

November 12, 2012

Dear Residents:

On December 31, 2012, you will become part of the Town of Signal Mountain. The Town Council, the Town Manager and her staff welcome you into the Town. We hope you will come to enjoy being a part of our community and encourage you to take full advantage of the many services and amenities we offer. The following is an overview, listed by department, of the services you can expect. More detailed information can be obtained on the Town website, www.signalmountaintn.gov, and questions can be answered in person at the Town Hall or by calling 886-2177.

POLICE:

- The Signal Mountain Police Department patrol staff consists of three patrol units, one for each of two districts as well as a roving supervisor. Two patrol units are on duty 24 hours a day.
- Our police are dispatched by Hamilton County 911 Emergency Communications District. In case of emergency (fire, police, EMS), call 911. To request police service for a non-emergency situation, call 886-2123, and a patrol unit will be dispatched. For administrative or business issues, call 886-2124 during normal business hours, Monday-Friday.

FIRE:

- The Signal Mountain Fire Department has firefighters on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All firefighters are trained to administer first responder medical aid, and each shift is staffed with at least one EMT to provide basic level life support until the Hamilton County EMS arrives.
- The Fire Department currently employs seventeen certified firefighters and emergency vehicle extrication technicians. Many of our firefighters have advanced certifications including instructor, apparatus operator, and officer.
- The Town has contracted with WRUD to install additional fire hydrants throughout your area. The Town holds a Class Five ISO rating and encourages residents to contact their respective insurance companies to determine if they qualify for a reduction in insurance premiums.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- The Signal Mountain Public Works Department will deliver garbage carts over the next month. When the cart arrives, please note its location and position. That is where and how the cart must be placed on weekly pickup. The first curbside garbage pickup is scheduled for Friday, January 4, 2013, beginning at 7:30am and each Friday thereafter. An information pamphlet explaining the do's and don'ts of Town curbside pickup will be attached to the cart.
- Backdoor garbage service is available for those residents who are disabled or over seventy years of age (that is, if all members of the household meet those requirements). Contact the Town Hall at 886-2177 for more information on how to apply for backdoor collection.
- The Transfer Station is located at 714 Mississippi Avenue. The hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30am-3: 45pm and Saturday, 8:00am-3: 45pm. Residents may dump a reasonable amount of garbage, brush, scrap metal, or other items normally accepted, free of charge. Construction materials and other items require a small fee. "First Friday" Bulky Pickups may be scheduled each month, many at no charge, by calling the Town Hall.
- Leaf pickup is provided from November until the end of January. Pickup is done on a rotation of zones and each zone is identified on the Town website. Brush pickup will be provided on a regular rotation year round. Special leaf or brush pickups are not provided, but brush can be dropped off at the Transfer Station free of charge. Brush cut by a contractor or other service will not be picked up and will only be accepted for a fee.
- The Recycle Center is open Tuesday, 9am-6pm; Wednesday-Friday, 11am-6pm; and Saturday, 8am-6pm. The mulch pile is open for residents any time.
- For additional information including a description of all public works services, hours of operations and holiday schedules, go to the Town website or call the Town Hall.
- Street signs and reflectors will be installed in Windtree and Fox Run neighborhoods in the spring of 2013. Maintenance has been scheduled to roads needing immediate repair as well as repairs to storm water drainage.

FINANCE:

- Among the duties of the Signal Mountain Finance Department is the collection of property taxes. Residents can expect to receive property tax statements beginning October 2013.

- Any business within the Signal Mountain town limits must complete an application for a business license at Town Hall for a \$15 fee. Thereafter, all reporting and fees must be sent to the state. For more information, call the Town Hall.
- The current Town budget as well as past budgets and quarterly statements of revenues and expenses are available on the Town website.
- Information on the Signal Mountain Municipal Court is available on the Town website. Citations issued by the Signal Mountain Police may be paid at Town Hall.

LIBRARY:

- Membership in the Signal Mountain Library is free to all residents. To obtain a library card, stop by and complete a membership form. Library hours are Monday, 12-8pm; Tuesday, 10am-6pm; Wednesday, 10am-6pm; Thursday, 12-6pm; and Saturday, 10am-2pm.
- The Library offers thousands of materials for both adults and children, including books, books on tape and CD, movies, and magazines. Three computers are available for patrons to use. WiFi is available for personal laptop use and downloading eBooks onto eReaders.
- The Library also offers special programs for adults and children, reserved space for group meetings, and used books for sale in its Book Nook.

MACC:

- Residents are automatically members of the Mountain Arts Community Center, which entitles them to discounted rates on most classes and other member-only opportunities throughout the year. Residents may stop by the MACC to receive a membership card and a bumper sticker.
- The MACC offers a variety of fine arts classes, health and wellness classes, concerts and art exhibits. The MACC provides quality instructors in music, art, puppetry, dance, ceramics, yoga, and more. In addition, the historical MACC building can be rented for parties, business meetings or weddings.

RECREATION:

- The Recreation Department has recently upgraded its facilities to offer an enjoyable experience for both spectators and participants. A major swimming pool renovation was completed last spring, and this fall the Town gym was fitted with a new maple floor.

- Recreation programs such as football, lacrosse, swimming, playground camp, tennis, baseball, basketball or pickle ball are available to serve all interested residents. The gym, the pool and Althaus Park pavilions may be rented for special events.

WATER and SEWER:

- Your area will continue to be serviced by Walden's Ridge Utility District. The Hamilton County Water and Wastewater Treatment Authority operates sewer services on the mountain and can answer questions regarding the sewer system.

TOWN GOVERNMENT:

- The Town Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at Town Hall. Work sessions and occasional special meetings are held at other times during the month and are advertised throughout the Town and on the website.
- The Town Council depends on its residents for advice and direction. Over 80 citizen volunteers serve on Town boards such as Board of Zoning Appeals, Design Review Commission, Library Board, MACC Board, Planning Commission, Parks Board, Recreation Board and others. A summary of each board and its function is available on the Town website. Openings for positions on Town boards are advertised in "Council Notes" in the Signal Mountain Community News. There are currently openings on several boards. We invite you to submit an application for consideration now. Applications can be downloaded from the Town website. Appointments will be made effective January 1, 2013.
- The Town website signalmountaintn.gov provides an opportunity to "Sign up for Informational Emails" that notify residents of scheduled meetings including the agenda, positions for employment, schedule changes, and more.

We invite and encourage you to attend as many Council Meetings as you can, to apply for membership on a Town board, and to otherwise become involved in the government of the Town. For those of us who share this mountaintop, there are a great many challenges ahead. We look forward to your input and your expertise to meet those challenges.

All the best,
The Town of Signal Mountain