

# Oak Hill news

SEPT 2010

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## Save resources with email-only newsletter

More than 100 Oak Hill residents have signed up to receive this newsletter by email only. To date, 129 out of 1879 have opted out, saving several thousand sheets of paper a year and reducing postage costs.

To opt out, visit [www.oakhilltn.us](http://www.oakhilltn.us) and click *Get news updates by email* at the top of the page. Choose "Don't send paper newsletter" when you sign up. You can unsubscribe at any time, and your email address will not be shared with anyone unless you approve.

## Retreat helps officials set, prioritize goals for Oak Hill

By Mayor Austin McMullen

"To grasp and hold a vision, that is the very essence of successful leadership," Ronald Reagan once said, "not only on the movie set where I learned it, but everywhere."

Articulating and implementing a vision is critical to the success of any organization, and the City of Oak Hill is no different.

With two new Commissioners elected in June, now is an appropriate time to adopt a common vision for our community and to identify specific steps for putting that vision into action. The Board of Commissioners and City Manager began this process at a strategic planning retreat August 20–21 in Shelbyville, led by representatives of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service, a component of the University of Tennessee's Institute for Public Service.

The first step in the process was to identify Oak Hill's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Following this analysis, we developed and prioritized a list of goals and objectives for the city. Prioritizing the goals was one of the more difficult tasks of the two-day retreat because there are so many good ideas and projects available to us.

Cognizant of the limitations of time and resources, we then developed a preliminary plan for implementing the goals to pursue first. In the coming months, we anticipate discussing and finalizing the plans as part of our regular Board of Commissioners meetings and then taking steps to accomplish the many worthwhile goals for Oak Hill.

Developing a vision statement was the final step. We are

working on a statement that embraces many of the attributes that make us proud to live in Oak Hill and that we want to preserve for the future. My fellow Commissioners and I look forward to finalizing this vision statement during our upcoming monthly meetings, and we would appreciate your input.



Commissioners Jennifer Claxton, Austin McMullen and Kyle Felts work with Ron Darden of MTAS on objectives.

## Office, meeting locations move during renovations

The Board of Commissioners awarded the contract for city office renovations to WT Dubois construction from among eleven submitted.

Construction should be complete by late October, contingent upon a hearing that the City has requested to seek a variance from the Metro Codes Department.

During construction, the City has temporary location at 5554 Franklin Pike, Suite 200. If you cannot climb stairs, please call the office and we will meet you on the first floor.

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals will be held at Glendale United Methodist Church, 900 Glendale Lane.

# City of Oak Hill

## Mayor

Austin McMullen 579-6593

## Vice Mayor

Jennifer Claxton 504-6163

## Commissioner

Kyle Felts 760-5406

## Planning Commission

Art McWilliams, Chair

Michael Baron

Vice Mayor Jennifer Claxton

John Gillespie

Judy Hoover

Wade Hill

Joe Hodgson

Mayor Austin McMullen

Annelle Rucker

Julia Wesley

## Board of Zoning Appeals

Tom Lawless, Chair

Craig Buffkin

Tonya P. Matthews

## City Attorney

Robert J. Notestine 297-1568

## City Engineer

Kimley-Horn & Assoc. 564-2701

## City Manager

Kevin Helms 557-7672

## Assistant City Manager

M.C. Sparks 509-4812

## Administrative Assistant

Patrick Steiner 371-8291

## Building Official

Bill Burdette 371-8291

## City Hall

5548 Franklin Pike Suite 200

## Hours

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[www.oakhilltn.us](http://www.oakhilltn.us)

## Meeting Dates

### Third Thursday

#### Board of Commissioners Meeting

Glendale United Methodist Church,

900 Glendale Lane, 5 p.m.

### Fourth Tuesday

#### Planning Commission Meeting

Glendale United Methodist Church,

900 Glendale Lane, 5 p.m.

### Tuesday before Commissioners' Meeting

#### Board of Zoning Appeals

Glendale United Methodist Church,

900 Glendale Lane, 5 p.m.



Don't throw away this newsletter; recycle it!



## New Mayor, Vice Mayor selected

Commissioner Kyle Felts congratulates Vice Mayor Jennifer Claxton and Mayor Austin McMullen. The officials were selected by the board at the June meeting.

# Three named to Planning Commission; Joe Hodgson appointed to full term

Michael Baron was appointed by Mayor Tommy Alsup in June to serve the two years remaining on Mike Allison's ninth term when he retired in June after 25 years of service on the Planning Commission.

Mayor Austin McMullen appointed John Gillespie to fill the two remaining years of an unexpired term ending in 2012 and Wade Hill to a three-year term expiring in 2013.

"The professional experience and expertise of these new members will be extremely beneficial as plans submitted to the Planning Commission are becoming more and more complex," said Mayor Austin McMullen. "We are indebted that they have generously agreed to provide their insight to the planning process, which is key to preserving the character of Oak Hill."

Baron, an engineer, is CEO of Baron + Dowdle Construction. A resident of Oak Hill for 26 years, he is involved with Boy Scouts of America and participates in mission projects.

Gillespie, president of Gillespie Builders, has a degree in engineering. A native Nashvillian who has lived in Oak Hill 23 years, he has been active in the Nashville area Habitat for Human-

ity for several years and currently is chair of its Advisory Board.

Hill, a licensed architect, is plans examination chief of Metro Nashville Department of Codes and Building Safety. A resident of Oak Hill for 18 years, he has extensive experience in building codes and zoning

Joe Hodgson was appointed to a three-year term after filling an unexpired vacancy since November 2009.

Mayor McMullen and Vice Mayor Jennifer Claxton were named to fulfill the requirement of the Oak Hill Charter for two Commissioners to serve on the Planning Commission. Their terms will expire in 2012. Remaining on the Planning Commission and the dates their terms expire are:

Chair Art McWilliams (8/31/11); Judy Hoover (8/31/11); Annelle Rucker (8/31/12); and Julia Wesley (8/31/11).

## Planning Commission rescheduled

Planning Commission meetings have been permanently rescheduled. They begin at 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month.



Baron



Gillespie



Hill



Hodgson

# FEMA, City funding infrastructure repairs

Oak Hill has currently been approved by FEMA for the repair of several city infrastructure sites that received damage during the May floods, as well as the clean up of flood debris.

The value of projects currently approved stands between \$250,000 and \$270,000. The City is currently negotiating with FEMA on several other projects that could add up to an additional \$30,000. FEMA will provide the City with 90%, rather than the traditional 75%, of the total. The state will supply an additional 5%, and the City will be responsible for the remaining 5%. Because of circumstances at these locations, the City chose to do extra work beyond that eligible for FEMA funding. The City will pay around \$100,000.

The City has also undertaken a separate ditch cleaning/restoration project and will receive virtually no funding from other sources. This work is being done not just to correct issues created by the May floods, but to correct issues that have developed slowly over years. The crew started in the Hillview area and at the time of this writing has made its way around Lakemont and is currently working on Forest Acres Drive and its connecting streets.

The work consists of cleaning ditches and culverts located in the city rights-of-way. While the City is responsible for replacing infrastructure under the roadway, the driveway culverts are the responsibility of the resident. However, we will make an attempt to clean these out. The

## FEMA buyout possible

Oak Hill is working with FEMA representatives to determine if a flood mitigation project is a viable option for certain locations.

The City would purchase flood-prone properties with FEMA's financial assistance. Any structures would be demolished, and the property would be permanently dedicated as open space.

To date, the City of Oak Hill received only one inquiry into the flood mitigation buyout program, and it was not presented in writing. If anyone has suffered repetitive losses and/or damages that exceed 51% of the appraised value of the property, they may be eligible for a FEMA buyout. If you are interested in the program, please contact our offices. Funding for this project is expected to be available later this year.



City provides a program where it will supply the labor and equipment at no cost to the resident should they choose to replace a driveway culvert. However, the resident must pay for all materials needed for the work.

Jackaroo workers repair a flood-damaged culvert on Sewanee Road.

**Please remember that any time you replace or install a driveway culvert, you must have the work approved by the City to ensure that the proper size culvert is being installed.**

The work was slow at first, but has sped up with the addition of a water meter that allows us to connect to fire hydrants and use high pressure to clean culverts. Since the addition of this equipment, we have been able to greatly speed up the process. We have noted well over 300 locations within the City that needs this type of service.



## Stormwater Pollution Solutions

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

For more tips visit [www.epa.gov/weatherchannel/stormwater.html#solution](http://www.epa.gov/weatherchannel/stormwater.html#solution)

*This stormwater management tip is provided as part of Oak Hill's education requirement under its state permit.*

## Harvest festival set for Oct. 17

Please join the Land Trust for Tennessee and Oak Hill community volunteers for a fall harvest festival October 17 at the Glen Leven Farm, 4000 Franklin Pike.

The celebration is 3-6 p.m. and includes children's activities and tours of the house and property. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about this Nashville treasure and become involved in its preservation.

For more information visit [LandTrustTN.org](http://LandTrustTN.org) or call 244-6948.

# Get messages, weather warnings by phone

The City of Oak Hill is close to launching the CodeRed notification system for the benefit of its residents.

The system serves two purposes. The first is to deliver a pre-recorded message by a City official or staff member to be delivered via telephone to everyone listed in our public database. If you are not included in the initial database, you will have the opportunity to voluntarily sign up for the service.

The second part of the system is an automated weather warning notification service. If the National Weather Service issues a warning for Oak Hill, the system will automatically begin calling the subscribers to give them the details. The system is more reliable than weather warning sirens because it only gives notification when Oak Hill is threatened as compared to the sirens that sound whenever any portion of Davidson County is in danger. Because this



system begins calling at any time of the day or night, residents must voluntarily sign up for the service.

Within the next 30 days when the system is ready for implementation, a link will be posted on the City's website for residents to sign up. You can choose to add optional text messages to the telephone calls. A landline or cell number may be entered as your contact information. If you do not have access to the internet, call the office to enter the information for you.

Because the service is funded by Oak Hill tax dollars, only those individuals who reside at an address in Oak Hill will be allowed to utilize the service. Each entry must be verified, and any entry with an address outside of Oak Hill will be cancelled.

## Live audio of meetings delayed

Because of office renovations, live audio of meetings of the boards of Commissioners and Zoning Appeals and the Planning Commission will begin in November on the website at [www.oakhilltn.us/boards.html](http://www.oakhilltn.us/boards.html).

You can listen to delayed audio of the meetings until then; recordings will be available three days after each meeting.

Visitors to the page also will be able to listen to meetings archived for one year. 🌿

### How to hear archived audio

Listening to Oak Hill meetings is simple.

1. Log onto the Oak Hill website, [oakhilltn.us](http://oakhilltn.us).
2. Across the top of the page you'll see details for upcoming meetings of the Board of Zoning Appeals, Board of Commissioners, and Planning Commission.
3. Click on "Listen to meeting" listed under the Board or Commission you want to hear.
4. When the Archive page appears, you can either scroll down to the meeting you want to hear, or you can enter a word or phrase in the Search box and find a list of meetings that contain it.
5. Click on "Audio" next to the meeting you want to hear.
6. If a message appears that you do not have the required Internet plug-in to run the streaming audio, scroll down and click the Help button at the bottom of the green box. Under Most Popular Articles, click on #3, Microsoft Silverlight Installation Guide, and follow the instructions to install Silverlight, then restart your computer and repeat the instructions above.
7. When the page appears after you click Audio next to the meeting you want to hear, double-click inside the black box to start the audio.



## Oak Hill applies for TDOT gateway grant

In an effort to beautify and increase awareness of Oak Hill, the Board of Commissioners approved a grant application to be presented to the Tennessee Department of Transportation that would create the first of several planned gateways into the City of Oak Hill.

The approval calls for the City's engineer to write a grant application to be submitted to the state for the entry into the City on Franklin Pike near Caldwell. This site was chosen due to the opportunity we had to partner with the City of Berry Hill, which is submitting an application for the same location on the other side of the road.

A final design will not be developed until the project is approved, but will likely consist of landscaping and an entry sign.

Plans are to submit grants in future years for other locations on state routes within the City. These could include Franklin Pike/Harding Place and Franklin Pike/Old Hickory Boulevard. The idea is also to scale down the size of these designs and install them on other smaller entries into the City that are not located on state routes.

If the grant is approved, the state will provide 80% of the cost up to a total of \$120,000. The smaller projects will be funded entirely by the City.

# Chipper service has new collection zones

The City has revised the schedule and routes of its free monthly pickup of typical yard wastes such as tree limbs, shrubbery pruning, and bagged leaves or trimmings done by Oak Hill residents only.

Oak Hill is now divided into four zones with collection during a six-day timespan of each month.

Zone 1, bounded by Woodmont Boulevard, I-65, Redwood Drive, and Franklin Pike, is collected the first week of the month.

Zone 2, bounded by Woodmont, Glen Leven Drive, Battery Lane, General Bate Drive, and Caldwell Lane, gets pickup the second week of the month.

Zone 3, located between Glen Leven, Franklin Pike, Tyne Boulevard, and Granny White Pike, is set for the third week of the month.

Zone 4, between Tyne, Franklin Pike, Old Hickory Boulevard, Otter Creek Road, and Granny White, is collected the fourth week.

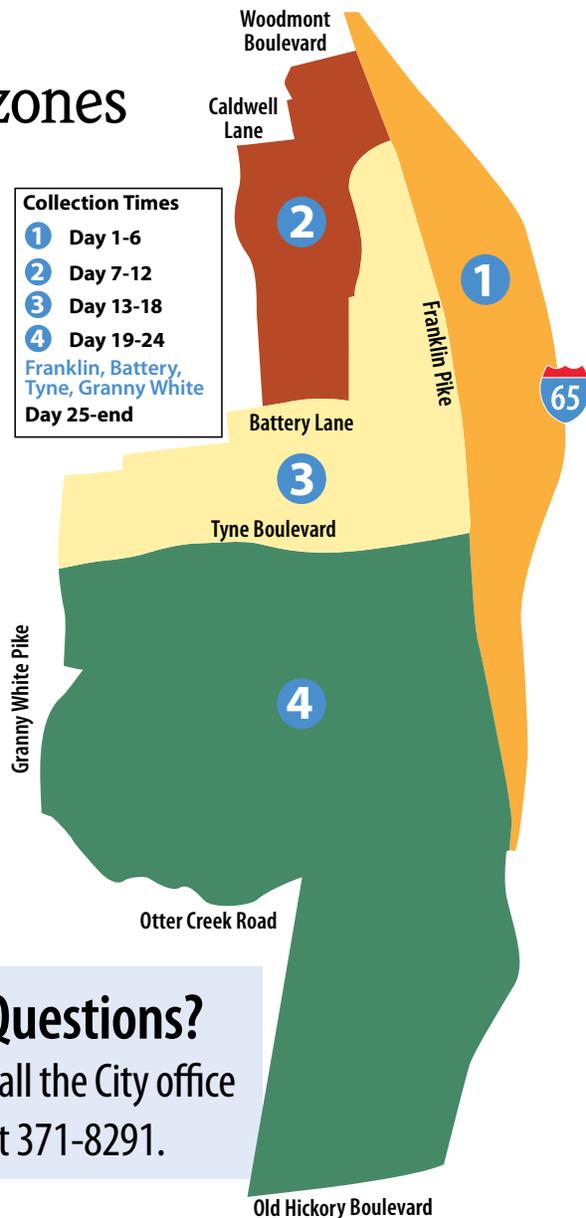
Homes on Franklin, Tyne, Battery, and Granny White will not get collected during the regular days but between the 25th and the end of the month.

## City to enforce strict rules for chipper materials

The City begins adhering to its guidelines for collection of chipper material effective October 1. These guidelines have been in place for many years, but have rarely been enforced over roughly the past five years.

Collecting materials outside existing guidelines costs the City roughly \$50,000 extra per year. Adhering to these guidelines is necessary to maintain this as a free service for all in Oak Hill and to ensure that no one overly burdens the chipper service to the detriment of other residents.

The guidelines are listed in the box below.



## Questions?

Call the City office at 371-8291.

# Rake your leaves to the roadside

Residents may now choose to rake their leaves to the side of the road to be collected by a vacuum truck. Simply rake your leaves into piles near the side of the road, and the truck will collect them. The piles of leaves should be placed in or very near the right-of-way, which usually extends about 10 to 12 feet beyond the edge of the pavement. It is important that you not place the leaves in the ditch, on top of open drainage structures, or in the roadway. If a ditch is adjacent to the roadway, place the leaves behind the ditch and we will still be able to collect them.

If you prefer to bag your leaves rather than rake them to the roadside, be sure you use biodegradable bags. While paper bags are much easier to find in stores, the City has been able to verify that both CVS Pharmacy and Target stock plastic biodegradable bags. They are also available online from a number of retailers.



The City encourages residents to time the placement of their yard waste to coincide with their service dates. Piles of material left near the road for long periods of time are unsightly, tend to get strewn throughout the neighborhood, kill the grass, and can become a health hazard.

## Guidelines for yard waste

- Rake leaves into piles beside the side of the road or place them in biodegradable bags.
  - Do not place leaves in ditches, other drainage structures, or in the road. The right-of-way typically extends 10 to 12 feet beyond the pavement.
  - Do not put dirt, rocks, or trash (including flower pots, papers or animal feces) in leaf bags or within piles of leaves.
  - Make sure there are no foreign objects (metal, plastic, or glass) in the pile.
  - Small, loose material must be in biodegradable bags.
  - Bags cannot exceed 50 pounds.
  - Stack limbs and twigs with cut ends toward the street.
  - Do not leave limbs larger than four inches in diameter.
  - Do not leave materials with roots or dirt.
  - Do not put out debris left by landscapers or gardeners.
- Commercial companies are responsible for removing any material they generate, and the City will not collect their material without assessing a fee.

# QUICK CALL LIST



## CITY OF OAK HILL

5548 Franklin Pike #102  
371-8291 FAX 373-6886  
www.oakhilltn.us

## SOLID WASTE SERVICES

### Chipper Service

Jackaroo: 371-8291

### Garbage Pickup

Clean Earth Sanitation: 371-8291

### Snow and Ice

### Management Service

Mid Tennessee Erosion Control:  
371-8291

## Public Street Repairs, Street Signage, and Drainage Maintenance

City Office: 371-8291

## Dead Animal Removal

City Office: 371-8291  
After Hours: 862-8971

## Emergency: 911

**Non-Emergency Fire:** 327-1300

**Non-Emergency Police:** 862-8600

**West Sector Patrol:** 862-7747

# Yard Sale for the Cure is Oct. 23

The ninth annual Oak Hill Yard Sale for the Cure will be held Saturday, October 23, at 5317 Franklin Pike beginning at 7 a.m.

Cindy Baxter Smith, a 13-year survivor of breast cancer and originator and organizer of the annual sale, called on Oak Hill residents to “line the streets of Oak Hill with yard sales” that day.

Clean out your closets and attics, put up balloons and signs, then have a great time meeting neighbors, delighting shoppers with treasures, and donating a portion to a breast cancer organization of your choice, she said.

If you cannot hold a yard sale, donate your treasures to Cindy for her sale on Franklin Pike.

Any amount of your yard sale proceeds donated to the breast cancer organization of your choice will be greatly appreciated. If you mail your check to an organization, please e-mail Cindy the amount so it can be counted in the

total raised by the annual yard sale. You can also send your check directly to Cindy, who will include it with checks received as donations or from other yard sales. Over the past eight years thousands of dollars raised from this event have been donated to cancer support organizations.

If you have questions or plan to hold a garage sale on October 23, contact Cindy Smith at 615.376.0577 or cindybaxtersmith@comcast.net.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month so mark your calendar to go yard sale shopping during the month, and especially on October 23 in Oak Hill.



**YARD SALE FOR THE CURE** **OCTOBER 23**

## Greek Festival starts Sept. 10

Mark your calendar to attend the 23rd annual Nashville Greek Festival September 10–12 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 4905 Franklin Pike.

Festivities include entertainment, baked goods, shopping, dancing, good food, fun for children of all ages, and tours of the church.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission is \$2 per person, children under 12, free.

## Support Land Trust Oct. 9

Once in a Blue Moon 10, the signature fundraising event for Land Trust for Tennessee, will be held at The Farm at Glen Leven, 4000 Franklin Pike, October 9.

Wear your tight jeans and loose boots for the music, food, and dancing beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Chestnut Group will have an art show and sale of plein air paintings. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Land Trust.

Come support the organization that works to protect and save land like that at Glen Leven.

For reservations for the tenth annual event, go to landtrusttn.org or call 615/244-LAND.

## Official Publication City of Oak Hill

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Nashville TN 37220

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