

Brookland News

Published Quarterly - Vol. 19, Issue 3

July 2025

From the Mayor's Desk:

The Fourth of July is around the corner. Let's remember to be safe when celebrating the holiday with family and friends.

There were several street improvement projects that were completed in June. The streets were widened and overlaid using the State Aid Street Funds. The only thing left to be done is being striped. We have already applied for the next round of State Aid Street Funds. Streets on the list to be widened/overlaid in '27-'28 are South Oak, East Matthews, East & West Hinkley, Eason from East Matthews to Maple Slough Ditch and Shirley Street. We understand that State Aid Funding may be increased for the next cycle. If it changes, there could be more streets added.

The two small parks, East Ridge on Nelms Street, and Smith and Bernis Park are open. Fencing is the only item left to be completed, and it should be done soon. Brookland Sports Plex is still in a holding stage because of cost. The Brookland City Council and I looked at it trying to cut back on what was being built. We could not get one complete ball field and concession stand built for the money we have by doing it this way. However,

Governor Sanders, the Arkansas Senate, and the Arkansas Representatives made available to all cities of Arkansas a grant. This Grant can be applied for through the Arkansas Economic Development Community Assistance Grant Program. Our sports plex development met all the criteria for applying for this funding. If awarded the city could get funding that will complete road, parking, 3-little league ball fields, 2-T ball baseball fields, with lighting and fencing, walking trail, and concession stand. We are working with the East Arkansas Planning Development District to apply for this grant. Although our project is more than shovel ready, it is a grant, and we go through the process the same as other cities.

The Brookland Municipal Building will be where the Brookland Police Department and City Hall will be located. Phase 1 has started, which will house the Brookland Police Department. The PD has outgrown their current location. This facility is scheduled to be open in the spring of 2026.

Other projects for the future include a Veterans Memorial and Brookland Museum.

The Brookland Library Branch is a huge success. It gives our families/children a place

to go during the summer months while school is out. Several grownups use the library as well. The library also has computers available for use if you have a need. For scheduled events at the library please check out their website or drop by the Brookland Branch.

I hope everyone has had a chance to go by the future museum building at the corner of S Holman and W Hinkley and check out the "Welcome to BROOKLAND" mural. We are working with the Brookland School Art Class to get to the north wall of the library and the two storm shelter walls painted with murals also. This project is scheduled for September after school is back in session. We are excited to see the students, citizens, and visitors of Brookland use the mural as a photo opportunity.

As you can see, we have a lot going on in the City of Brookland. The Brookland Planning Commission meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month, and the Brookland City Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Both meetings are at Brookland City Hall 613 Holman 7:00 pm. Meetings are open to the public.

I pray everyone has a safe summer.

Mayor Jones



*Have a Safe and
Happy 4th of July
Holiday!*



Fireworks Ordinance Reminder

Fireworks may be discharged between the hours of 10 am & 10 pm 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.



REMINDER FROM DEDMAN'S SANITATION REGARDING DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE:

Dedman's Sanitation wants to remind residents about not putting yard waste and grass clippings in their trash carts. State law prohibits yard waste disposal at the solid waste management facility.

The City of Brookland's MS-4 Stormwater Permit, issued by ADEQ, also prohibits grass clippings from being placed in city ditches.

Residents can contact the Jonesboro City Incinerator at 870-932-7520 for their hours and fees, to haul the grass clippings to their site at 2650 Lacy Dr.



MOSQUITO CONTROL INFORMATION

Due to the recent heavy rains, the mosquito population has drastically increased.

Preparations for the 4th have begun and will continue until the fourth. Nightly spraying will increase as we move through the coming months to help battle the bugs. Individuals with major events planned for the 4th are welcome to call our office for extra treatment (870 933-6939). Please be aware this is not a door-to-door service so please use common sense when requesting. We are usually inundated with calls around the 4th so the earlier you call to schedule the better chance you have to get treated.

Have happy and safe 4th of July!

Jim Stark
VDCI

Regional Contract Supervisor
Vector Disease Control International



SWIMMING POOL REGULATIONS



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 can be viewed on the website.



Community Calendar: July



7/01 - Planning Commission
Meeting 7:00pm @ City Hall

7/04 - Happy Independence Day!

07/04 - City offices closed for
Independence Day Holiday

07/08 - City Council Meeting
7:00 pm @ City Hall

August



08/05 - Planning Commission
Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

08/12 - City Council Meeting
7:00 pm @ City Hall

September



09/01 - City Offices closed for
Labor Day Holiday

09/02- Planning Commission
Meeting 7:00 pm @ City Hall

09/09 - City Council Meeting
7:00 pm @ City Hall



DANGEROUS HEAT ADVISORY TIPS FOR OUTSIDE DOGS

Our area has already experienced a few days of extreme heat and humidity this summer. Hundreds of pets will die of heatstroke this year - don't let it be yours.

1. Be sure your pet has a shaded area all day long. Dogs cannot get cool in their dog houses.
2. Be sure your pet has cool water located in the shade all day long - consider changing it out 3 or 4 times a day.
3. Consider putting a kid's swimming pool with a couple of inches of water in the shaded area with the dog.
4. Take a 2 liter bottle, fill it 3/4 with water, add a few dog kibbles and freeze it. When frozen cut the plastic from around the ice and put the ice in a pan, in the water bowl or in the swimming pool.
5. Don't take your pet with you in your vehicle, especially in the back of a truck - the metal can burn their feet.

6. Be sure your pet has something other than concrete to lie on. Don't take them for walks. Concrete or asphalt can actually burn their feet.

BEST WAY TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE HEAT IS TO BRING YOUR PETS INSIDE. Put them in a crate or behind a baby gate until the weather cools.



24th Annual Brookland Christmas Parade

The 24th Annual Brookland Christmas Parade will be Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 2:00pm. The theme will be "Characters of Christmas". Mark the date on your calendars!



CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS



**6:30AM - 5:00PM
MONDAY-THURSDAY**



CLOSED FRIDAY

STORM WATER RUN-OFF

Clean Water Is

Everybody's Business

In urban and suburban areas, much of the land surface is covered by buildings and pavement, which do not allow rain and snowmelt to soak into the ground. Instead, most developed areas rely on storm drains to carry large amounts of runoff from roofs and paved areas to nearby waterways. The stormwater runoff carries pollutants such as oil, dirt, chemicals, and lawn fertilizers directly to streams and rivers, where they seriously harm water quality.

To protect surface water quality and ground water resources, development should be designed and built to minimize increases in runoff.

HOW URBANIZED AREAS AFFECT WATER QUALITY

Increased Runoff

The porous and varied terrain of natural landscapes like forests, wetlands, and grasslands traps rainwater and snowmelt and allows them to filter slowly into the ground. In contrast, impervious (nonporous) surfaces like roads, parking lots, and rooftops prevent rain and snowmelt from infiltrating, or soaking into the ground. Most of the rainfall and snowmelt remains above the surface where it runs off rapidly in unnaturally large amounts.

Storm sewer systems concentrate runoff into

smooth, straight conduits. This runoff gathers speed and erosional power as it travels underground. When this runoff leaves the storm drains and empties into a stream, its excessive volume and power blast out streambanks, damaging streamside vegetation and wiping out aquatic habitat. These increased storm flows carry sediment loads from construction sites. They often carry higher water temperatures from streets, rooftops, and parking lots, which are harmful to health and reproduction of aquatic life.

The loss of infiltration from urbanization may also cause profound groundwater changes. Although urbanization leads to great increases in flooding during and immediately after wet weather, in many instances it results in lower stream flows during dry weather. Many native fish and other aquatic life cannot survive when these conditions prevail.

Increased Pollutant Loads

Urbanization increases the variety and amount of pollutants carried into streams, rivers and lakes. The pollutants include:

- *Viruses, bacteria and nutrients from pet waste and failing septic systems*
 - *Road salts*
 - *Heavy metals from roof shingles, motor vehicles and other sources*
 - *Thermal pollution from dark impervious surfaces such as streets*
- These pollutants can harm fish and wildlife populations, kill native vegetation, foul drinking water supplies and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant.
- *Sediment*
 - *Oil, grease and toxic chemicals from motor vehicles*
 - *Pesticides and nutrients from lawn and gardens*