

Currents



NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE MACON WATER AUTHORITY

Capital City Bank Foundation Awards Grant to Macon Water Alliance

The Macon Water Alliance continues to celebrate its community partnership with Capital City Bank. During the October Meeting of the Alliance Board, representatives from the Capital City Bank Foundation presented a check for \$3,000 to the Macon Water Alliance, who submitted a grant application to the Foundation earlier this year.

The Capital City Bank Foundation placed no stipulations on the \$3,000 grant. Therefore, 100 percent of the grant dollars will be utilized to provide assistance for initiatives such as: community environmental education activities, plumbing repairs for disadvantaged local citizens, and the Water/Sewer Assistance Program. The latter is administered through a joint partnership with the Macon-Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services to assist customers in need with the payment of their water and sewer bills.



Representatives from Capital City Bank present a check for \$3,000 to the Macon Water Alliance after awarding the non-profit with a Community Grant from its Foundation.

In addition to receiving funding through grants, the Macon Water Alliance receives donations and

contributions from MWA customers and employees, as well as sponsors of events affiliated with the Alliance, such as the annual MWA Kids Fishing Derby and Ocmulgee Alive! MWA employees also offer in-kind services as volunteers on projects that would benefit from their professional expertise.

"The Macon Water Alliance was established as a non-profit to provide environmental awareness education as well as to assist our customers facing economic hardship," says Guy Boyle, MWA Executive Vice President of Business Operations and Chief Financial Officer. "The Alliance relies on the generosity of our customers and employees to provide financial resources that are used to assist customers in need. The Capital City Bank Community Grant is an additional source of funding for the Alliance that will go a long way toward helping families in Macon-Bibb County."

THANK YOU

A Special Thanks to the 2019 Supporters of Ocmulgee Alive!

"Clean Streets = Clean Streams = Clean Ocmulgee."

That is the theme of the 15th annual Ocmulgee Alive! River Cleanup Event on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019. This is one of the largest public outreach initiatives of the Macon Water Authority's non-profit – the Macon Water Alliance.

The success of this year's Ocmulgee Alive! Event can be attributed to these sponsors who provided contributions, volunteers and other means of support:



In addition, these participating groups and organizations did their part to make the river cleanup event a hit:

- ★ NewTown Macon
- ★ Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful
- ★ Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority
- ★ Macon-Bibb County Stormwater Program
- ★ Mount de Sales Academy
- ★ Altamaha Riverkeeper
- ★ Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park
- ★ Cub Scout Pack 170
- ★ Stratford Academy
- ★ Ocmulgee Outdoor Expeditions
- ★ Macon-Bibb County 4-H

For complete coverage, including photo galleries, from this year's Ocmulgee Alive!, check out our website at www.maconwater.org.

Ocmulgee Alive! Event Honors the Memory of YKK's Jim Spry

As the MWA, sponsors, and organizers made preparations for the 15th Annual Ocmulgee Alive! River Cleanup on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019, they did so with heavy hearts in remembrance of Jim Spry, who has been one of the event's long-time advocates.

James "Jim" Eldon Spry, who passed away on Friday, May 24, 2019, was the Director of Engineering, Quality and Environmental at YKK.

From the time he joined YKK USA in Macon in 2007, Jim became the face of the company in many community events and civic circles, none more so than as the point person in YKK's premier sponsorship of Ocmulgee Alive!

YKK was one of the first sponsors of the annual river cleanup event, helping to grow Ocmulgee Alive! into one of the largest and most impactful Rivers Alive-affiliated cleanups in the state of Georgia. More than 400 people volunteered for this year's event.

Jim worked closely with the MWA and Mark Wyzalek, the Authority's Director of

Laboratory and Environmental Compliance, as a champion for Ocmulgee Alive!

"Jim was instrumental in making Ocmulgee Alive! an annual success," says Wyzalek. "His direct involvement made a real difference. And his energy had a positive impact not only on fellow YKK employees but on all volunteers."

For the complete feature on Jim Spry, please check out our tribute within our news archives at www.maconwater.org.



Jim Spry (right), one of the most enthusiastic advocates for Ocmulgee Alive! since its beginning, was honored by his fellow employees at YKK during this year's event.

MWA Bond Refinancing to Save Approximately \$3 million

During its October Meeting, the MWA Board of Directors passed a Bond Resolution to provide for the issuance of Water and Sewer Refunding Revenue Bonds.

The Series 2020 Bond (Refunding) Issue is for a principal amount of \$30,495,000, which will provide funds to finance – in whole or in part – the cost of currently refunding and redeeming the Authority's outstanding (1) Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2010-B, (2) Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2011-A, and (3) Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2011-B.

This forward refunding will provide

the MWA with a significant savings in the interest and principal currently due on these three previous bond issues. The total savings is estimated at \$3.6 million, or \$3.26 million in present value savings.

"The (indicators to facilitate such a reissuance) were three times what's considered the minimum standard," says David Lucas, bond underwriter with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company.



SECOND FRONT

Macon Water Alliance Provides Donation for Environmental Field Trips

The Middle Georgia Center for Academic Excellence has an admirable goal to host four field trips per year for Bibb County students. Their most recent field trip was made possible thanks to a donation from the Macon Water Alliance.



The Middle Georgia Center for Academic Excellence hosted a field trip to the Amerson Water Treatment Plant, Rocky Creek Water Reclamation Facility, and the Amerson River Park, thanks to a donation from the Macon Water Alliance.

Following approval by the Alliance Board, the Middle Georgia Center for Academic Excellence received a donation to cover the costs of transportation and meals for more than a dozen middle school students to enjoy an Environmental Field Trip on Oct. 11, during their Fall Break.

The field trip targeted low-income students in Bibb County with the intention of expanding their knowledge of career and educational opportunities.

The students spent time in the morning touring the Frank C. Amerson, Jr. Water Treatment Plant and the Rocky Creek Water Reclamation Facility, which included education on various careers available to them within the water industry.

That afternoon, the students toured the Amerson River Park, where they learned about animal and plant habitats, environmental protection, water conservation, and more, thanks to the expertise of local UGA Bibb County Cooperative Extension Agents.

The Middle Georgia Center for Academic Excellence offers students services such as



academic advising, free SAT/ACT waivers, free tutoring, scholarship search assistance, career exploration and awareness, educational trips, study skills, self-esteem development, SAT/ACT prep, and assistance with college admission and the financial aid process.

For photos of this Environmental Field Trip made possible by the Macon Water Alliance, check out the photo galleries on our website at www.maconwater.org/galleries/list.

Are You Prepared for the 2020 Census?

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think! Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



It's in the constitution.

The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

It's about \$675 billion.

The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

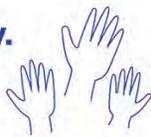


It's about redistricting.

After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



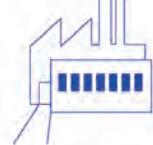
Census data are being used all around you.



Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.



Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



Your privacy is protected.

It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your answers with any other government agency.



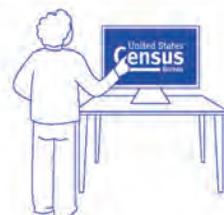
2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



United States Census Bureau

FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS

United States Census 2020

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