



CITY CONNECTION

Manassas Connect - a New App



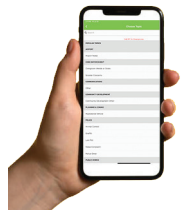
Have you heard about the new City of Manassas app? It's available in the Android play store and the Apple app store. But what is it?

It is called "Manassas Connect" and

is a great tool for residents and visitors to report concerns directly to City staff. This is an easy solution for people to report things like pot holes, street light outages, power outages, overgrown grass, traffic signal malfunctions and much more.

But wait, doesn't the City already have an app for that? The City of Manassas has transitioned away from SeeClickfix to this new technology in an effort to serve our residents more economically and efficiently. This new technology also allows users to access government information easier than clicking on the website.

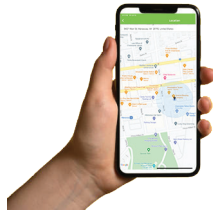
It's all in one app. Manassas Connect helps the user connect to the City with a few easy clicks. If you see a light out on your street, click the app. Overgrown grass or park equipment damaged? Click the app.



Download Manassas Connect, sign up and you are off to being

connected with your City. Want to

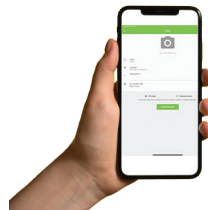
report something anonymously? You still can once you are in the app. Once signed up, click the categories and see where your concern fits. If it is park equipment that is damaged, you will see that under Public Works.



If you have a picture of the damage or concern, upload that right from your phone in the next step. Allowing Manassas Connect to use your location is helpful so that City staff can pinpoint the location of your concern.

The last step is to tell us about your concern. There's a place for your description and some identifying questions about your concern so that staff can react quickly.

Also on Manassas Connect, you can see information on your elected Council and on the City's news and information. There are links to the City's social media to keep you up-to-date on the happenings around town.



We hope you will take advantage of this new app and stay connected. If you are not a smartphone person, simply click on the "Report a Concern" button on the front of the website. You can use the application straight from the City website at www.manassasva.gov.

Important News about Utilities

Are you looking for help with rent or utility bills as a result of COVID-19? As of June 30, 2021, Virginia's Utility Disconnection Moratorium has ended.

Disconnections will begin on September 1, 2021. Residents looking to apply for local and state assistance programs should reach out to the City of Manassas' Utilities at (703) 257-8245 or email cs@manassasva.gov to discuss payment options.

The Department of Social Services can help with Utilities, Rent or Mortgage, Childcare, or Burial costs due to COVID-19. visit their website at www.manassasva.gov/ss for more information.



A Moment with the Mayor



Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger

August brings the Dog Days of Summer, but more than that, August brings a sense of beginning. It is the beginning of a new school year and the new fiscal year has begun in the City. Bright-eyed children are ready to begin

learning new things from teachers who are hopefully restored and renewed from some summer downtime.

August also brings summer heat. If you find that you do not have enough cool air during the day, our libraries are cooling shelters for those in need. Stonewall Park Pool is also a great place to cool off this summer or take a day in the shade under a tree in one of our City parks. There's even a park for our four-legged friends, Lucky's Dog Park, located near the Boys & Girls Club at 9501 Dean Park Lane.

If you are in our Historic Downtown this summer, make sure to check out the concert schedule at the Harris Pavilion at www.harrispavilion.com. There's also a wonderful Farmer's Market on Thursdays and Saturdays. You don't want to miss a moment of what we have in store.

This month I would like to highlight and thank our Thursday Farmer's Market for their donations to the various food banks in the area, and specifically, Roberto's produce who gave a whopping 1,110 pounds of their produce! It has been heartwarming to see how our community has and will continue to join together to fight food insecurity.

Now, for a serious conversation. With school beginning again, I'd like to take a moment to ask all of you to please watch out for our little ones along the sidewalks and at their bus stops. Stop when the bus arm comes out. Nothing is so important that it cannot wait for a child to get on or off a bus.

Thank you for living and thriving in Manassas. Until next month. . .

A Hopping Good Start to Recycling

Keep Manassas Beautiful is celebrating the completion of the new playground at the East End Mobile Home Park with the installation of a new Froggo™ recycling container and donation of four new galvanized trash cans for an exciting new project that will allow children to learn about recycling and litter control through a series of art-based summer projects.

Keep Manassas Beautiful is working with the residents of East End Mobile Home Park and Catholics for Housing to improve recycling and litter control within their community.

"This is a great partnership for our residents and the City to come together and help build confidence and relationship with the wider community," said East End Mobile Home Park Liaison, Helen Sorto.

The East End Mobile Home Park is home to more than 110 children and 56 families. The Mobile Home Park was purchased by the nonprofit Catholics for Housing in 2018 and has been

undertaking renovations to improve the community with and for its residents.

George Davies, Executive Director of Catholics for Housing said, "We purchased the park and have done so much for the physical space. Now it's about building camaraderie and supporting the residents as they grow a community that they can be proud of."

Established in 2017, Keep Manassas Beautiful is an Affiliate Member of Keep America Beautiful supporting programs and projects throughout the City of Manassas that encourage citizen participation to reduce litter and increase recycling and beautification.

"Keep Manassas Beautiful is really excited about having the opportunity to teach young residents about recycling and litter control in a fun and meaningful way," said advisory committee chair, Lynn Forkell Greene.



Members of the Keep Manassas Beautiful committee pose with Froggo™ and members of the community inside East End Mobile Home Park.

A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

It is no longer a shock when someone recognizes me because they have seen my picture in the City Connection. I appreciate hearing about the value that you find in the information that is provided in this newsletter and your thoughts on things that would be helpful to share in the future. Our community survey shows that this is a primary way residents receive information about the City. It takes many hands to produce the City Connection each month and I love passing along your appreciation to them.



I have recently heard that some people don't enroll in automatic pay because they think they would not get the newsletter each month. I want

to ensure you that you will still get a bill and the newsletter mailed to you if you sign up for automatic pay of your utility bills just as I do at my house. We encourage you to take advantage of the on-line bill paying capabilities to make sure that your utility bill is paid on time and nothing gets "lost in the mail," or forgotten while you are on vacation or dealing with the multitude of things that we must all get done every month. You can sign up for automatic pay at our

website www.manassasva.gov under "Pay My Bill."

The other question that seems to come up often is "when I receive my newsletter some of the events that I wanted to attend have already occurred." The City Connection newsletter is produced once each month. It has to be written, formatted, printed and delivered to be inserted in the bills before the first cycle of bills are sent the first week of the month. If, like me, you are in the fourth week of the monthly billing cycle, there will be events published that occurred during the first three weeks of the month, before the City Connection arrived. However, if you check, you will also see that two months of events are highlighted so you are also seeing the events that are upcoming during the month before you receive the next City Connection.

If you fall into this category we are glad that you are looking at the City Connection for events. If you want to receive the City Connection as soon as it is produced, you can sign up to have it emailed to you the first of each month, on the website's home page under "Get



Notified." It is also available on the website under the City

Manager's page, under "News Room," if you want to check it out whenever you have a moment to do so. You can get event notifications on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas, on twitter at www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/cityofmanassas. You can also check out the events page at www.visitmanassas.org for current information on what is happening in our City. If you have other suggestions for publicizing events, please let us know. We encourage you to repost/retweet/forward/like/etc. events that are going on in the City so others in your networks will see them as well.

As you are coming to events in Historic Downtown, I encourage you to utilize the parking deck on Prince

William Street. This deck is free to patrons after 10 in the morning and on weekends. It is a short walk to any of the retail shops and restaurants as well as to the Harris Pavilion and the Farmer's Markets. During special events streets are often closed but the Prince William Street Deck is almost always available for parking.



In August, we will also be seeing a return to in-person school. Since it has been over a year since we have seen significant school bus traffic on the roads, I encourage you to be mindful of the traffic and safety of our young residents that are returning to school. As traffic has begun to pick up this summer, we are seeing more traffic accidents so please be extra cautious as schools reopen.

Keep enjoying the summer and the broad variety of activities, events and programs that are going on in Manassas. It is nice to see everyone enjoying Manassas again.

W. Patrick Pate



The City of Manassas Happenings

Find these events and more in the City of Manassas, Virginia. For more information go to www.visitmanassas.org.

Farmer's Market for the Season:

Thursday Farmer's Market at the Harris Pavilion and Saturday Farmer's Market on Prince William Street Commuter Lot - Hours for both are 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.



History Virtual Talks

Wednesday Spotlight on History Virtual Talks, tune in each week at www.facebook.com/cityofmanassasleisure



Now – Aug. 28 – **Becoming Summer** at the Art Gallery at the ARTFactory



Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday with **Tender Polman** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. – **First Friday: Dog Days of Summer** at Historic Downtown Manassas



Aug. 7, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous Waste, Shredding and Electronics Recycling Drop-off Day** at the Manassas Transfer Station



Aug. 7 at 6:30 p.m. - Summer Sounds Concert with **Lil' Maceo Kareem Walkes** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday with **Shane Gamble** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 12, 2021 - **First day of school** for Manassas City Public Schools



Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. - Summer Sounds Concert with **The Splinters** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 14 at 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. - **Liberia House Tours** with the Manassas Museum



Aug. 14 – 15 at 1 p.m. – ARTFactory's Performance of **Disney's Aladdin, Jr.** at Windy Knoll Farm



Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday with **Scott Kurt** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. – **Night Painting Workshop** with Michele Frantz at the ARTFactory



Aug. 20 from 6 - 9 p.m. & Aug. 21 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. – **Auditions** for Fiddler on the Roof, Jr. at the ARTFactory



Aug. 21 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. - Manassas Ballet Theatre's **17th Annual Ballet Ball** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. - Sunday Funday Concert - **Navy Sea Chanters** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday with **Brian Harris** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 25 at 3 PM -- Stories of Preservation and Progress with the **Gum Springs Historical Society and Museum**



Aug. 26 at 5:30 PM- **Downtown Walking Tours** with the Manassas Museum



Aug. 28 - Liberia Front Porch Talk with the **Slave Dwelling Project**



Aug. 28 at 7 p.m. - Saturday Night Concert with **Special Occasions Band** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 29 at 3 p.m. - Sunday Funday Concert - **U.S. Army Band** at the Harris Pavilion



Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. - Acoustic Tuesday with **Jason Morton** at the Harris Pavilion



Sept. 4, 8 a.m. to noon – **Household Hazardous Waste, and Electronics Recycling Drop-off Day** at the Manassas Transfer Station



Sept. 4 at 12 p.m. – **10th Annual Bands, Brews, and Barbeque** at Historic Downtown Manassas



Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. – Summer Sounds Concert with **Wicked Olde** at the Harris Pavilion



Sept. 6, 2021 - **Labor Day**



September 10 & 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Stonehouse Quilt Guild **Quilt Show** at the Manassas Baptist Church - 8370 Sudley Rd



Sept. 18 at 11 a.m. – **Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Parade** in Historic Downtown Manassas



Sept. 18 at 11 a.m. – **45th Edgar Rohr Memorial Car Meet** at Manassas Museum



Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. – **World Heritage Festival** at the Harris Pavilion



Check out some of the great classes at the ARTFactory @ www.virginiaartfactory.org



Want to pre-order your City of Manassas 150th Anniversary license plate? Visit <https://cityofmanassas.recdesk.com>.

Get Social!

Visit the City at www.manassasva.gov

www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas

www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

www.instagram.com/cityofmanassas

www.youtube.com/user/manassascityva

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email prrince@manassasva.gov

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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