

Brookland News

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First, I want to apologize for not getting the 2nd quarter newsletter out on time. The office has been busy, and time got away from me.

Let me start by saying several projects have been completed or are near completion.

First, Phase 1 (Brookland Police Department), of the Brookland Municipal Building has been completed. The Police Department had an open house on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, from noon until 3 pm. Though it was raining in the morning, the rain stopped after lunch and it was just cloudy during the open house. We hope that all that came out to view the new building were as proud of the facility as our city and police department are.

Phase 2 of the Holman Street sidewalk project is complete and all that is left on Phase 3 is putting the guard rail on the section that goes to Jessica Lane. Phase 4 and 5 have been approved and we hope to start on them later in the summer. Phase 6 has been applied for. If approved this will replace the old, dilapidated sidewalks that run east & west along W. Hinkley, W. Matthews and Lynch Streets. Application will be submitted in 2027 to start replacement and construction of new sidewalks on the east side of the city. We hope everyone will enjoy the sidewalks and get out and walk to the Craighead County

Brookland Branch Library and the Smith/Bernis City Park. Residents are encouraged to take a stroll around our town and see what a beautiful city we have.

Just a reminder to all that our street department is working hard to prepare our streets for the 2027/2028 State Aid Overlay projects. The drainage on Shirley Street has been completed. Next phase will be to prepare street bed for overlay. Work on East Hinkley is progressing and employees are installing underground culverts on the south side of the street to widen the street for the overlay. This summer while school is out on break, work on the intersection of E Hinkley and Eason St will begin. During this time E. Hinkley will be closed due to construction. This may take a week or longer due to the utilities in the intersection area. We want to thank you in advance for your patience. Once the E. Hinkley project is complete the street department will begin working on Eason St between E. Matthews and Maple Slough Ditch Bridge. Again, there will be closures or traffic flows may be down to a single lane at times. Please use caution when driving through a construction zone(s).

Now we need to discuss the projects that the city needs your help to finish. Storm Shelters/Sirens, Sewer Improvements and Extension,

Sports Plex, Phase 2 of the Municipal Building, a new city street north of Brookland Middle School, signal light with turn lanes at HWY 49 and Pine Log Road (CR 762) and School Street and HWY 49 intersection improvements. The City Council and I are looking at the restructuring of our current 2021 bond to raise the funds to complete these projects. Once we have decided on what we can do and the amount of money needed to complete these projects. Then it will go to you, the voters for approval at the November Election, and you the Citizens of Brookland will decide the issues. This WILL NOT change or increase taxes, only restructure the current bond.

Summertime is almost upon us. Please remember to obey the street speed limits and pay attention while driving our city streets. Children will be out walking, playing and get distracted and forget to watch for traffic. Let's make it a safe and happy summer.

Mayor Jones



SWIMMING POOL

REGULATIONS

The weather is getting warmer and everyone is starting to think about filling their pools for the summer.

This is a reminder that Ordinance 2008-17 requires that all swimming pools, 15" or more

in depth, have a fence of not less than four feet in height. Said enclosure shall be a minimum of four feet from any edge of the pool. A copy of this ordinance can be obtained at City Hall or viewed on the Ordinances page of the city website (cityofbrookland.com). If there are questions concerning the installation of a pool, please contact our inspection department.

**Brookland
Storm Shelter
is located at 407
Holman, beside
Brookland Police
Department**

Mowing around your Water Meter Reminder:

Brookland Utilities wants to remind everyone to pay attention to your water meters as you start mowing your yards this spring, and if you utilize a lawn service, make sure that they are also aware of the location of your water meter.

Brookland Utilities has radio-read water meters, and they sometimes sit up higher than the older style, and running a lawn mower over the top of them with the deck too low can damage the radio, cord, meter box and/or other meter components.

The City Council enacted Ordinance 2016-02, which states that repairs to damaged water meters is the responsibility of the owner/occupant. The repair/replacement costs are based on our current cost and can increase monthly. Property owners will be invoiced for the repair or replacement to the damaged meter components.

Remember to check your yard after it is mowed, and immediately report any meter damage to the lawn care provider. (A copy of this ordinance can be viewed on the city website cityofbrookland.com.)

The office will receive an alarm notification when the meter is not communicating with the billing software, and city workers will notify residents of any damage that is found.

Please be proactive and inform your mowing service of the location of your meter box, when you hire them; so they won't damage the meter while mowing your yard.



Fireworks Ordinance

Reminder

Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10am & 10pm on June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 3, and July 5. Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10am and will be extended until 12:30am (of the following day) on July 4.



INFORMATION REGARDING DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE AND LARGE ITEMS:

Residents may haul large items, such as tires, mattresses, electronic waste, furniture or appliances to Legacy Landfill which is located at 238 County Road 476, Jonesboro, AR. Their phone number is (870)972-6353 to obtain more

information on dumping fees. Another location is the Lake City Transfer Station, which is located at 12662 Highway 18 E., Lake City, AR. Their phone number is (870)237-8194

Residents may also contact Dedman's Sanitation to schedule a special trash pickup and find out the cost to have items picked up at (870)781-3754. This fee will be added to the monthly utility bill.

Shrub clippings, leaves and other yard waste may be hauled to the Jonesboro Yard Waste Incinerator located at 2650 Lacy Drive, Jonesboro. Contact their office at (870)932-7520 for hours and fees.



As we approach the summer months, we ask everyone to be aware that children will be out of school, which means more kids will be outside in the area. We ask that everyone please pay close attention while driving and help keep our community safe.

Brookland Police will also be working alongside other departments during the National Seat Belt Mobilization campaign. Officers will be out on the streets enforcing seat belt laws to help keep everyone safe while traveling this summer.

AR Code § 27-37-702

Each driver and front seat passenger in any motor vehicle operated on a street or highway in this state shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt properly secured to the vehicle.

AR Code § 27-34-104

(A) While operating a motor vehicle on a public road, street, or highway of this state, a driver who transports a child under fifteen (15) years of age in a passenger automobile, van, or pickup truck, other than one operated for hire, shall provide for the protection of the child by properly placing, maintaining, and securing the child in a child passenger restraint system properly secured to the vehicle and meeting applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards in effect on January 1, 1995.

(b) A child who is less than six (6) years of age and who weighs less than sixty pounds (60 lbs.) shall be restrained in a child passenger safety seat properly secured to the vehicle.

(c) If a child is at least six (6) years of age or at least sixty pounds (60 lbs.) in weight, a safety belt properly secured to the vehicle shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of this section.

Captain,
Janssen Settlemoir

Community Calendar:



04/07 – Planning Commission Meeting at 7pm

04/08 - Noon deadline for City Council Agenda

04/14 – City Council Meeting at 7pm

04/27 - Noon deadline for Planning Commission agenda



05/05 – Planning Commission meeting at 7pm

05/06 - Noon deadline for City Council agenda

05/10 – Happy Mother’s Day!

05/14 – City Council meeting at 7pm

05/25 – City offices will be closed for Memorial Day holiday

05/27 - Noon deadline for Planning Commission agenda



06/02 – Planning Commission meeting at 7pm

06/03 - Noon deadline for City Council agenda

06/09 – City Council meeting at 7pm

06/21 – Happy Father’s Day!

06/25 - Noon deadline for Planning Commission Agenda

Residential Stormwater Management

Stormwater runoff poses significant environmental challenges, but solutions like green infrastructure and community practices can effectively mitigate its impacts.

Problems Associated with Stormwater Runoff

1. Pollution: Stormwater runoff collects pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil, and debris as it flows over impervious surfaces like roads and parking lots. This contaminated water often enters local waterways without treatment, leading to nutrient pollution and harming aquatic ecosystems.

2. Flooding: Urban areas with extensive impervious surfaces can experience localized flooding during heavy rainfall. The rapid flow of stormwater can overwhelm drainage systems, causing property damage and disrupting local communities.

3. Erosion and Habitat Destruction: Increased runoff can lead to soil erosion and the degradation of natural habitats. This disrupts local flora and fauna, affecting biodiversity and ecosystem health.

4. Groundwater Depletion: When stormwater does not soak into the ground, it prevents

groundwater recharge, which is essential for maintaining water supplies and supporting ecosystems.

Solutions to Stormwater Runoff

1.Green Infrastructure: Implementing green infrastructure techniques can help manage stormwater effectively. This includes:

Rain Gardens: These are shallow, planted areas that capture and absorb runoff, filtering pollutants before they reach waterways.
Permeable Pavements: Using materials that allow water to seep through can reduce runoff and promote groundwater recharge.

Green Roofs: Vegetated roofs can absorb rainwater, reducing the amount of runoff and providing insulation.

2. Rainwater Harvesting: Installing rain barrels or cisterns to collect and store rainwater can help manage runoff and provide a water source for irrigation.

3. Community Practices: Educating communities about the importance of reducing runoff can lead to better practices, such as:

Proper Lawn Care: Reducing the use of fertilizers and pesticides can minimize the pollutants entering stormwater.

Maintaining

Vegetation: Planting trees and native plants can help absorb runoff and filter pollutants.

4. Policy and Regulation: Advocating policies that promote sustainable land use and stormwater management practices can lead to long-term solutions. This includes updating zoning laws to incorporate green infrastructure and improving stormwater management regulations.

By addressing the problems associated with stormwater runoff through these solutions, communities can protect their water resources, reduce flooding risks, and enhance local ecosystems.