatives with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. and Chamblee Mayor R. Eric Clarkson presented. Participants divided into groups for planning exercises, including ones to identify strengths, weaknesses and opportunities related to several land use scenarios for a town center and selection of a set of preferred transportation improvements to support a more walkable environment. These include pedestrian and

bicycle improvements, intersection projects and corridor gateway projects.

In January, city leaders and key stakeholders will review the consultants' recommendations and begin to discuss implementation priorities for the Chamblee Town Center LCI 10-Year Update that will go to the Atlanta Regional Commission for possible funding.

For more information, contact Gary Cornell, Chamblee's development director, at 770-986-5010; ext. 223.



*Marsha Jenkins of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. speaks to participants during a planning exercise.*

## Occupation Tax

The city clerk's office and administrative staff at City Hall would like to welcome the new businesses that were annexed to the City of Chamblee on December 30, 2013. We have prepared a special Occupational Tax and Alcohol application to help you transition into the City of Chamblee. This information can be found on the city's website, [www.chambleega.com](http://www.chambleega.com). On the main page under News & Announcements you will find the link for Annexation Information.

As a reminder for existing Chamblee businesses, City Hall will be mailing Occupational Tax Renewals in mid-January.

Here are some helpful reminders for existing businesses in Chamblee:

### RELOCATION

- If you have relocated your business please notify City Hall in writing, within 30 days, with the business name, address, date the business relocated and a telephone number. Please mail the letter to Chamblee City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 5468 Peachtree Road, Chamblee, GA 30341.
- A new Occupational Tax Zoning Verification Letter from the Development Department and additional inspections may be required with relocation.

### CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP ONLY (NO ADDRESS CHANGE)

- Occupational Tax Zoning Verification Letter from Development Department; City Hall encourages all business owners to obtain this letter prior to signing a lease.
- Fire inspection approval from DeKalb County Fire Marshal Division
- Additional inspections may be required depending on the type of business. A list can be found under Occupational Tax on the city website.
- Occupational Tax Certificate application form from the new owner.

### HOME OCCUPATION — OFFICE ONLY

- Occupational Tax Zoning Verification Letter from Development Department
- Home Occupational Tax application

Go to the City of Chamblee website, [www.chambleega.com](http://www.chambleega.com), for applications and information regarding Alcohol License and Occupational Tax.

If you have questions, please contact City Hall at 770-986-5010, and a member of the administrative staff will answer or redirect your questions to the appropriate department.

We look forward to working with you in 2014!

# SIGNAL SPOTLIGHT

## Simple Finds

### NEW CHAMBLEE BUSINESS OWNER RETURNS HOME TO SET UP SHOP

While living nearby on North Shallowford Road, Michael O’Kane would frequent Castleberry’s Treasures For Your Home on Chamblee Dunwoody Road. Today, O’Kane occupies the very space where Castleberry’s operated. In October, the new Chamblee business owner opened the doors to Simple Finds Interiors & Antiques. The Chamblee

Business Association held a ribbon-cutting

*Bonnie Lass is one of around 40 dealers at Simple Finds Interiors & Antiques. Lass manages the Treasured Memories booth.*

ceremony for Simple Finds within weeks of the shop’s opening.

Located at 3614 Chamblee Dunwoody Road at the intersection of Peachtree Boulevard, Simple Finds carries antique and vintage finds, as well as everyday items to include furnishings and accessories. Simple Finds also offers consignment service, particularly for furniture. “We jokingly say ‘We have new, used and slightly abused,’” says O’Kane, who previously owned a thrift and antique shop in Duluth.

“In a business like this, you’re always changing,” says Bonnie Lass, a dealer who, with her nephew Kevin and niece Deb, manages the Treasured Memories booth, where you’ll find jewelry, art work, books and more. “We have a little bit of everything. It’s a little bit of this and a little bit of that,” Lass adds.

#### MORE INFO:

[www.simplefindsga.com](http://www.simplefindsga.com); 678-691-4241

*Michael O’Kane owns Simple Finds Interiors & Antiques in Chamblee.*

With more than 40 dealers on-site, inventory changes daily. O’Kane says the 23,050-square-foot shop will continue to grow to reach anywhere from 75 to 90 dealers.

He is excited to welcome Gone to the Dogs, which is relocating from its Broad Street location.

O’Kane also is thrilled to be in Chamblee and not far from I-285 to boot. “I like that there is a sense of community,” says the Marietta resident. “We’ve had a lot of support from the neighborhood.”

## Last Dance for Chamblee Charter High School

Marking the end of an era, alumni, students, parents and members of the community turned out for a goodbye party of sorts for Chamblee Charter High School. The Chamblee Parent Teacher Student Association hosted a last dance in the old gymnasium before the demolition of the building — at 3688 Chamblee Dunwoody Road — during the December winter break and the January move to the new academic building. The December 13 event included a jazz café followed by the last dance, with proceeds going toward supplies and equipment in the new school. Multi-generation families were among those on hand.

“While an era is ending with the demolition of the old school house, a new generation of students is preparing to start learning in a new 21st century schoolhouse — a place where the Chamblee community can come together and build new traditions,” says former Chamblee Governance Council Chair Belinda Wedgwood.

Chamblee High is set to celebrate its centennial in 2017.

More info:  
[www.chambleehighbulldogs.com](http://www.chambleehighbulldogs.com)



# A ROUND CHAMBLEE

## From Code Enforcement

**C**ode Enforcement has seen an increase in the number of remodeling jobs on residential homes within the city limits. As some of this remodeling was done without a permit, Code Enforcement is reminding all residents that applications for building permits can be obtained from Chamblee City Hall at 770-986-5010 or downloaded from the City of Chamblee website.

### SEC. 217. BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED.

No building or other structure shall be erected, moved, added to, demolished, or structurally altered and no grading or other alteration of the land shall commence without a building permit issued by the city manager. No building permit shall be issued for work in the city except in accordance with the provisions of this zoning ordinance.

(Ord. No. 545, 8-15-06)

### SEC. 218. APPLICATION FOR BUILDING PERMIT.

All applications for building permits shall be made to the city manager. Any permit which indicates that the proposed construction or improvement cost will exceed \$100,000.00; or which involves schools, auditoriums, or other buildings intended for the mass assemblage of people; or which involves group housing projects, whether they are single, double or multifamily, shall be accompanied by complete plans. Such plans shall be drawn to scale and shall have been prepared by an architect, engineer, landscape architect or land surveyor whose state registration is current and valid, and whose seal shall be affixed to the plan submitted.



## Smart 911: Be Smart About Your Safety

**N**o one plans to call 9-1-1, but you can plan ahead thanks to the City of Chamblee. You can sign up for Smart911 and create a Safety Profile for your household to give 9-1-1 valuable information about yourself, family members, your home, pets and even vehicles that will automatically display on the 9-1-1 call taker's screen when you make an emergency call.

Smart911.com is private and secure and you control what information is in your profile. The only time a profile is seen is when you call 9-1-1. Your Safety Profile immediately displays to 9-1-1 call takers, which allows first responders to assist you

faster and more effectively.

These details can save seconds or even minutes during an emergency.

Seconds count when...

- A child goes missing.
- There's a fire.
- You experience a medical emergency.
- There's an accident at home, or on the job.
- You are in a vehicle accident.



Seconds save lives. Sign up today at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com).

### HOW DOES SMART911 HELP?

With Smart911, first responders are aware of critical medical information like a heart condition or fatal allergy. Police can have immediate access to a missing child's photo and firefighters know critical household details like bedroom locations or if there are pets in the home.

### HOW DOES SMART911 WORK?

Residents create a free Safety Profile at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com). The Safety Profile is stored in a secure database and if the resident calls 9-1-1, their Safety Profile will appear on the 9-1-1 call taker's screen.

### HOW DO I CREATE A SMART911 SAFETY PROFILE?

The process is quick and easy! Visit [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com) and click Sign Up to get started. Don't wait. Create your Smart911 Safety Profile today.

Smart911 is a free service provided by the City of Chamblee.

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## Chamblee Business Association

**F**or the January 16 meeting of the Chamblee Business Association, Chamblee City Manager R. Marc Johnson will serve as keynote speaker.

Johnson, with representation from the Police Department, will speak regarding the new annexation, general direction of Chamblee, and tips on how to keep your business secure in 2014.

CBA meetings are open to the public. Meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month at the Chamblee Civic Center at 3540 Broad Street. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast, and the program begins at 8 a.m. There is no charge for first-time guests; costs are \$10 for returning guests and \$5 for members.

Also, CBA holds its monthly Business after Hours networking event on the second Tuesday of each month; January's Business after Hours is set for January 14 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. [www.chambleebusinessassociation.com](http://www.chambleebusinessassociation.com)

# A ROUND CHAMBLEE

## Parks and Recreation

For additional information regarding Parks and Recreation activities, contact Joel Holmes at [jholmes@chambleega.com](mailto:jholmes@chambleega.com) or (770) 986-5016.

Want to get a great aerobic workout in a fun-filled environment? Zumba is a great cardio exercise that moves to Latin-inspired music. For more information visit [ZumbaAtlanta.com](http://ZumbaAtlanta.com).

### ZUMBA CLASSES

Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

January 13 to March 31

Keswick Park Community Building

Class Pricing: 12-week series

Full Series \$100; Four-class card \$48

Walk-in \$15



### ZUMBA® KIDS COMING TO CHAMBLEE

Classes held **Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.**

For ages four to 11

**ZUMBA® KIDS.** Designed exclusively for kids ages four to 11, Zumba Kids classes are rockin', high-energy fitness parties packed with specially choreographed, kid-friendly routines and all the music kids love, to include hip hop, reggaeton, cumbia and more. Parents love Zumba Kids because of the effects it has on kids — such as increasing their focus and self-confidence, boosting metabolism and enhancing coordination.

### BOOT CAMP CLASSES

Try a month for free before you decide to commit!

Location: Keswick Park (meet at Community Building)

Schedule:

**Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturdays at 9 a.m.**



Classes are led by Charles Palmer and Franklyn Brown, local certified instructors.

### YOGA

Level 1-2 Hatha

Yoga Class

**Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.**

Keswick Park Community Building, 3496 Keswick Drive

\$10 per class for walk-ins

Instructed by Marlene Bogoslawsky

This class is appropriate for most (including beginners) and consists of gentle stretching combined with standing poses for strength and a moderate vinyasa (flow) practice for stamina.



### CREATIVE DRAMATICS

Spring Classes, Mondays

- 3:15 p.m. to 4 p.m. Creative Dramatics (ages three to five)

- 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Musical Theatre: Willy Wonka (ages six to 12)

- 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Acting (ages eight to 12)

Class Dates, Spring:

**Mondays, January 13 to May 12**

(no class on January 20, February 17 or April 7)

**Class Pricing**

Tuition is due at time of registration.

Siblings save 10 percent.

One class: \$225

Two classes (per child): \$350

### DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

**February 8, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Chamblee Civic Center

Cost: \$30 for one couple (additional daughters \$5 each)

For young ladies up to age 13 or eighth grade, this

annual semi-

formal event is full of fun for daddies and daughters. Come prepared for an evening of food, music, dancing, games and a good time! Reservations must be made in advance. Make your reservation by visiting [www.chambleega.com](http://www.chambleega.com).



### YOUTH SPORTS

Registration begins January 13.

Volunteer coaches receive one free registration for the season. Contact

Parks and Recreation if you are interested in serving as a volunteer coach.

### YOUTH BASEBALL

Resident Fee: \$60 Non-resident Fee: \$90  
Uniforms are included in fees.

For children ages three to eight years old.

### YOUTH SOCCER

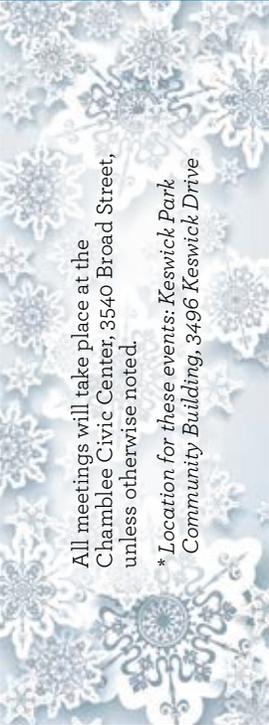
For children ages four to 15. Uniforms are included in fees.

Age	Resident Fee	Non-Resident Fee
Under 6 (U6)	\$60	\$90
Under 8 (U8)	\$65	\$95
Under 10 (U10)	\$70	\$100
U12	\$85	\$115

## Chamblee Seniors Breakfast Club

The Chamblee Seniors Breakfast Club will resume its monthly meetings starting back in spring 2014. More info: Evelyn Kennedy, 770-451-4891; 404-226-7843 or Becky Craven, 770-457-3834; 404-405-6719

# JANUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		 <p>All meetings will take place at the Chamblee Civic Center, 3540 Broad Street, unless otherwise noted. * Location for these events: <i>Keswick Park Community Building, 3496 Keswick Drive</i></p>	<b>1</b> New Year's Day City Offices Closed	<b>2</b> Recreation Advisory Committee 7 p.m., Keswick Park Community Building	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Boot Camp,* 9 a.m. Chamblee City Council planning retreat, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>7</b> Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m. Architectural Advisory Review Board, 7 p.m., City Hall	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>10</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Registration begins: Spring Youth Soccer and Youth Baseball Creative Dramatics, 3-15 p.m., Keswick Park Community Building Zumba class,* 7:30 p.m.	<b>14</b> Zumba Kids, 4:30 p.m., Keswick Park Community Building Chamblee Business Association, Business after Hours, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>15</b> Yoga,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>16</b> Chamblee Business Association meeting, 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Public Hearing and Work Session, 6 p.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Compost and Recycle 8 a.m. to noon, 3210 Cumberland Drive Boot Camp,* 9 a.m.
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day City Offices Closed Creative Dramatics,* 3-15 p.m. Zumba class,* 7:30 p.m.	<b>21</b> Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Zumba Kids, 4:30 p.m. Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Boot Camp,* 9 a.m.
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Creative Dramatics,* 3-15 p.m. Court, 6 p.m. Zumba class,* 7:30 p.m.	<b>28</b> Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m., City Hall Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>29</b> Yoga,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>30</b> Zumba Kids, 4:30 p.m. City Council special called meeting, 6 p.m. Court, 6 p.m. Boot Camp,* 6:30 p.m.	<b>31</b>	

# COMMUNITY NOTES

## News From Public Works

### PUBLIC WORKS RETURNS TO FIVE-DAY WORK WEEK

**S**tarting January 1, 2014, Chamblee's Public Works Department will return to a five-day work week. For several years, Public Works had operated on a four-day work week. The new schedule is Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you have questions, please call 770-986-5019.

## RECYCLE SCHEDULE

**P**lease remember that recyclable materials are collected on the last pickup day of the week. If your trash is picked up on Monday and Thursday, your recycle day is Thursday. If your trash is picked up on Tuesday and Friday, your recycle day is Friday. If you only get one pickup on holidays, that will be your recycle day. Please call the Public Works Department with any questions at 770-986-5019.



City of Chamblee  
5468 Peachtree Road  
Chamblee, GA 30341

## 2014 RESIDENTIAL HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

**New Year's 2014** — Closed Wednesday, January 1

**Week of Dec. 30** — No change

**MLK Jr. Day** — Closed Monday, January 20

**Week of Jan. 20** — M to Th will be T to Th; T to Fri will be W to Fri

**Presidents' Day** — Closed Monday, February 17

**Week of Feb. 17** — M to Th will be T to Th; T to Fri will be W to Fri

**Memorial Day** — Closed Monday, May 26

**Week of May 26** — M to Th will be T to Th; T to Fri will be W to Fri

**Independence Day** — Closed Friday, July 4

**Week of June 30** — M to Th will be M to W; T to Fri will be T to Th

**Labor Day** — Closed Monday, September 1

**Week of Sept. 1** — M to Th will be T to Th; T to Fri will be W to Fri

**Veteran's Day** — Closed Tuesday, November 11

**Week of Nov. 10** — M to Th no change; T to Fri will be W to Fri

**Thanksgiving** — Closed Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28

**Week of Nov. 24** — M to Th will be M only; T to Fri will be T only

**Christmas** — To Be Determined

**Week of Dec. 22** — To Be Determined

Recyclable materials will be collected on your last pickup day of the week.

M = Monday, T = Tuesday, W = Wednesday, Th = Thursday, Fri = Friday