



*Find out what you can do in the
Albany area to help the environment!*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

WHAT IS KEEP ALBANY-DOUGHERTY BEAUTIFUL?

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful (KADB) is a joint venture of the Albany City Commission and the Dougherty County Commission.

KADB is one of more than 700 certified affiliates of Keep American Beautiful, Inc., which is a non-profit public education organization, dedicated to environmentally improving communities.

KADB works through its standing committees, local businesses and industries, and interested civic and governmental groups to identify, develop, and coordinate programs that address relevant community environmental issues. We believe that, through education and community involvement, we will encourage a sense of pride and responsibility in all citizens which will promote a cohesive and more environmentally responsible community.

KADB special projects include: The Great American Cleanup, Duncan D. Trash Litter Containers, Adopt-A-Highway, Electronic Recycling, Adopt-A-Launch, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Spot, America Recycles Day, Tree Plantings, Arbor Day, Earth Day, Duncan D. Trash, Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, Recycling Drop-Off Sites, Litter Free School Zone, Office Recycling, Operation Pill Drop, Make A Difference Day, Rivers Alive, Water Festival, and Graffiti Abatement.

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful can be reached at PO Box 4868, Albany, GA 31706 or 2106 Habersham Road, Albany, GA 31701 or by calling (229) 302-3098, Facebook and www.dougherty.ga.us.

KADB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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KADB OFFICE STAFF

Jwana L. Washington
Executive Director

LaVerne Levins
Project Manager

Margaret Mims
Administrative Assistant

CITY TRASH COLLECTION REGULATIONS



As a result of **STATE LAW**, the Dougherty County Landfill can no longer bury mixed debris in the landfill. The landfill must handle each type of debris differently, so...

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY.

The **LAW** requires **YOU** to separate all items that you are discarding. Items **MUST** be separated into separate piles. Items to be separated are:

1. **Tires.**
 2. **Wood and Yard Trimmings** (boards, plywood, all untreated wood materials, leaves, grass, limbs, etc.).
 3. **White Goods and Metals** (stoves, refrigerators, etc.).
 4. **Brown Goods** (sofas, chairs, furniture, etc.).
- The ordinance affects all **Residential** and **Commercial** customers.
You MUST separate items that you place for pick-up.

- If you do not separate your trash, **IT WILL NOT** be picked up.
- If you mix yard trimmings (leaves, grass, etc.) with your household garbage, it will **NOT** be picked up.
- If your yard trimmings contain paper or aluminum cans, it will **NOT** be picked up.
- If you mix yard trimmings with **ANY** material other than yard trimmings/ wood, it will **NOT** be picked up.
- Yard trimmings (leaves, grass, limbs, etc.) may **NOT** be bagged. Limbs should be cut no longer than 6 feet in length

DO NOT PLACE YOUR YARD TRIMMINGS
in rollout trash receptacle or in a metal dumpster.

WHEELED GARBAGE CONTAINERS

Wheeled Garbage Containers shall be placed at the curb or designated location not earlier than 5:00 PM the day before and not later than 7:00 AM on the day of the designated garbage pick-up. The container shall be returned to the side or rear of the building no later than 7:00 PM on the designated garbage pick-up day.

**HOME COMPOSTING IS A YARD TRIMMING OPTION THAT
KEEP ALBANY-DOUGHERTY BEAUTIFUL RECOMMENDS.
CALL (229) 302-3098 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

DID YOU KNOW ...

It is unlawful to place **signs** of **ANY KIND** within the right-of-way of any public street or highway. Signs attached to **utility poles**, as well as free standing signs placed on public property, are placed there illegally.

Citizens can assist by advertising only on their

property and/or by using local media outlets.

Businesses can assist by instructing their lawn care employees to remove all illegally placed signs that about their property.

KADB designed a city sign to remind citizens not to post signs on public right-of-ways.



TREE ORDINANCE
It is illegal to remove trees on any **COMMERCIAL** property without a **PERMIT**.
It is also illegal to remove or alter public trees located on right-of-ways.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING A PERMIT,
CALL THE CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AT: (229) 883-6955**

LITTER

Facts & Figures

- Tobacco products comprised about 38% of all litter on roadways in the U. S.
- Pedestrians contribute to over 98% of all litter at leisure areas such as parks, beaches, and other areas. And most roadway litter – 76% - appears to originate from motorists and pedestrians. Individual actions by motorists (52%, pedestrians (22.8%), improperly covered trucks and cargo loads (16.4%), and other behaviors are the source of roadway litter.
- The indirect costs of litter on quality-of-life are considerable. Indirect costs include the degree to which litter reduces the value of real estate, deters a customer from entering a business, or a new employer from locating to a community. To measure these impacts of litter, the 2009 KAB study surveyed homeowners, realtors, and business development officials.
- The presence of litter in a community decreases property value by 7%.
- Of homeowners surveyed, 40% believe that litter reduces home values by 10% to 24%.
- 55% of realtors think that litter reduces property values by about 9%.
- Storm drains attract a significant amount of litter, which ultimately ends up in our waterways.
- On average, there are 6,700 pieces of litter per mile on U. S. roadways each year.
- Fast-food packaging represents about 5% of all litter in the U. S.
- Vacant properties cost city governments anywhere from \$5,000 to \$35,000 per property.
- Each year, at least 8 million tons of plastics leak into the ocean. That figure is equivalent to dumping the contents of one garbage truck into the ocean every minute.
- Keep America Beautiful affiliates across the U. S. clean, beautify, and improve over 100,000 miles of roads, parks, shorelines, and waterways each year.
- Recreational sites that are well landscaped and near residential areas are less likely to have litter. To prevent litter: make proper disposal convenient and accessible, provide sufficient trash, ash, and recycling receptacles, ensure consistent and ongoing cleanup efforts, and make the most of awareness and motivational campaigns.
- With the vast increase in plastic use over the past few decades, the amount of plastic in the litter stream has increased over 165%.



Easy Ways to Keep YOUR Neighborhood Clean

Lead by example and don't litter!
The less litter in an area, the more likely people will keep it clean.



- Set a goal to pick up a piece of litter every day.
- Keep the front of your home and surrounding areas clean and inviting with flowers, plants and wreaths. Don't forget to mow your lawn!
- Teach children to properly dispose of litter and to recycle.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Organize a community initiative – community garden, neighborhood watch group, yard sale, etc.
- Place a litter bag or box in your vehicle and cover your pickup loads to prevent littering.
- Adopt your road and keep it clean.
- Keep storm drains free of all debris.
- Revitalize or clean up a local park.
- **Report graffiti to KADB at (229) 302-3098.**
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by carpooling or using public transportation.
- Report junk vehicles to 311.
- Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other.
- Use reusable bags when shopping to reduce waste.
- Properly dispose of cigarette butts.

Always recycle on the go....

Hold on to your recyclables until you can get to a recycling container.



RECYCLING DROP-OFF SITES

WEST ALBANY

2521 Meredyth Drive
At Fire Station #6

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
& 12:30 - 5:30 p.m.
& Saturday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

DOWNTOWN ALBANY

At The Intersection of Front Street and Mercer Avenue Behind The James H. Gray, Sr. Civic Center
Hours: Monday-Friday,
8:30 - 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 - 5:30 p.m.
& Saturday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

BALLOONS...

DON'T LET THEM GO!



- When a balloon is let go, it will float away, only to burst or deflate & return to pollute the Earth
- Balloons can travel thousands of miles, polluting the most remote & pristine places. Once they do, they become a danger to any animal that comes in contact with it.
- Birds, whales, sea turtles, bighorn sheep, & other wild & domestic animals have been killed by balloons.
- When an animal swallows a balloon, it can block its intestinal tract, leading to starvation.
- Sea turtles & other marine creatures are known to confuse balloons as jellyfish.
- Ribbons and string that are sometimes attached to
- Balloons can cause entanglement & death.
- Falsely-marketed as "biodegradable", latex balloons contain chemicals and can take years to break down.
- Mylar/foil balloons can cause dangerous power outages & spark fires. They can also take several years to break down.
- Helium is a non-renewable resource & experts warn it should be conserved for more important applications.
- There are environmentally friendly alternatives that will not pollute the Earth or harm animals...blow bubbles; plant potted plants (a symbol of beginnings); plant trees, gardens, build birdhouses or organize a butterfly release.

Always be sure that the choices you make protect the planet that we all share.

For more alternatives, facts & photos, visit:

BalloonsBlow.org

Illegal Dumps

Illegal dumping is the unlawful disposal of everything from household trash, yard waste, furniture, junk, construction/demolition materials, and tires in any area other than an approved disposal site. **ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A CRIMINAL ACT.**

Illegal dumping is not only unsightly, but it's a serious environmental problem that creates health hazards.

Public awareness, education, and enforcement are the key to addressing this growing problem. It will take a concerted effort on the part of individuals, businesses, and government working together at the grass roots level to effectively deal with illegal dumping.

To report information on illegal waste hauling or dumping, call the code enforcement department at 438-3928. To assist you in describing the incident you witnessed, the following details outline the type of information that code enforcement officials need.

1. What happened?



2. **Where did the activity take place?** (Name of the highway, road, street or nearest intersection)

3. **When did the activity occur?** (Time and date)

4. **What kind of vehicle was involved?** (A pick-up truck, dump truck, van, make of vehicle, color, license number)

5. **How many people were in the vehicle?** Describe them. (Race, sex, approximate age)

6. **Describe the person who physically did the illegal dumping.** (Race, sex, age, weight, height, hair, etc.)

You should **NEVER** approach anyone you suspect of a criminal act. It is more important for you to provide accurate details of the offense to enforcement officials.

What Is Litter?

Litter is misplaced, improperly handled, un-containerized solid waste. When it's bagged and placed in closed receptacles, waste cannot become litter!

Where Does Litter Come From?

The seven main sources of litter are:

1. Household trash
2. Commercial and business trash
3. Loading dock refuse
4. Construction site material
5. Uncovered trucks hauling loose materials
6. Motorists
7. Pedestrians

From these sources, litter is carried in every direction by wind, water, and traffic. It moves until trapped by a curb, wall, fence, a row of trees, a building, or other stationary object. Once trapped, litter becomes not only an eyesore, but an invitation for people to add more.

Why Do People Litter?

- Research has shown that the main factor attributed to littering is attitude. People feel that it's okay to litter in certain situations.
- Where litter is cleaned up periodically (Shopping center parking lots or theatres, for example)

- Where they feel no sense of ownership (As in public parks, on city streets, or rented homes)
- Where there is already an accumulation of litter (At illegal "dumps" or where litter is trapped)

Ways You Can Help:

- Report problem areas that need to be cleaned up.
- Involve your business or organization in a clean-up project.
- Organize a neighborhood clean-up. Keep Albany-Dougherty beautiful will help you with the planning.
- Containerize all Waste
- Making sure your outdoor receptacles are securely closed will prevent spillage and spreading. Work with city collection agencies when handling large items, brush, leaves and other special materials.
- Don't add to the problem
- Remember, keeping our community beautiful is a job for each of us. No matter where you are, please put waste material in proper trash receptacles, or carry it with you until you find a container.
- Join Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful for the city's annual community-wide litter clean-up event held on the **THIRD SATURDAY** in April. Participants receive a **FREE** t-shirt, gloves and trash bags. Call (229) 302-3098 to register.



Volunteering can be a beautiful thing



We cordially invite you to join our team of dedicated volunteers making this community a beautiful place to live, work and play.

Through education and hands-on citizen involvement. Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful encourages a sense of community pride and personal responsibility.

To volunteer, call
229-302-3098

2106 Habersham Road, Albany

Keep
Albany-
Dougherty
Beautiful



The catch basins located throughout our city blocks are meant to capture rain water **ONLY**. When leaves and other debris are placed in the system, they clog up our only means of diverting rain water from our roadways.

Please assist by not block-

ing the drainage system with leaves or other debris and by not disposing of **ANYTHING** in the system. All materials collected in the drainage system return to **OUR** water supply...untreated.

Failure to comply with these regulations will result in a monetary penalty.

PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

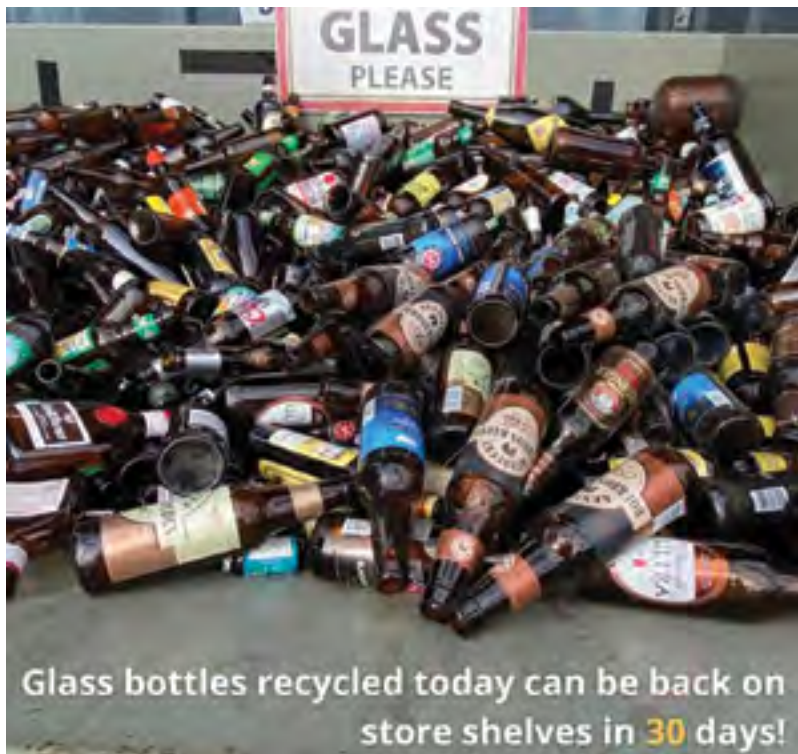
MAY 11, 2024 – 9:00 AM



Civic Center Back
Parking Lot

**FREE
Onsite**

Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful
River Mill Data Management



HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OUTDATED/UNWANTED MEDICATIONS NEVER FLUSH MEDICATION

Medications thrown in the trash can leach into the environment, flushed drugs can kill bacteria that break down waste in our waste water treatment plant, medications can damage septic systems, and can contaminate nearby waterways and harm aquatic wildlife.

The Albany Dougherty Drug Unit partners with KADB every September to host “Operation Pill Drop”. The event gives citizens an opportunity to properly dispose of unwanted/outdated medications. The 2022 event will take place on **September 10th** from 9:00 til 1:00 in the back parking lot of the Civic Center.

A permanent medication drop off box is located on the first floor of the Judicial building at 225 Pine Avenue.



BUSINESS RECYCLING

RECYCLING IN THE WORKPLACE is a responsibility that every business needs to accept. Set the example...commit to improve our environment by signing up today. Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful can tell you how to recycle and what to recycle. Participants receive **FREE** desk recycling containers, a window/door decal denoting that you recycle, and a recycling certificate.

To sign up, call **(229) 302-3098** or complete the online form.

albanyherald.com

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO REDUCE WASTE IN THE OFFICE?

You can reduce the amount of waste generated in your office by following these guidelines for reusing and recycling. Not only will you be helping the environment, you’ll be saving your company money!

Actions speak louder

- Making double-sided copies and setting the copier to duplex as the default
- Using e-mail for correspondence
- Printing drafts in a lighter font
- Using reusable envelopes for internal mail
- Using a reusable mug for coffee
- Purchasing condiments such as sugar and creamer in bulk instead of individual serving packages
- Posting personnel or human resource information (e.g., phone directory and annual benefits packages) electronically
- Providing a short lesson on how to use various pieces of office equipment to avoid excess waste generated by trial and error
- Using the least toxic correction fluid or correction tape
- Reducing the image so that two pages can be copied on one page often called “image combination”
- Using Post-it® fax notes instead of a fax cover sheet
- Copying on demand instead of mass copying

- Circulating one copy of a document or memo rather than making multiple copies

Donate or Reuse?

Before you recycle or throw away an item, check to see if it can be reused.

Donate

- Furniture, computers, binders, and styrofoam peanuts to a non-profit or school.
- Attach a piece of clear tape before you place a label on a file folder – when you want to use the folder again, simply remove the old label and replace it with a new one.

Reuse

- “Half-used” paper (or paper that has information only one side and is blank on the other side) to print drafts.
- Store excess office supplies in a central location.
- Check to see if the item you are throwing away can be recycled. Many items commonly found in an office are recyclable.

Buying Recycled

Close the loop by purchasing recycled content products.

There are thousands of products made with recycled content including: clothing, soda bottles, pencils, insulation, index cards, mouse pads, mulch, playground equipment, steel appliances, carpet, and paper.

MATERIAL THAT CAN BE RECYCLED IN ALBANY

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| • shredded & non-shredded | • paper printer cartridges |
| • plastic bottles | • corrugated cardboard |
| • aluminum cans | • Glass |
| • newspaper | • Batteries |
| • magazines | • paperboard |
| • toner cartridges | • electronics |

Climate Change Impacts on Urban Trees in USDA Zone 8b (15 TO 20° F) by 2050

By Ili Si Malone, ISA Certified Arborist SO-5772A, GA Registered Landscape Architect LA 546,
GA Commercial Pesticide Applicator License #10076, City Arborist, Engineering Department, City of Albany

In this article, we delve into the anticipated effects of climate change on urban trees in USDA Zone 8b, by the year 2050. Albany is located in USDA Zone 8b. Climate change remains a critical concern for the urban forestry community, as it has the potential to significantly alter urban forest ecosystems and disrupt traditional urban forest management practices. Predicting with absolute certainty which tree species will become extinct or be most affected by climate change in a specific region like USDA Zone 8b in Georgia by 2050 is challenging, as it depends on numerous factors including the pace of climate change, local conditions, and the ability of species to adapt. However, we can make some educated assessments based on current scientific understanding and trends. The following are seven key talking points on how climate change is likely to affect trees in this region:

1. Shift in Species Composition

Climate models project that by 2050, USDA Zone 8b in Georgia will experience higher temperatures and altered precipitation patterns. These changes may lead to a gradual shift in the dominant tree species within this zone. Species more tolerant of heat and drought, such as southern pines like Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*) and Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*), could become more prevalent, while some existing species, particularly those adapted to cooler and wetter conditions, may face decline or migration. For example, species like Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and Fraser Fir (*Abies fraseri*) could be at risk due to rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns. Some species with broad ecological tolerances, like Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) and Sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), may be better equipped to adapt to a changing environment and could increase in abundance. Invasive species, which often thrive in disturbed environments, may become more problematic as climate change leads to increased disturbances like storms and wildfires. Long-lived trees may have limited capacity to adapt quickly to changing conditions, making them susceptible to decline or extinction.

2. Increased Pest and Disease Pressure

Warmer and more humid conditions can create favorable environments for various pests and diseases that can harm trees. Arborists in Zone 8b should be prepared for increased pressure from pests such as Southern Pine Beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*) and disease like fusiform rust (*Cronartium quercuum* f.s.p. *fusiforme*). As temperatures rise, certain pests and pathogens that were previously limited by cold temperatures may expand their ranges northward into Zone 8b. This can expose urban trees to new threats that they have not historically encountered. Warmer temperatures can accelerate the life cycles of many pests, leading to increased populations levels and potentially more frequent infestations. This can weaken trees and make them more susceptible to damage. Implementing proactive monitoring and management strategies will be essential to mitigate these threats.

3. Altered Growth Rates and Phenology

With changing climate conditions, trees are expected to exhibit altered growth rates and phenological patterns. Phenology is the study of cyclic and seasonal phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life. Longer growing seasons and milder winters may lead to earlier bud burst, flowering, and leaf senescence. Understanding these changes is crucial for effective forest management, including timber harvesting, as they can impact wood quality and productivity.

4. Water Stress and Drought Resilience

Urban trees in Zone 8b will face increased water stress as a consequence of altered precipitation patterns and prolonged drought events. Arborists should focus on selecting drought-resistant tree species, implementing sustainable water management practices, and enhancing soil health to improve the overall resilience of their urban forest ecosystems.

5. Severe Droughts

The likelihood of severe drought events is expected to rise in Zone 8b due to climate change. These events can have devastating impacts on tree health and urban for-

est vitality. In addition, when trees lose too much water too quickly during a drought, air bubbles can form and prevent the transportation of water from the roots to the leaves, a process that can also result in death. Strategies such as soil moisture monitoring, drought-resistant tree species selection, and improved irrigation methods will be crucial to mitigate the effects of severe droughts.

6. Carbon Starvation

Rising atmospheric CO2 levels and extended growing seasons can lead to increased carbon demand by trees. Ensuring an adequate supply of essential nutrients and sustainable urban forest management practices will be essential to prevent carbon starvation, which can weaken trees and reduce their ability to sequester carbon effectively. Research shows that trees respond to the stress of drought by closing their stomata, the pores that let in carbon dioxide. This forces the tree to rely on stored sugars and starches, and if run out of those energy sources before the drought is over, they can die from carbon starvation.

7. Rising Temperatures

Higher temperatures can cause heat stress in trees, impacting their growth and survival. Implementing urban forest canopy management techniques, such as thinning and selective harvesting, can help mitigate the adverse effects of rising temperatures by reducing competition among trees for resources and allowing increased airflow and cooling within the urban forest.

What Can We Do to Help Reduce These Effects?

- Implement sustainable urban forestry practices that prioritize the selection of climate-resilient tree species.
- Collaborate with research institutions and urban forestry experts to develop adaptive management strategies tailored to Zone 8b's changing conditions.
- Promote responsible urban forest stewardship and educate stakeholders about the importance of climate-smart urban forestry practices.
- Support policies and initiatives aimed at

reducing greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the long-term impacts of climate change on urban forests.

How Will Trees Adapt to the Changing Environment and Climate?

Trees have evolved over millions of years, and many species possess inherent mechanisms for adapting to changing environmental conditions. Natural selection may favor individuals and populations that exhibit traits conducive to survival in a warming and more variable climate. However, human intervention, through informed management practices and selective breeding programs, can also play a crucial role in facilitating tree adaptation and enhancing urban forest resilience.

In summary, while it is challenging to predict which species will become extinct due to climate change, it is clear that many species will face increased stress and potential decline in USDA Zone 8b. Conservation efforts, adaptive management, and addressing the root causes of climate change are essential components of mitigating these effects.

Contact the City Arborist via telephone at 229.302.1893 or email at imalone@albanyga.gov.





Junk Car Removal

Did you know... **FREE JUNK CAR REMOVAL...** is available?

As a public service, the following salvage companies have agreed to remove abandoned or junk cars from private property **FREE** of charge.

AAA USED AUTO PARTS
1441 N. Washington Street
(229) 438-0460

GEORGIA PUBLIC BROADCASTING
Vehicle Donation Program
1 (877) 472-1227

IVEY'S USED AUTO PARTS
107 Johnny Aultman Road
(229) 776-3938

**NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION
OF GEORGIA**
1(800) 488-CARS (2277)

Auto owners can make arrangements to have their cars removed by calling one of the businesses listed above.

Let's Keep the Albany Scene Clean

Dougherty County Landfill



The Dougherty County-Fleming/Gaissert Road Municipal Solid Waste Landfill is located approximately four miles southeast of Albany, Georgia on Gaissert Road. The Landfill property consists of 601 acres with 215 acres adjoining for soil borrow material to support landfill operations. The first load of waste was received at the site in February 1983. The site consists of a closed Sanitary Landfill, an operational "Subtitle D" Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, a Construction/Demolition Waste Landfill, a solidification operation, a recycling station, a convenience center for public drop off of garbage and white goods and administrative offices. The Landfill also has an active gas extraction system that fuels a cogeneration plant which generates electricity and steam for the Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany (MCLB) operations. The green energy project has been operational since 2011 and allows the MCLB to produce approximately 20% renewable energy, which helps the base meet congressionally mandated goals for renewable energy. As a result, the project has won multiple awards including EPA's 2013 Energy Star Award. The Landfill is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm. The Landfill accepts waste generated in Dougherty County as well as out of county waste. Homeowners residing in Dougherty County can bring up to 250 pounds of garbage per day at no cost. Any additional garbage will be prorated up to the gate rate of \$38.97 per

ton. Credit cards, checks and cash are all acceptable methods of payment. Special conditions for certain residential waste are as follows:

- White goods such as stoves, refrigerators and freezers may be brought to the Landfill at no charge.
- All coolant must be removed from refrigerators and freezers before delivery.
- Solidify paint using absorbent (e.g., kitty litter) or sand prior to transporting to the Landfill.
- Tires cannot be commingled with solid waste and should be brought separately to the Landfill. There is a designated tire disposal area onsite that customers will be directed to place tires. A fee of \$1.00 per tire, \$4.00 per truck off-road tire and \$40.00 per farm tractor tire will be charged.

The Landfill does not accept lead acid batteries. Only non-hazardous waste may be disposed of at the Landfill. Any liquid waste or special waste must be approved prior to shipment to the Landfill. Asbestos customers must give 24 hours notice and is only accepted Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. For additional information or questions, please call (229) 420-1050.



Things To Know Before Clearing Land

Bradd Little, Dougherty County Public Works

If you're planning a land disturbance project in unincorporated Dougherty County, there are some things you need to know before you start. Some projects may require review and permitting before land disturbing activity can begin. This article will help to clarify when permitting may be needed.

The definition of Land Disturbing Activity in the Dougherty County Code of Ordinance is "Any activity on property that results in a change in the existing soil cover (both vegetative and nonvegetative) and/or the existing soil topography. Land disturbing activities include, but are not limited to, development, redevelopment, demolition, construction, reconstruction, clearing, grading, filling, and excavation."

The following land disturbance activities require an LDA permit in unincorporated Dougherty County: (1.) Land disturbing activity that disturbs one (1) or more acres of land. (2.) Land disturbing activity of less than one (1) acre of land if such activity is part of a larger common plan of

development that affects one (1) or more acres of land. (3.) Land disturbing activity of less than one (1) acre of land, if in the discretion of the Dougherty County Public Works department, such activity poses a unique threat to water (within 200 feet of the banks of a "State Waters"), or public health or safety.

If a project meets one of the criteria that require a LDA permit, the following items will need to be submitted to Dougherty County Public Works: (1.) A completed LDA permit. (2.) A \$100.00 LDA permit review fee check and a check for \$40.00 per disturbed acre rounded to the nearest 1/10th of an acre made out to Dougherty County. (3.) The relevant Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC) Erosion, Sedimentation, & Pollution Control (ES&PC) Checklist for the project. (4.) A copy of the Notice of Intention (NOI) and payment of \$40.00 per disturbed acre rounded to the nearest 1/10th of an acre that is submitted to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD). (5.) A full set of the ES&PC plans, with



grading and drainage showing existing and proposed conditions for the project. (6.) Hydrology/water quality calculations. (7.) A Topographical and Boundary survey. Additional items may be required for some site development projects. The additional items could include a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) encroachment permit, septic tank approval permit, and/or a Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreement.

A Land Disturbing Activity (LDA) permit is not required for all land disturbances. The exemptions are: (1.) Surface mining (2.) Granite quarrying (3.) Minor land disturbing activities (i.e., home landscaping, fences, and other activities that result in minor soil erosion) (4.) Construction of single-family homes (if the project disturbs less than one (1) acre and is not part of a common development. (5.) Agricultural operations (i.e., cultivation/harvest of crops, farm ponds, and livestock, dairy, or poultry operations) (6.) Forestry practices (7.) NRCS/USDA projects (8.) Projects disturbing less than one (1) acre (9.) Two lane road construction by a govern-

ment body. (10.) Utility projects conducted by EMCs or Public Utilities. (Note: Even exempted activities must conform to minimum Best Management Practices (BMP) for erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control.)

Dougherty County Public Works, as a Local Issuing Authority (LIA), is responsible for enforcing federal, state, and local laws that pertain to Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control. The primary goal of these laws is to protect the surface waters (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, and reservoirs) and ground water sources held within the aquifer system so that the citizens of Dougherty County and the rest of the country can enjoy safe, clean water. By complying with the LDA permitting process, owners/developers can help protect our water sources for all of us to enjoy. If you have any questions, or if you would like to know if your potential project may require permitting, please reach out to Dougherty County Public Works at (229) 430-6120. We will be glad to help answer any questions you may have about land clearing requirements within the county.



PROPER DISPOSAL OF PAINT

Household paints and solvents contain chemicals that can endanger our health and the environment around us if they are not disposed of **PROPERLY**.

KADB recommends that you:

- **ONLY** purchase the amount of paint that you need. The amount needed can be calculated after determining the number of square feet that you will be painting. If paint is left over, consider applying a second or third coat until all paint is used. Use left-over paint on odd jobs such as closets, the underside of steps, fences, dog houses, attics, etc.
- Donate usable paint to community outreach groups, schools, churches, theatre groups, or local shelters.
- Once the steel paint can is **EMPTY AND DRY**, you may reuse it... place it inside your roll out garbage container for disposal...or if it has **NO** paint residue you can **RECYCLE IT**.
- An alternative for the disposal of **LATEX PAINT**...remove the paint lid, or leave it on and punch holes in the lid, let the paint sit for two weeks in a dry area to allow the liquid to evaporate. The remaining dry

pigments are now solid and ready for disposal. (This process will **NOT** work with oil base paint.)

- You can blend **LATEX** and **OIL BASE** paints with kitty litter to absorb the paint. Allow to dry completely, then place it inside your roll out garbage container for disposal.
- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, and turpentine **CAN BE REUSED**. Place a lid on the container that you cleaned your brushes in...let the paint particles settle to the bottom of the container. After several days pour the liquid through a coffee filter into a clean, closeable container for reuse on a future project.
- **NEVER** pour latex or oil base paint on the ground or into a storm drain or catch basin. All materials collected in our drainage systems returns to our water supply...untreated.



GO GREEN!

at your festival or event

BRING RECYCLING TO A HIGHER LEVEL

IT'S EASY:

- **CALL** Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful @ 229-302-3098
- **to** reserve the **FREE** Away From Home Recycling Trailer
- **PICK UP** the trailer the day before your event
- **SET UP** the recycle and trash bins
- **COLLECT** the materials
- **DELIVER** the recyclables to a city recycle drop off site
- **RETURN** the trailer



How is stormwater polluted?

Our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) is a collection of structures, including catch basins, ditches, roadside inlets, and underground pipes. It is designed to allow stormwater to be conveyed directly to our rivers and streams, without being cleaned at our wastewater treatment plant. Illicitly (illegally) discharging anything that is not composed entirely of stormwater or uncontaminated groundwater into our MS4 causes water pollution and adverse impacts to our environment.

What are the dangers of improperly draining my pool or spa?

When drained into our MS4, pool and spa water is discharged directly into our local waterways polluting them with chemicals and other hazardous substances, such as algaecides, bromine, chlorine, muriatic acid, salt, diatomaceous earth (DE) powder and sand. These harmful chemicals can:

- Reduce overall water quality
- Harm aquatic life and plants
- Erode stream beds and banks
- Damage property and infrastructure

In addition to negatively impacting our environment and community, illicit discharges can impact homeowners legally. If you are a homeowner, please take the proper precautions and notify contractors of our City's restrictions. Homeowners are responsible for violations that occur on their property, which means they are responsible for any resulting fines or penalties. If you are a homeowner, please take the proper precautions and notify contractors of our City's restrictions.

How can I safely drain water from my pool and/or spa?

Step 1: Neutralize

- Neutralize pool chemical and additives, such as chlorine or bromine, with Sodium Thiosulfate or Pool-Grade Hydrogen Peroxide.
- Naturally dissipate pool chemicals by discontinuing the use of pool chemicals and exposing the pool water to direct sunlight for 7-10 days.
- Test the water to ensure that pool chemical levels are 0.01 mg/L (ppm) or less and the pH level is between 6.0 and 8.0.
- Ensure the water is clear and free of algae, sediment, sticks, leaves, or other pollutants.

Step 2: Discharge

- Use built-in connection to drain directly from the pool to the sanitary sewer cleanout.
- Use a pump and hose to drain water from the pool to a designated sanitary sewer connection.
- Drain the water over pervious, well-vegetated ground on the owner's property.

Don't forget!

- Never drain into storm drains; this pollutes local waterways and can harm aquatic wildlife and plants.
- Never drain into a septic system; this can cause a system failure.
- Never drain into a toilet; the water drains faster than the time needed for flushing and may overflow into your house.



Cigarette Butts are Litter! and they are toxic as well as unsightly

DID YOU KNOW ...

- Smokers discard BILLIONS of cigarette butts each year
- A large percent of cigarette butts are "tossed" directly into the environment
- Cigarette butts accumulate outside of buildings, in parking lots and on streets where they can be transported through our storm drains into our streams and rivers
- Cigarette filters look like cotton, but are made of cellulose acetate, a plastic that is slow to degrade in the environment
- A pack and a half a day equals more than 10,000 cigarettes a year. 10,000 cigarette butts is equivalent, in volume, to five liters
- Nicotine is a powerful insecticide and, in its pure form, among the deadliest of all plant products
- Tobacco residue, along with the toxic chemicals left in cigarette filters that are tossed as butts, quickly leach into our water supply
- Cigarette butts are the most common type of litter on earth
- Cigarette butts harm our environment

PLEASE DISPOSE OF CIGARETTE BUTTS PROPERLY

2024 FREE ELECTRONIC RECYCLING COLLECTION DAY

Our growing dependence on electronic products both at home and in the workplace has given rise to a new environmental challenge: electronic waste. Research indicates that electronic waste is growing at three times the rate of other municipal waste.

Electronic equipment contains metals and other materials that can become hazardous to human health and the environment if they are not properly managed.

- **Cadmium:** The largest source of cadmium in municipal landfills is rechargeable nickel-cadmium (NiCd) batteries, commonly found in laptop computers).
- **Lead:** Monitors and televisions contain a picture tube known as a cathode ray tube (CRT). The CRTs contain leaded glass, and are the largest source of lead in municipal landfills.
- **Mercury:** Electronic waste is a leading source of mercury in municipal landfills. Additionally, discarded electronic equip-

ment is a concern because electronics are made with valuable resources such as precious metals, engineered plastics, glass and other materials, all of which require energy to manufacture. When equipment is thrown away, these resources cannot be recovered and additional pollution will be generated to manufacture new products out of virgin materials.

Electronics account for 2 percent to 5 percent of landfill volume, but it contributes up to 70 percent of the toxins found in landfills.

A **FREE** e-recycling collection day will be held **September 14, 2024** to promote the proper disposal of unwanted electronic equipment.

Rain or shine, the electronics recycling collection will take place in the parking lot behind the James H. Gray Sr. Civic Center at the corner of Front Street and Mercer Avenue in downtown Albany from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

The following electronic items will be accepted at the events:

Test & Network Equipment	Keyboards	UPS/Battery Back-up
Stereos	Cameras (digital, too)	Cables
*Computer Monitors	Scanners	Portable Radios
Copiers	Record Players	CD ROMS
Computer CPU's	Electrical Panels	Projectors
Video Machines	CB Radios	Cell Phones
Laptops	Circuit Boards	Computer Mouse
VCR's	Speakers	*Televisions
Printers	Fax Machines	Telephone Modems
Camcorders	CD Players	
Disk Drives	Typewriters	

*There will be a **\$10.00** handling fee for each television set at the **September 14** event. The average TV set contains 4 pounds of lead, therefore, we do not want to place TV sets in the Dougherty County landfill. There will also be a **\$5.00** handling fee for each computer monitor.

Items not accepted include vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, washers, dryers, freezers, gas-powered equipment and all non-electronic equipment.

Business, industry, schools, hospitals and government offices can call (229) 302-3098 to schedule a pick-up of large quantities of electronics.



311 CALL CENTER

311 Non-Emergency Call Center
Mary Petty, 311 Director
Lisa Johnson, Manager
Tricia Borsdorf, Supervisor

The Albany/Dougherty 311 Call Center was created for the public to have one central point of contact for all local government services and general information for the City of Albany, Dougherty County and Albany Utility departments.

Our Mission is to provide the public with this free service allowing quick, easy access to all City of Albany, Dougherty County, and Albany Utility government services and information while maintaining the highest level of customer service by dialing one easy number 311.

The 311 Call Center is proud to participate in assisting citizens in striving to make our community a great place to live, work and play. The 311 Call center encourages all citizens and Neighborhood Watch Groups, to report issues requiring city or county action, reporting criminal activity such as unsightly graffiti. The 311 service prides itself on maintaining the highest level of customer service.

- Common 311 citizen calls include:**
- Where do I?**
- Report a Code Violation?
 - Go to pay a ticket?
 - Get an Albany Transit Schedule?
 - Report a Pothole?
 - Report a burned out street or traffic light?
- How Do I?**
- Obtain a birth certificate or marriage license?
 - Request yard debris removal?



Call Center:
Calls are answered by a live operators Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by dialing either 311 or 878-3111.

Website & New Mobile Application:
The 311 website www.311answers.com is available 24/7 as well as our mobile application. If you would like assistance in navigating through the web portion, or downloading the mobile application albanysga311, please call 311 and we'll give you a guided tour through our software.



*Stay
Safe
Albany*

EXTRA GARBAGE ROLL OFF CONTAINERS HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED

There is a roll off container located at the Meredyth Drive Recycling Site.
This is the only roll off container that accepts overflow of household items and debris.
This roll off is available during normal operating hours of the recycling site.

The following items are not meant to be placed in or around the container:

Yard debris – This will be picked up by your service provider **Appliances** – Call your service provider to schedule a day for pickup
Any debris generated from Commercial Businesses (I.e. Contractors and Landlords) - Call Public Works Solid Waste for information (229) 302-1800
Tires – Call Public Works Solid Waste for information (229) 302-1800 **Electronics** – Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful for Recycling (229) 302-3098.



Aluminum and Glass Recycling Facts

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS SAVINGS



1. Making beverage cans from recycled aluminum cuts air pollution by about 95%.
2. Tossing away an aluminum can wastes as much energy as pouring out half of that can's volume in gasoline.
3. Twenty recycled aluminum cans can be manufactured with the energy needed to produce just one can from virgin ore.
4. Mining raw materials for aluminum takes 20 times more energy than recycling aluminum.
5. Recycling aluminum saves more than 90% of the energy required to produce new aluminum products versus producing new metal from virgin ore.
6. Recycling 40 aluminum cans provides the energy saving equivalent of one gallon of gasoline.
7. Recycled glass reduces emissions and consumption of raw materials, extends the life of glass manufacturing equipment, such as furnaces, and saves energy.
8. Over one ton of natural resources are saved for every ton of glass recycled.



**KEEP ALBANY-DOUGHERTY BEAUTIFUL:
FROM EDUCATION TO APPLICATION**

Making A Difference

A SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL "TIP OF THE HAT"

The businesses listed below have joined environmental hands to set an example for our business community. They have committed to **RECYCLE** in their workplace.

2024 Recycling in the Workplace Participants

1 Key Realty, LLC	City Golf Course	Fleming & Riles Insurance
AB&T	City Human Resources	JR's Loving Care Services, Inc.
Albany Air Conditioning & Heating	City Manager's Office	Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful
Albany Auto Service, Inc.	City Municipal Court	Kirbo & Kirbo, PC
Albany Police Department	City Planning & Development Services	La Quinta Inn
Albany Utilities Customer Service	City Public Works	Department Labor Finders
Albany Utilities Mgt. Marketing	City Recreation & Parks	Logos Plus
Albany Utilities Operations	City Risk Management Department	MADlab
American Peanut Shellers Association	City Technology & Communications Department	Molson Coors Beverage Company
Artesian Federal Credit Union	City Transit	Raymond James & Associates
Bush Animal Clinic	City Warehouse	Reeves Construction Company
City - 311 Call Center	Clean Start, Inc.	Southern Commercial Materials
City Attorney's Office	Crown Networking Consultants, Inc.	SWGA Regional Airport
City Central Services Department	DOCOCO Driving School, Inc.	Technical Associates
City Community & Economic Development	Dougherty County - Administration	Theatre Albany
City Facilities Department	Dougherty County - Finance Dept.	Thronateeska Heritage Center
City Finance Department	Dougherty County Police Department	United Distributors, Inc.
City Fire Department	Dougherty County - Public Works	Ware Health Care Services
City Fleet Management	Dougherty County Farm Bureau	Watson Spence, LLP
	Dougherty County Solid Waste Department	
	Flint Riverkeepers, Inc.	

