



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Odie Donald, II MBA
Administrator

NEWS RELEASE

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**City of Augusta offices closed in observance of Mental Health Day
and Christmas Holiday**

AUGUSTA, GA (Dec. 8, 2021) – Many of the City of Augusta offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 22, to give employees a mental health break.

The Augusta Commission announced the Augusta Employee Mental Health Day during their meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 7, which offers staff the opportunity to recharge, disconnect from work, and focus on themselves and their families.

“The purpose of this day is to allow staffers a chance to access mental health resources to not only relieve the stress from pandemic-related events but have a bit of relief during the holiday season,” said City Administrator Odie Donald, II. “I applaud the Augusta Commission for making this investment in the mental health of our employees. This decision sends a message of how much we recognize the role mental health plays for employee well-being.”

In addition to the mental health break, many of the City of Augusta’s offices will be closed Dec. 23-26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Below is a list of operating hours for key services:

The Augusta Municipal Building

The Augusta Municipal Building will be closed Dec. 22-26. The facility will reopen during normal business hours on Monday, Dec. 27.

Augusta 311

The Augusta 311 Center will continue normal operating hours of 8:30am-5pm on Dec. 22-24. The Center will be closed Christmas Day.

Augusta Transit

Augusta Transit, Augusta Transit Paratransit Services, and Richmond County Transit will continue operations Dec. 22-24. On Christmas Eve, transit services will end between 5-6pm, and services will not be available on Christmas Day. Regular transit services will resume Monday, Dec. 27.

Augusta Utilities

All Augusta Utilities offices, including both Customer Service locations, will be closed Dec. 22-26. Offices will resume normal operating hours of 8:30am-5pm on Monday, Dec. 27. If there is an emergency not related to billing, please call 706-842-3060.

Augusta Landfill

The Augusta Landfill will be open Dec. 22-24 from 6am-5pm. However, the facility will be closed on Christmas Day.

Garbage Collection

There will be normal collection services for garbage, recycling, yard waste, and bulky waste between Dec. 22-24. There will be no delays in service, and residents should place their carts at the street curb on their normal day of service.

Live, flocked, or artificial Christmas trees will be collected the first two full weeks in January. Residents should set their Christmas trees at the street curb by 6am on their normal day of service. Everything must be removed from the tree, including decorations, lights, and the tree stand. Richmond County residents who participate in the Environmental Services Garbage Collection Program will have their used Christmas trees collected for free.

Augusta Environmental Services will collect extra holiday garbage for one collection cycle starting the day after Christmas, Dec. 25. The extra holiday waste needs to be placed in plastic bags 3-feet from the garbage cart for collection. Augusta Environmental Services may collect the garbage with the garbage truck or the bulk waste truck. Therefore, there's a possibility the garbage may not get collected on the first pass.

Parks and Recreation Department

The Administrative office, all community centers, the Augusta Aquatic Center, the Newman Tennis Center, athletic offices, the rental offices, and Henry H. Brigham Swim Center will be closed Dec. 22-26 in observance of the City's Mental Health Day and the Christmas holiday. However, all public parks will remain open from dawn to dusk.

Media interested in covering this topic should contact Danielle Harris at dharris@augustaga.gov or call 706-564-3460.

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