

# City & Town

AUGUST 2020 VOL. 76, NO. 08

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



**ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**  
**86TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL CONVENTION**  
AUGUST 19-21, 2020

#86thAMLVirtualCon

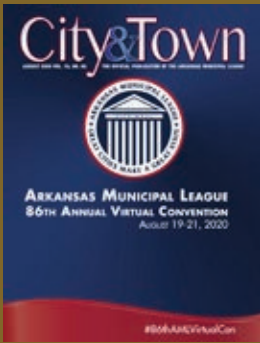


# STABILITY MATTERS.

This has been a season of challenge and change. Our team is here to help communities move forward with new projects, refinancings, debt restructurings and more. If you need financial solutions – for roads, parks, pools or other improvements – contact Crews today.

**Serving Arkansas for 40 Years**





Cover art by Mark Potter.

**ON THE COVER**—This has been a year of firsts. “Unprecedented” must surely be in the running for Word of the Year. After delaying the traditional June convention, the League has regrouped and is excited to present the first-ever, 86th Annual Virtual Convention, August 19-21. Though more compact, it will still feature a plethora of essential information for Arkansas’ cities and towns. And it is free to all members! Check out a preview of this unique event on page 14 and the registration, agenda and other important info beginning on page 26. Read also about the mayor of Batesville’s mission to walk every mile of city streets in his hometown, the League’s new webinar series focused on connecting members with grant opportunities, Cave Springs’ new hybrid police vehicles, and the latest guidance regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.—atm

## Features

- 18 Cave Springs PD goes greener**  
The Cave Springs Police Department has replaced four of its aging vehicles with six new hybrids, which will help the department serve its citizens while ultimately saving money and being more environmentally friendly.
- 20 Mayor covering ground in Batesville**  
Batesville Mayor Rick Elumbaugh has made it his mission since April of this year to walk all of his city’s 100 miles of city streets in order to get a firsthand look at the state of the city’s infrastructure and to engage with its citizens along the way.
- 22 COVID resources for cities and towns: Governor issues mask mandate**  
With the governor’s recent executive order requiring most Arkansans to wear face coverings in public settings, the League offers guidance on the new directives for cities and towns, along with the latest guidance from the CDC.
- 31 Meet the funders**  
A new webinar series headed up by League Grants Attorney Caran Curry will present information on funding opportunities for cities and towns and connect local leaders with public and private granting agency officials.

**Correction:** The filing dates for independent candidates listed in the article “Deadlines approaching for 2020 municipal elections” in the July 2020 issue of *City & Town* are incorrect. The correct dates are listed in this issue on page 17.

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Dear friends and fellow AML members,

As my presidency in one of the most unusual years on record comes to a close, I want to speak less about the coronavirus that will send this year into the history books than about the important long-term projects we face as Arkansans.

We've been talking about it for months, but we really need to focus on the 2020 census. While most of us have filled out the short form, a segment of the community doesn't understand or simply doesn't care about what the census means to them.

A Pew Research Center study found that while 76 percent of American households have had someone fill out a census form, the remaining 24 percent will not be an easily persuadable bunch. It found that 40 percent of those simply are not willing to respond to the census, even though the law requires it.

Arkansas falls into the "hard to count" category, as do most southern, southwestern or largely rural states. As of August 3, the statewide official response rate is considered to be 57.6 percent. The self-response rate in Arkansas in 2010 was 62.3 percent, so we aren't doing so hot.

While it is mostly in small towns and rural areas, fully half of Arkansas' self-response rate ranks in the bottom 20 percent nationally. That is not good for our state. So, what do we potentially lose?

We've all heard the figure of \$3,000 per person, per year. That should be motivation enough, because that adds up to \$30,000 for every undercounted person in Arkansas.

Federal and state governments rely on census data to budget for social welfare programs that assist the poor, elderly, disabled and veterans. Cities and private industry use demographic figures to plan new hospitals and housing developments, and to assess the need for new schools or new strip malls. So not filling out the census form comes at a hefty cost in the long run.

There are many good reasons and no bad reasons to be counted. Please, let's figure out a way to spread that word.

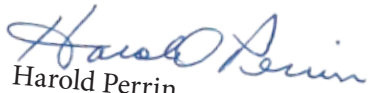
Another priority right now is Issue 1 on the November ballot. This is a continuation of a highway tax in a state that desperately needs to fund its highways. Not someday. Right now. The existing half-cent sales tax is about to sunset in 2023. Continuing it will raise \$205 million a year for highways and \$90 million for cities and counties.

Can you imagine the future without this money? I can, and it does not make me confident that we can travel well and that we can continue to attract industry and jobs without it.

Please reinforce the need for good roads to your constituents. Please ask them to fill out the census if they have not.

COVID is imminent, but other problems lay in wait.

Regards,



Harold Perrin  
Mayor, Jonesboro  
President, Arkansas Municipal League



# ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OFFICERS

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Mark R. Hayes ..... Executive Director

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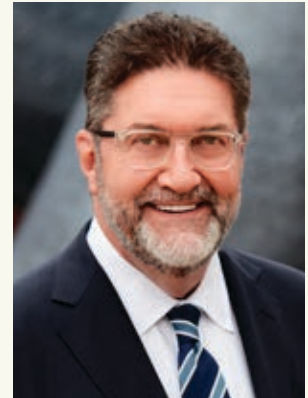
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# From the Desk of the Executive Director



## Reality: Virtual and Otherwise

**B**y now we've all had more than our fair share of Zoom-y type meetings. Regardless of the platform<sup>1</sup> it's all pretty much the same. Our pictures appear on our screen as do the others participating. Well, some folks are more willing to turn on the camera than others. Some people enjoy staying in P.J.'s and a ball cap while working at home, thus a call in and not a video is the best route to take. Others dress just as though they were going to the office. No camera issue there. Most folks fall somewhere in between. Regardless, we follow our virtual agenda, "raise" our hands, use the chat feature, await the random appearance of a cat/dog/child/repair person and hopefully take a meaningful part in the meeting.

I've come to enjoy these interactions. Well, not the Zoom-y thing per se, but seeing people I work with and care about is great. After all, some of us have gone long periods of time in isolation in some form or another. Mother Hayes has been on lockdown since March.<sup>2</sup> Recently, however, she was on a mission to bust out. We used the daughter's birthday as an excuse for the jail break. I picked her up wearing my mask, at the back door of her facility not the front. Shhhhhh! I'd call it a quick getaway, but I had to load her walker, purse, bag of goodies and vino in my vehicle before we hightailed it!<sup>3</sup> Bonnie and Clyde we ain't!<sup>4</sup> When we arrived we did a Zoom call with out-of-state family and friends. It was FANTASTIC!

My family, like yours I'm sure, is used to having big gatherings. Lots of folks at the house for holidays, special occasions and BBQs or crawfish boils.<sup>5</sup> The more the merrier is the Hayes motto. We'd have music, fun, food and beverage. And noise. Lots and lots of noise. Good noise, however. The kind that makes you feel happy. The kind that reminds me of the rumble and roar of League conventions. The loud tabletop discussions of 1,000-plus of your favorite city officials during the opening night banquet. That's a great noise! So too is the exhibit hall with our DJ spinning tunes, city officials chatting with each other and over 100 vendors. Those are GOOD noises. Alas, for this year at least, they *were* good noises. Well, we'll just see about that. I predict good noises later this month, they'll just be different.

As you know, for the first time ever the League will be holding a virtual convention. Admittedly I was initially disappointed about not seeing all of you face to face. And I guess in a way I still am. Y'all are fun to be with! The responsible thing, however, is virtual. And let me tell you, it's gonna be GREAT! Let's begin with this: It's FREE! That's right, there *is* a free lunch. Well, not lunch really but you know what I mean.<sup>6</sup> Because there's no fee, and because the convention can be attended during only parts of a workday, I expect a large turnout. In fact, there's no reason that every single city employee and official couldn't attend this year's convention. Think about that for a minute. We could set a record for convention attendance. That's right. Since attendees must merely register online and then get in front of smart device or computer screen at the appointed time, more folks than ever can easily participate.<sup>7</sup> And they can do so at the low cost of zero. Nada. Nothing. Zip.

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<sup>1</sup> Zoom, WebEx, GoTo, etc. There are so many programs now I can barely keep up with the needed apps, updates and nomenclature.

<sup>2</sup> Mother Hayes is right up the street from me in a two-bedroom apartment at a senior living facility. They don't play. They said lockdown and they meant it.

<sup>3</sup> Mother Hayes is self-quarantining for 14 days after the party but she's ok with that. She says she had enough bingo to last a lifetime! And she says she loves our family FaceTime and Zoom calls, particularly those during her cocktail hour. Mother Hayes rocks.

<sup>4</sup> Bonnie and Clyde spent some time marauding in Arkansas according to the Encyclopedia of Arkansas. They killed a Marshall from Alma, stayed at a tourist camp in Fort Smith, robbed a grocery store in Fayetteville, kidnapped a man near Berryville and committed a robbery in Texarkana ([encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/bonnie-and-clyde-3207t](http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/bonnie-and-clyde-3207t)).

<sup>5</sup> I LOVE CRAWFISH! It's a problem. Don't judge.

<sup>6</sup> "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch" is an adage we're all familiar with. It was in wide use in the early 1930s but its origins are unclear. It means, of course, that there's nothing that's really free. Normally I would agree, but not this year. This really is a great thing and it is free. You'll get a lot out of it ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/There\\_ain%27t\\_no\\_such\\_thing\\_as\\_a\\_free\\_lunch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/There_ain%27t_no_such_thing_as_a_free_lunch)).

<sup>7</sup> Click here to register: [www.cvent.com/d/bnqx59](http://www.cvent.com/d/bnqx59) or [www.arml.org/reg](http://www.arml.org/reg).

Here's a sample of the good stuff that's available:<sup>8</sup>

- A keynote address from the internationally<sup>9</sup> famous Dr. Rick Rigsby. Dr. Rigsby will discuss leadership in times of uncertainty. This promises to be GREAT NOISE!
- An update on the League's efforts regarding the national and state opioid cases. The League partnered with the Association of Arkansas Counties to bring the most unique, and strongest, lawsuit regarding the opioid epidemic. This crucial effort will hopefully make Arkansas the model of abatement of this killer, money-before-people opioid crisis.
- Legislative priorities of the 500 cities and towns in Arkansas will be determined during the Resolutions Committee meetings. It is of the utmost importance that you, the municipal officials of Arkansas, are heard as it relates to the 2021 legislative session. Remember: Be Local, Be Heard.
- COVID-19 has altered our reality for most of the past six months and there's no end in sight except for vaccines currently be tested.<sup>10</sup> Both the CARES Act and FEMA will be discussed at length. Hopefully this education will allow your city or town to recoup its COVID-19 expenses.
- Several constitutional officers, led by Governor Asa Hutchinson, will address us. We hope they'll speak of the need for local control and recognize how much better our state is when we all partner together.
- The League's business meetings will be held on Friday, August 21. The information shared during those meetings provides critical understanding of your League and its operations. Be there or be square!<sup>11</sup>
- Good noise! That's right, good noise. We'll all be together. We'll be able to hear each other. We'll be able to see each other. That sounds like great noise to me!

COVID-19 has altered our reality and our norms. The virus, however, does not have to define us. The League's 86th Annual Virtual Convention is our chance to show Arkansas and the world that municipal officials are robust, creative and meeting the needs of our citizens. This is our chance to shine despite the new format. This opportunity gives us a unique canvas to paint the picture that is municipal government. Let's make this the best convention ever! Let's get our attendance at record levels. One thousand is not enough. Nor is 1,500. I want 2,000 attendees! Can you imagine?! Think of the message that would send to this state and nation. Arkansas cities and towns are not only open for business, they are exceeding all expectations. So get your folks in front of a laptop, smart phone or tablet starting Wednesday, August 19 through Friday, August 21. Nobody cares about haircuts, invading pets and kids, or slightly dirty t-shirts. We care about each other. I can't wait to see your faces and hear some real municipal noise!

Until next month, peace.



Mark R. Hayes  
Executive Director  
Arkansas Municipal League

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<sup>8</sup> Click here for the agenda: [www.arml.org/static/arml/86th\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.arml.org/static/arml/86th_Agenda.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> [rickrigsby.com/about-us](http://rickrigsby.com/about-us)

<sup>10</sup> As of the printing of this column, several phase-3 clinical trials of a vaccine were ongoing ([www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/phase-3-clinical-trial-investigational-vaccine-covid-19-begins](http://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/phase-3-clinical-trial-investigational-vaccine-covid-19-begins)). Arkansans can volunteer for one of these clinical trials online at [arkansascovidvaccine.com](http://arkansascovidvaccine.com).

<sup>11</sup> This saying began shortly after World War II but hit its stride in the 1950s ([www.phrases.org.uk/bulletin\\_board/36/messages/210.html](http://www.phrases.org.uk/bulletin_board/36/messages/210.html)).

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# City&Town

## **Publisher**

Mark R. Hayes

## **Deputy Director**

Whitnee V. Bullerwell

## **Communications & Creative Manager**

Mel Jones

## **Editor**

Andrew T. Morgan

## **Graphic Designer**

Mark R. Potter

## **Communications Coordinator**

Ben Cline

## **Advertising Assistant**

Tricia Zello

## **Contributors**

Caran Curry

Jacob Gillip, PE

Reza Hakkak, Ph.D.

Karin Huffman

Krissy Kimbro Thomason

Jim von Tungeln

Emily Cooper Yates

[arml.org](http://arml.org)



[belocalbeheard.com](http://belocalbeheard.com)



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[citytown@arml.org](mailto:citytown@arml.org)



[GreatCitiesGreatState.com](http://GreatCitiesGreatState.com)

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*Our new AML Communities ListServ is more secure and offers a wealth of features designed to make idea sharing easier than ever. Upon login at <http://AMLCommunity.arml.org>, you may subscribe to the following communities:*

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- Visit <http://AMLCommunity.arml.org>
- Click the “sign in” button
- Click the “Can’t access your account?” link
- Follow the directions on the screen!

## State treasurer updates online turnback reporting system

Cities and counties that obtain monetary distributions from the Treasurer of State's office will now enjoy a more streamlined, efficient and cost-saving platform on which to access information about those distributions, State Treasurer Dennis Milligan announced June 14. The new software notifies cities and counties of the amount of monthly turnback distributions in a secure and timely manner, he said in a media release. "Now, officials don't have to wait to get that information in the mail; it's instantly right at their fingertips," Milligan said.

The treasury's Local Government Services division is responsible for distributing County and Municipal Aid funds (commonly known as turnback funds) to the state's 75 counties, as well as city and county sales and use taxes to the state's 501 incorporated cities. In the past, the treasury would mail out letters to the cities and counties, notifying them of how much money they would be receiving in turnback or sales and use taxes. The postage fee for mailing distributions previously cost the Treasury around \$22,000 per year. The new electronic system was developed by the treasury internally at no additional cost to taxpayers.

While all distribution information is uploaded to the treasury's main website, [www.artreasury.gov](http://www.artreasury.gov), cities and counties will be able to gather more detailed and private information on their specific funds using the new portal system. To use it, county treasurers and city officials register on the treasury's secure portal. They are then sent an email notifying them each time a distribution is being made to their municipality. The treasury sends out an average of \$1.5 billion annually in distributions to cities and counties, which rely on the funds for a variety of improvement projects or tax designations determined by voters. For more information on the new portal, contact Rachel Garrett at [rachel.garrett@artreasury.gov](mailto:rachel.garrett@artreasury.gov) or call 501-682-0002.

## Arkansas Bar Association honors League's Mann

Arkansas Municipal League Senior Litigation Counsel William C. (Bill) Mann III has been named the recipient of the Arkansas Bar Association's Outstanding Lawyer-Humanitarian Award in recognition of his outstanding humanitarian service. Arkansas Bar Association 2019-2020 President Brian Rosenthal presented the award virtually during the association's annual conference on June 10.

## Three cities receive ARC grants for broadband

Fairfield Bay, Ozark and Lonoke are the first cities to receive assistance through the Arkansas Rural Connect (ARC) grant program to expand broadband deployment, *Arkansas Business* and *Talk Business & Politics* have reported. Fairfield Bay, in partnership with Arkansas Telephone Co., has received a \$1.57 million ARC grant to deploy fiber internet to homes there. Ozark received a \$1.909 million grant through the program. Fort Smith-based Pinnacle Telecom will work with the city to deploy the fiber. Lonoke, in partnership with CableSouth Media 3, has received a \$2 million grant.

The Arkansas Department of Commerce received \$19.3 million in CARES Act funds for ARC grants. The spending was approved by the CARES Act Steering Committee and the Arkansas legislature. Grant recipients must expend the funds by Dec. 30. In addition, \$4.7 million in state funds is available for projects that would extend beyond that date.

"COVID-19 reminds us that broadband is a necessity," Gov. Asa Hutchinson said in a media release. "Arkansans need strong connectivity for telemedicine, distance education and telework. Broadband and the ARC program are vital for our response during this pandemic."

The department is currently evaluating applications with a focus on projects that can deploy broadband to qualified areas before Dec. 30. For more information or to apply for an ARC grant, visit [broadband.arkansas.gov](http://broadband.arkansas.gov).

## Siloam Springs' Patterson Credentialed by ICMA

Siloam Springs City Administrator Phillip Patterson has received the Credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the organization announced July 23. Patterson is one of over 1,300 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

Patterson is qualified by 30 years of professional local government experience. Prior to his appointment

in 2015 as city administrator of Siloam Springs, he served as assistant city manager in Lafayette, Colorado, and before that as director of planning and building in Maumelle.

## **Five Arkansas communities receive water/wastewater project funding**

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Commission has approved \$7,405,713 for water and wastewater projects serving more than 3,799 people in five Arkansas communities, the agency announced on July 15. The projects are as follows:

- The city of Jasper in Newton County received a \$440,000 loan and a \$1,351,750 loan with principal forgiveness from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund for improvements to the wastewater treatment facility. The number of customers served by this project is 246.
- The Parkers Chapel Public Water Authority in Union County received a \$1,498,736 loan from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund to replace a water well and construct a water line extension. This project will serve 971 customers.
- The city of Warren in Bradley County received a \$3,268,361 loan from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund for wastewater improvements. This project will serve 2,352 customers.
- The Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District received a \$15,450 loan from the Water Development Fund to repair a sinkhole in Kinion Lake Dam.
- The town of Fifty-Six received an \$831,416 loan from the Water Development Fund for the installation of 4.5 miles of waterline. The customer base for this project is 230.

During Fiscal Year 2020, the Arkansas Department of Agriculture dispersed a total of \$94,481,313 in federal and state funding for water and wastewater projects in Arkansas. With funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department dispersed \$78,568,892 through the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. A total of \$15,912,421 in state funding was provided through the Water Development Fund, Water Sewer and Solid Waste Fund, and the Consolidated General Obligation Bond program. Learn more about the Arkansas Department of Agriculture at [www.agriculture.arkansas.gov](http://www.agriculture.arkansas.gov).

## **Absentee voting officially an option for November election**

Secretary of State John Thurston released a statement on June 26 regarding absentee voting for Arkansans amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"As Secretary of State and Chief Election Officer for the State of Arkansas, I have been receiving many questions and have listened to the many concerns of the citizens of Arkansas as to the upcoming November election. We are fortunate in Arkansas that we have in place the means by which registered voters may request an absentee ballot. According to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 7-5-402 and 7-5-404, a voter may request an absentee ballot due to one of the following reasons:

- You will be unavoidably absent from your polling site on Election Day, OR
- You will be unable to attend your polling site on election day due to illness or physical disability, OR
- You are a member of the Uniformed Services, merchant marines or the spouse or a dependent family member and are away from your polling location due to the member's active duty status, OR
- A U.S. citizen whose residence is in Arkansas but is temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the United States.

Those provisions, as provided by state law, allow the voters of the state to contact their local county clerk and request an absentee ballot for one of the stated reasons. I understand many of our citizens may be assisting loved ones or are fearful of exposing a vulnerable family member to the virus. I understand that many are fearful of contacting or passing along the virus to others in the community. While my office continues to work with county officials to prepare polling locations, we are also anticipating and preparing for an increase in absentee ballot requests due to the COVID-19 virus.

It is my opinion and belief, that our current laws are sufficient to allow the registered voters of Arkansas the choice of going to their local polling location or requesting an absentee ballot from their local county clerk. We are fortunate that our lawmakers had the foresight in crafting our election laws to allow for times of being unavoidably absent whether by natural disaster, war, or global pandemic."

For information on how to contact your county clerk, to download an absentee ballot application, or to review all deadlines and questions, please visit [www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/absentee-voting](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/absentee-voting).

## Trendsetter City Awards 2020 now accepting applications

Presented by Arkansas Business Publishing Group and Crews & Associates in partnership with the Arkansas Municipal League, the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, Associated Industries of Arkansas and Crafton Tull, the Trendsetter City program is designed to honor cities that are leaders in innovative programs and initiatives for improvement and growth. Award recipients are recognized at the League's annual Winter Conference.

The competition is divided into three population categories: cities less than 5,000 population, 5,000-20,000 population and more than 20,000. Trendsetter City Award winners will be recognized in the following categories:

**Public Safety:** Recognizes cities and towns being proactive and innovative to improve public safety.

**Infrastructure/Water:** Recognizes cities and towns that have found innovative ways to preserve existing infrastructure and minimize repair costs for utilities, streets, public waterways, wastewater treatment and more.

**Education/Workforce Development:** Recognizes unique public programs and public-private partnerships that are improving graduation rates, raising the education standards in K-12 or developing a more-qualified workforce for employers.

**Wellness and Fitness:** Recognizes city-led programs to improve the wellness of city employees and/or its citizens.

**Tourism Development/Creative Culture:** Recognizes cities and towns that are building unique venues, attractions, museums and more to not only attract tourism but also improve the quality of life of citizens.

**Environmental/Green Management Practices:** Recognizes cities and towns for their efforts to preserve or improve their environment.

Cities and towns can submit one application in each award category, and each entry must describe programs or projects brought to conclusion or showing significant results between July 2016 and July 2020. An official entry application must be submitted for each project.

Applications must be received in the Arkansas Business office by 5 p.m. August 31 or be

postmarked on or before that date. Entry forms can be submitted to: C/O Kelli Roy, Arkansas Business Publishing Group, 114 Scott Street, Little Rock, AR 72201. Applications may also be emailed to [kroy@abpg.com](mailto:kroy@abpg.com) or faxed to 501-375-7933.

Applications for the Trendsetter City Awards can be downloaded at: [www.arkansasbusiness.com/trendsetter](http://www.arkansasbusiness.com/trendsetter).

## Directory updates moving online

Updates to the *Arkansas Directory of Municipal Officials* will move from the pages of *City & Town* to the League's Local Government Portal at [www.local.arkansas.gov](http://www.local.arkansas.gov). The portal is searchable by city or town name, county and zip code. Each municipality's entry will include the most up-to-date list of elected officials, department heads and contact information.

The *Arkansas Directory of Municipal Officials* will continue to be published on a biennial basis, with the 2021-2022 issue scheduled for next spring. The current edition is available to order from the League's Publications eCart at [www.arml.org/store](http://www.arml.org/store). The directory is also available to purchase as a searchable PDF. 📄

## Meeting Calendar

**August 19-21, 2020**, Arkansas Municipal League 86th Annual Virtual Convention. Virtual Event.

**November 18-21, 2020**, National League of Cities City Summit; Tampa, Florida.

**January 13-15, 2021**, Arkansas Municipal League Winter Conference.

## Obituaries

**DONA BURTON**, 79, who served 10 years as a member of the city council of Caddo Valley, died June 17.

**FRANCES ELIZABETH HICKS**, 68, treasurer for the city of Calion, died June 6.

**MARYANN STRACENER**, 75, of Batesville, former longtime recorder/treasurer of Pleasant Plains, died June 20.

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# The 86th Annual Virtual Convention is almost here

**W**ith zero commute time, no registration fees and the opportunity to attend from almost anywhere with an internet connection, we can't think of any reason why the entire AML membership *wouldn't* want to attend our very first virtual convention. But we *can* think of plenty of reasons why you should!

The 86th Annual Virtual Convention will be a blend of live and recorded sessions hosted on CrowdCompass and streamed via the Zoom platform. Each day can be easily accessed by visiting [www.arml.org/86](http://www.arml.org/86). Plus, the ARML Events app will keep you up to date with information on speakers, sessions and more, even when you're on the go.

The League has worked with Little Rock production company Waymack and Crew to bring the virtual convention to your screens. If you've been tuning into our weekly "What Cities and Towns Should Know During the COVID-19 Pandemic" broadcast with Dr. Joe Thompson, president and CEO of ACHI, you're definitely familiar with their excellent work.

A League convention wouldn't be complete without League Services, and although we won't have an exhibit hall to gather in this year, we will have plenty of information available during the daily Virtual League Services videos before the day's events begins, as well as during breaks throughout the three-day convention. And of course, we've got plenty of fun things planned as well. Read on to learn more about the 86th Annual Virtual Convention, and head to [arml.org](http://arml.org) to get registered today!

## Wednesday, August 19

League President and Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin will officially open the 86th Annual Virtual Convention at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 19, followed by Executive Director Mark R. Hayes, who will introduce keynote speaker Dr. Rick Rigsby. Dr. Rigsby is a *USA Today*, *Amazon* and *Wall Street Journal* best-selling author who became an internet sensation when his speech on hope—produced by Goalcast—was viewed by over 300 million people worldwide. An internationally recognized motivational speaker, Dr. Rigsby is founder of Rick Rigsby Communications. With engagements spanning the globe, audiences include Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 companies, service organizations, educational institutions, and professional sports organizations, including the NFL and PGA. Rick is a former



Dr. Rick Rigsby

PHOTO COURTESY DR. RICK RIGSBY

award-winning journalist, college professor and football character coach at Texas A&M University.

If you attended last year's milestone 85th convention, you know that you will not want to miss what Dr. Rigsby has in store for us this year with his timely address, "The Responsibility of Leaders in Times of Uncertainty." Join Dr. Rigsby as he shares the wisdom of past generations—wisdom that will inspire, motivate and empower you to be an outstanding leader in uncertain times.

The opioid epidemic continues to consume not only Arkansas but our entire nation, and the Arkansas Municipal League and the Association of Arkansas Counties partnered together to bring one of the most unique and strongest lawsuits regarding the epidemic. At 2:30 p.m., League Executive Director Hayes, General Counsel John Wilkerson, AAC Executive Director Chris Villines, and F. Jerome Tapley, principal at Cory Watson Attorneys, will provide an update on the most recent developments in this critical litigation.

Following a break, the Resolutions Committee will meet to discuss the resolutions submitted by League members. AML First Vice President and Mulberry Mayor Gary Baxter will preside, with Hayes and Wilkerson presenting the resolutions, which will be key in determining which legislative matters will be included in the League's *Policies and Goals* for the coming year.

## Thursday, August 20

Day two of the 86th Annual Virtual Convention begins at 9 a.m. with a welcome from Governor Asa Hutchinson and League Executive Director Hayes. The first session, Legislative Matters of Interest, immediately follows, with Hayes and General Counsel Wilkerson



PHOTOS BY BEN CLINE

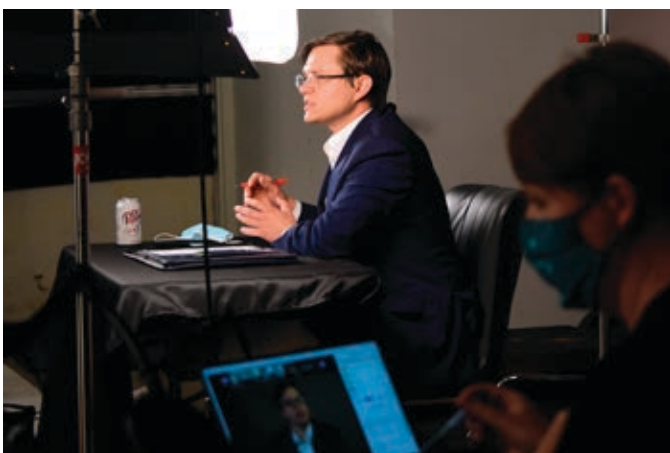
League Deputy Director Whitnee V. Bullerwell joins Dr. Joe Thompson on set at Waymack and Crew for the weekly broadcast.

discussing issues that will affect the cities and towns of Arkansas ahead of the upcoming 93rd General Assembly.

With the coronavirus pandemic at the front of everyone’s mind these days, League staff members, as well as Larry Walther, chief fiscal officer and director of the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, will hold a panel discussion during the CARES Act and FEMA Updates Regarding COVID-19 session, beginning at 10:10 a.m.

Following Thursday’s lunch break—which will feature video and photo presentations, as well as a few fun and informative segments—League Deputy Director Whitnee V. Bullerwell will discuss the Be Local Be Heard initiative that was first introduced at the 2020 Winter Conference. And while there won’t be a marching band in attendance this time, Bullerwell will talk about how local control is more important than ever.

Thursday’s schedule will wrap up with Part I of the 86th Annual Virtual Convention Awards Recognition, followed by the Resolutions Committee, which will vote on the legislative matters that will be included in the League’s *Policies and Goals* for the coming year.



Legal Counsel Lanny Richmond films his socially distanced segment for the weekly COVID-19 broadcast.

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Jeffrey H. Thomas, Managing Director

## Friday, August 21

The final day of the 86th Annual Virtual Convention begins at 9 a.m. with Executive Director Hayes' State of the League address, followed by the annual business meetings for the Municipal League Workers' Compensation Program, Municipal Health Benefit Program, Municipal Vehicle Program and Municipal Property Program. The League's *Policies and Goals* will be presented for a member vote, and the nominating committee will present their recommended slate of new officers for 2020-2021.


After a quick break, Mayor Perrin will give his farewell presidential address, followed by the introduction of the 2020-2021 slate of League officers and Mayor



PHOTOS BY MEL JONES

Behind the scenes: Communications Coordinator Ben Cline films segments with Cindy Frizzel (above) and John Wells (below).

Baxter's presidential address. Part II of the 86th Annual Virtual Convention Awards Recognition will begin at 11:15 a.m. and will be presented by 2020-2021 League President Gary Baxter. Dr. Rigsby will rejoin the 86th Annual Virtual Convention to offer a closing message to members. The convention will end with a wrap-up from Executive Director Hayes.

Continuing certification sessions will be available on-demand after the convention and include "Mental Health: Maintaining Mental Health in a Crisis" and "Grants: What Every Elected Official Needs to Know About Grants." Additionally, the Arkansas City Attorneys Association will offer CLE programming. 



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PHOTO COURTESY CAVE SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cave Springs' new hybrid police vehicles save gas and release fewer emissions while also displaying impressive powerful performance.

## Cave Springs Police Department adds hybrid vehicles to fleet

**T**he Cave Springs Police Department has found new ways to serve and protect in a more eco-friendly manner. The city recently replaced four of its aging police vehicles with six new Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid SUVs, which are designed to be both powerful and responsive while reducing fuel consumption and emissions. They're also the first of their kind in use in the state.

Much of a police vehicle's life is spent idling or cruising at low speed as officers work accidents, respond to calls and direct traffic, often with lights and climate control operating, Mayor Randy Noblett said. That can be especially true in a small, largely residential city like Cave Springs, he said.

Several of the department's older vehicles were beginning to be expensive in maintenance and upkeep. "It was just a deal where it was time to upgrade," Noblett said. The benefits outweigh the initial cost, the mayor said. The hybrids are more expensive on the front end, but they are expected to last twice as long as a traditional police vehicle. "For a city the size of Cave Springs that's pretty huge," he said.

The city funded the new vehicles through a five-year municipal bond.

The idea to add hybrid vehicles to the fleet originated with Police Chief Rick Crisman, who received the support of the mayor and city council for the upgrade.

Crisman wanted vehicles that could handle some off-road driving as well as the area's frequently flood-prone areas, so all-wheel drive was required. Not being a gas guzzler was another selling point for the new hybrid models. The chief noticed that the new hybrid model was getting great reviews from other departments across the country, and that sealed the deal. "I said, man, this is the way we need to go."

According to Crisman, all of the low-speed driving and idling, often with the A/C running—"In August in Arkansas you've got to have the air conditioner on"—the older vehicles got about 12 miles per gallon. The new hybrids can get 24 miles per gallon in the city or on the highway. "That'll cut our fuel costs in half right there," Crisman said. With an electric-supported gas engine, it also has powerful torque when needed and outperforms many gas-only engines.

"We can be the guinea pigs for the state of Arkansas," Crisman said. "I don't believe there's another agency in the state that has these."

Both the mayor and chief agree the new hybrid vehicles will serve citizens well while being more environmentally friendly. They encourage other cities interested in making the switch to hybrid to reach out to them if they have any questions about the new vehicles' performance. 🏠

# Deadlines approaching for 2020 municipal elections

The primaries are behind us, but there are several important deadlines approaching for candidates running for municipal office. Below are the key coming dates. For an in-depth look at the election process and the Arkansas statutes that govern it, please refer to the article “2020 Municipal Election Information: Deadlines for filing and other important dates” in the October 2019 issue of *City & Town*.

## Filing Dates

General Election (for Independents): From noon July 29, 2020, until noon Aug. 5, 2020. A.C.A. § 14-42-206(b)(1).

## Election Dates

General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. ACA 7-5-102.

General Election (Runoff): Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. ACA 7-5-106.

## City Administrator Form of Government

Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Tues., Aug. 11, 2020—Primary Election for Directors and Mayor when more than two are seeking the office (second Tuesday in August preceding the municipal general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020). ACA 14-48-109(a)(2).

## City Manager Form of Government

Deadlines for filing and other important dates:

Deadline for all candidates for petitions of nomination and political practice pledges not more than one-hundred two (102) days (July 24, 2020) nor less than eighty-one (81) days by noon (Aug. 14, 2020) before general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020. ACA 14-47-110(a)(2).

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020—Deadline for city clerk to certify names of candidates for director to county board of election commissioners, unless petition fails to meet standards seventy-five (75) days before general election, which is Nov. 3, 2020. ACA 14-47-110(a)(3)(D).

## Political Practice Pledge and Affidavit of Eligibility

For independent candidates: During the period for filing petition for nomination from July 24, 2020, until noon Aug. 14, 2020. ACA 7-6-102(a); 14-42-206(b)(3).

## Financial Disclosure Statements

Independent candidates for elective office must file a statement of financial interest for the previous year (2019) on the first Monday following the close of the filing period, which is Aug. 17, 2020. ACA 21-8-701(c); ACA 21-8-703.

## Reports of Contributions and Expenses

Pre-election Report—No later than seven (7) days prior to any preferential primary, runoff, general, or special election. Not required if contributions and expenditures are each less than five hundred dollars (\$500), or if candidate runs unopposed.

Final Reports—No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the month in which the candidate’s name has appeared on the ballot, regardless of whether a candidate has received contributions and/or expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500). A candidate who withdraws shall file within thirty (30) days of withdrawal a report of any contributions and expenditures not previously reported.

Supplemental Reports—After the final report, within thirty (30) days of contribution or expenditure. ACA 7-6-208.

## Officials elected take office: Jan. 1, 2021. 🏛️



Batesville Mayor Rick Elumbaugh takes a moment to talk with Batesville Water Utility employee Mark Williams about the work they are doing near Lyon College. Elumbaugh plans to walk every street in Batesville in order to get an in-depth look into the city.

## Walking in Batesville

By Karin Huffman, *Batesville Guard*

**W**alking with Batesville Mayor Rick Elumbaugh on what is a rather cool June afternoon while he continues his journey to step foot on every city street was an opportunity one couldn't pass up. A rare one-on-one chance to interact with the mayor outside of the typical city government environment was one most wouldn't refuse.

Elumbaugh started his master plan in April of this year in order to “really get a chance to see where we live,” and while he was at it, take time to talk to people who were home due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Elumbaugh jumped out of his big blue truck in a neon green vest made by City Clerk Denise Johnston and embroidered with the word MAYOR in bold print, he hit the ground running.

“I would walk through neighborhoods and kids would be outside having ‘recess’ since school was out,” Elumbaugh laughed. “I would say hi and talk to everyone that I would see, and then it hit me that not everyone in the city knows that I am the mayor. So, I had a special vest made that said ‘mayor’ just to be on the safe side.”

A few deeper strides on my part were necessary to keep up with him. “I will slow down for you,” he said. “I walk at a fast pace.”

Elumbaugh tries to walk on a daily if not weekly basis, depending on how busy his schedule is that day.

“Some days I leave out really early if I am going to have a busy day. Other days I play it by ear and will head out around lunchtime.”

Since starting this trek, Elumbaugh has logged about 60 out of Batesville's 100 miles of city streets.

On this day, the journey began in front of the lovely Brown Chapel on the campus of Lyon College, and if there were ever any worries that there would be nothing to talk about, those diminished early on.

Elumbaugh not only puts those he is around at ease, he is someone that has a story, vision or idea about every aspect of his surroundings. Rounding the corner onto College Street and past the Becknell Gym on campus, he points out that this street is owned by the college.

“Even though this is privately owned, the city will still come out and fix a pothole here and there for them,” he said. “We won't repave the street, but we like to keep things on a friendly basis and help out if we can.”

Speaking of friendly, Elumbaugh waves, says hi or stops for a conversation with every person he encounters, and he makes a point to tell them to have a good day before departing. Little does he know, his vow to walk the city streets has even carried over to other city council members.

“I have to say that I am really impressed that the mayor has committed to walking every street in the city,” Council Member Paige Hubbard said. “He has such

a passion for our city and seeing it be all that it can be. I love the idea and I'm challenging myself to do the same."

The mayor of has always shown drive and a need for progress in the city of more than 10,000 since he took office in 2007 after a 30-year career in the world of education.

His teaching career began in the small community of Desha, where he taught for eight years until the school annexed with Batesville in 1985. Once the two schools came together, Elumbaugh began teaching physical education and coached afterschool programs like pee-wee football and intramural sports. Along with teaching sports, Elumbaugh created a mountain biking program that put him in *Mountain Bike* magazine in 1996.

Throughout his teaching career, Elumbaugh also worked for the city, managing Batesville's two municipal swimming pools for over 30 years. While working for the city, Elumbaugh was able to get his foot in the door and understand a little more about how city government worked.

"In those 32 summers that I worked for the city, every time I would come in to city hall, our City Clerk Denise Johnston would ask me when I was going to run for mayor," he said. "I knew that I had the passion, I loved the community and I always kept up with city government. I lived through the era when Batesville was really progressive in the early '80s with all of the companies coming in, and the industry was doing well. But, when I decided to run, I felt that Batesville was stagnant during this time, and not a lot of movement was happening."

Elumbaugh knew that with the right team on the city council, they could challenge the community to move forward.

Current Council Member Julie Hinkle says she can't say enough great things about Elumbaugh, starting back when he coached her in elementary school.

"We both share the love of the water and outdoors," Hinkle said. "He deeply cares for our community."

For his part, the mayor gives a lot of credit to the city's leadership team. "Luckily, I have been fortunate enough to have a great city council that understands moving forward," Elumbaugh said. "We wanted to see a progressive community where our kids and grandkids would want to continue to live when they got older, and an area that I would want to retire in."

Being mayor for almost 15 years has proved that Elumbaugh's plan for change came to life with the building of the Batesville Aquatics Center, a new dog park, updated city parks, updated baseball fields, a new soccer field, updated wastewater plant and water infrastructure, and more things to come.



Elumbaugh takes a moment while working near the Bluff View subdivision to take a photo of an area of the street that needs maintenance work.

"This great city has made so many great strides," he said. "We will continue to meet all of the future challenges head on."

As Elumbaugh continues to walk through the Bluff View subdivision, he stops along the way to take pictures of areas that need work, limbs picked up or ditch issues, showing that he truly cares for the community he has been serving.

"One of our biggest challenges right now through COVID-19 is keeping up and making sure the health of our employees are first priority," he said. "So, when we see limbs on the side of the street for a few days or sometimes weeks, it's not because we don't want to get to them, we are just trying to do the best we can."

As mayor, many things run through Elumbaugh's mind on how he can maintain the city's welfare and happiness, and it's apparent that his mind never rests when it comes to the needs of his community.

"I am an advocate for this city," he said. "I want the community to have a good quality of life, and I want to hear from the community. If there is something I can do better, tell me."

Along with caring for his community, Elumbaugh above all else is a family man. While finishing up an almost three-mile walk, he takes a phone call from his son, Rusty. Elumbaugh's voice brightens up when his son says, "Let me guess, dad, you're out on one of your walks."

As today's walk ends where it began, at Brown Chapel, Elumbaugh jumps back in his truck and heads off to city hall to continue making what he feels are the right choices for the city of Batesville. 🏠

*Karin Huffman is staff writer and photographer for the Batesville Guard. This article appeared originally in the June 12 edition of the Guard and is reprinted with permission. Contact the author at 870-569-1509 or email [khuffman@guardonline.com](mailto:khuffman@guardonline.com).*

# WHAT CITIES AND TOWNS SHOULD KNOW DURING THE

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# COVID-19

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# PANDEMIC

## Masks on! Governor issues mask mandate as statewide COVID-19 cases continue to rise

In mid-July, Arkansas joined a growing list of states that have issued mask mandates as a means to help curb the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Prior to issuing Executive Order 20-43 that put the mask mandate in place, Gov. Asa Hutchinson had previously signed EO 20-41 (<https://bit.ly/3ebiWWy>) for the Purpose of Clarifying Local Response to COVID-19, which allowed individual cities and towns to implement an ordinance—drafted in partnership with the Arkansas Municipal League—requiring mandatory face coverings.

“This provides a local option for cities to give them more flexibility if they have a community in which they might have a surge in cases,” Hutchinson said. “This model ordinance, from the Municipal League, provides a consistency in approach across the state.”

EO 20-41, which has been superseded by the more recent EO-43, allowed for the following:

- Local law enforcement and other city officials to enforce the use of face coverings upon the business’ premises in accordance with public health guidelines.
- Local law enforcement and other city officials to act in a support capacity, through enforcement, to educate and encourage members of the public who decline to wear a face covering about the efficacy of wearing such coverings.
- Local law enforcement and other city officials to assist in enforcement through education of individuals who decline to comply with the face covering requirement of any local business that the individual must abide by the local business’ mandate or leave the premises.

However, at his press conference on Thursday, July 16, the governor announced EO 20-43 (<https://bit.ly/32pqUZV>) for the Purpose of Requiring Face Coverings **The order went into effect on Monday, July 20.** An accompanying directive from the Arkansas Department of Health has also been issued.

EO 20-43 states, in its entirety: The Secretary of Health shall issue a public health directive requiring every person in Arkansas to wear a face covering over the mouth and nose in all indoor environments where they are exposed to nonhousehold members and distancing of six (6) feet or more cannot be assured and in all outdoor settings where there is exposure to non-household members, unless there exists ample space of six (6) feet or more to practice physical distancing.

The following shall be exempt from wearing a face covering:

- Persons younger than 10 years of age;
- Persons with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- Persons performing job duties where a six (6) feet distance is not achievable, but a mask is inhibitory to the ability to safely and effectively perform the job duty;
- Persons participating in athletic activities where a six (6) feet distance is not achievable, but a mask is inhibitory to the activity;
- Persons consuming food or drink;
- Persons driving alone or with passengers from the driver’s household;
- Persons receiving services that require access to the face for security, surveillance, or other

- purposes may temporarily remove a face covering while receiving those services;
- Persons voting, assisting voters, serving as poll watchers, or actively performing election administration duties; however, face coverings are strongly encouraged;
- Persons engaged in religious worship activities; however, face coverings are strongly encouraged;
- Persons giving a speech or performance for broadcast or to an audience; however, those persons shall safely distance from nearby individuals;
- Persons in counties where the Department of Health has certified that risk of community transmission of COVID-19 is low. To be considered low risk, the county must not have a newly identified case of COVID-19 for twenty-eight (28) consecutive days, assuming there has been adequate testing in the county.

Executive Orders of the Governor issued pursuant Ark. Code Ann. §§ 12-75-101, et seq., have the force and effect of law. Additionally, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101, violation of a directive from the Secretary of Health during this public health emergency is a misdemeanor offense, and upon conviction thereof is punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

Law enforcement and local officials have the authority and are encouraged to enforce this directive. First-time violators of this order shall receive a verbal or written warning.

Violators of this order under 18 years of age shall only receive a verbal or written warning.

No law enforcement officer or local official may detain, arrest or confine in jail any person for violation of this order.

This order shall not prohibit law enforcement officers or local officials from enforcing trespassing laws or other applicable laws in removing violators at the request of businesses or other property owners.

Cities and counties may issue local ordinances consistent with this order. Cities shall not impose any measure that is in conflict with a directive or guideline issued by the Secretary of Health, in consultation with the governor.

The provisions of this order shall supersede those contained Executive Order 20-41; however, nothing in this order shall invalidate any ordinance passed pursuant to EO 20-41.

This order shall automatically expire upon termination of the current emergency.

## Ordinance and resolution guidance

After review of EO 20-43 and the ADH directive, the League believes there is no conflict between the model

mask ordinance the governor approved on July 3 and this order. Thus, if your city or town passed that model ordinance with no changes to it, there is no need to repeal it.

However, if your city passed an amended version of the model ordinance, especially any ordinance with exceptions different than those contained in EO 20-43 or the ADH directive, your city or town should consider repealing that ordinance to prevent confusion and inconsistency.

We took the step of drafting a repealing ordinance for any municipality with an inconsistent ordinance or for any municipality who decides that an ordinance is no longer necessary now that a state mandate is in place.

For municipalities who passed resolutions, no action is required. A resolution is the council expressing its will or an opinion on a matter. They are not enforced in court and thus only need to be repealed if the council so chooses. With that said, a council could consider repealing any mask resolution to avoid confusion.

## Enforcement

With this new mask mandate, the question of enforcement arises. Following is what the governor declared in EO 20-43 concerning enforcement of this face coverings/mask mandate:

Law enforcement and local officials have the authority and are encouraged to enforce this directive.

- First-time violators of this order shall receive a verbal or written warning.
- Violators of this order under 18 years of age shall only receive a verbal or written warning.
- No law enforcement officer or local official may detain, arrest or confine in jail any person for violation of this order.
- This order shall not prohibit law enforcement officers or local officials from enforcing trespassing laws or other applicable laws in removing violators at the request of businesses or other property owners.

In addition to the language in EO 20-43, we would remind everyone that local law enforcement has the authority to enforce ADH directives pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101. That law states:

- Every firm, person, or corporation violating any of the provisions of this act or any of the orders or rules made and promulgated in pursuance hereof shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) . . .

With that in mind, let’s turn back to the language in EO 20-43. We firmly believe that educating your citizens of the importance of wearing face coverings/masks is the primary means through which you can ensure face coverings/masks are worn (see below for guidance from the CDC explaining the proper usage and the overall benefits of wearing face coverings/masks, which may be useful to hand out to citizens).

However, for those who refuse to wear face coverings/masks, the governor has encouraged law enforcement to issue warnings for first time violators of this ADH directive. If the violation continues, Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101 authorizes law enforcement to issue citations for violations of this (or any) ADH directive; this is a last resort. We should also add that the governor has made it clear that law enforcement should not detain, arrest or confine in jail any person in violation of this ADH directive.

The governor recognizes that local law enforcement is in the best position to know what is needed in their community. “[I]t is the prerogative of the local police department to set their enforcement priorities,” he said. “So I defer to them on that. It is an option they can utilize to educate, to enforce and to make sure we all stay healthy in our communities.”

**Guidance from the CDC: Considerations for wearing a mask**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that people wear masks in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Masks may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others. Masks are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings. Masks should *not* be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

**Evidence for effectiveness of masks**

Masks are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the mask coughs, sneezes, talks or raises their voice. This is called source control. This recommendation is based on what we know about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, paired with emerging evidence from clinical and laboratory studies that shows masks reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth. COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with

one another (within about 6 feet), so the use of masks is particularly important in settings where people are close to each other or where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

**Who should wear a mask?**

**The general public**

- CDC recommends all people 2 years of age and older wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- COVID-19 can be spread by people who do not have symptoms and do not know that they are infected. That’s why it’s important for everyone to wear masks in public settings and practice social distancing (staying at least 6 feet away from other people).
- While masks are strongly encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the CDC recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a mask may not be feasible. In these instances, adaptations and alternatives should be considered whenever possible (see below for examples).

**People who know or think they might have COVID-19**

- If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19, do not visit public areas. Stay home except to get medical care. As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people and pets in your home. If you need to be around other people or animals, wear a mask (including in your home).
- The mask helps prevent a person who is sick from spreading the virus to others. It helps keep respiratory droplets contained and from reaching other people.

**Caregivers of people with COVID-19**

- Those caring for someone who is sick with COVID-19 at home or in a non-healthcare setting may also wear a mask. However, the protective effects—how well the mask protects healthy people from breathing in the virus—are unknown. To prevent getting sick, caregivers should also continue to practice everyday preventive actions: Avoid close contact as much as possible; clean hands often; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands; and frequently clean and disinfect surfaces.



## Who should not wear a mask

### Masks should *not* be worn by:

- Children younger than 2 years old
- Anyone who has trouble breathing
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance

### Feasibility and adaptations

The CDC recognizes that wearing masks may not be possible in every situation or for some people. In some situations, wearing a mask may exacerbate a physical or mental health condition, lead to a medical emergency or introduce significant safety concerns. Adaptations and alternatives should be considered whenever possible to increase the feasibility of wearing a mask or to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading if it is not possible to wear one.

### For example:

- People who are deaf or hard of hearing—or those who care for or interact with a person who is hearing impaired—may be unable to wear masks if they rely on lipreading to communicate. In this situation, consider using a clear mask. If a clear mask isn't available, consider whether you can use written communication, use closed captioning, or decrease background noise to make communication possible while wearing a mask that blocks your lips.
- Some people, such as people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental health conditions or other sensory sensitivities, may have challenges wearing a mask. They should consult with their healthcare provider for advice about wearing masks.
- Younger children (e.g., preschool or early elementary aged) may be unable to wear a mask properly, particularly for an extended period of time. Wearing of masks may be prioritized at times when it is difficult to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others (e.g., during carpool drop off or pick up, or when standing in line at school). Ensuring proper mask size and fit and providing children with frequent reminders and education on the importance and proper wear of masks may help address these issues.
- People should not wear masks while engaged in activities that may cause the mask to become wet, like when swimming at the beach or pool. A wet mask may make it difficult to breathe. For activities like swimming, it is particularly important to maintain physical distance from others when in the water.

- People who are engaged in high intensity activities, like running, may not be able to wear a mask if it causes difficulty breathing. If unable to wear a mask, consider conducting the activity in a location with greater ventilation and air exchange (for instance, outdoors versus indoors) and where it is possible to maintain physical distance from others.
- People who work in a setting where masks may increase the risk of heat-related illness or cause safety concerns due to introduction of a hazard (for instance, straps getting caught in machinery) may consult with an occupational safety and health professional to determine the appropriate mask for their setting. Outdoor workers may prioritize use of masks when in close contact with other people, like during group travel or shift meetings, and remove masks when social distancing is possible.

Masks are a critical preventive measure and are *most* essential in times when social distancing is difficult. If masks cannot be used, make sure to take other measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread, including social distancing, frequent hand washing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

### Face shields

It is not known if face shields provide any benefit as source control to protect others from the spray of respiratory particles. The CDC does not recommend use of face shields for normal everyday activities or as a substitute for masks. Some people may choose to use a face shield when sustained close contact with other people is expected. If face shields are used without a mask, they should wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend to below the chin. Disposable face shields should only be worn for a single use. Reusable face shields should be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Plastic face shields for newborns and infants are *not* recommended.

### Surgical masks

Masks are not surgical masks or respirators. Currently, those are critical supplies that should continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance. Masks also are not appropriate substitutes for them in workplaces where masks or respirators are recommended or required and available.

*To learn more about masks and keep up to date with the latest information from the CDC, visit [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) to get started.* 🏠



# 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual Convention

August 19-21, 2020

**MONTHS**

**00**

**DAYS**

**08**

**HOURS**

**00**

**Countdown to Convention.**

There is no fee for the Virtual Convention.  
Registration link will be announced soon.

Contact Whitnee Bullerwell at  
[wvb@arml.org](mailto:wvb@arml.org) for more information.



# 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual Convention

## August 19-21, 2020

### TENTATIVE PROGRAM IN BRIEF

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>AUGUST 19</b>	1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Opening General Session</b>
	2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	<b>Opioid Litigation Update</b>
	3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	<b>Resolutions Committee Meeting</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>AUGUST 20</b>	9:00 a.m.-11:10 a.m.	<b>General Sessions</b>
	11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	<b>Be Local Be Heard Initiative</b>
	12:15 p.m.-12:30 p.m.	<b>86th Awards Part 1</b>
	12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	<b>Resolutions Committee Meeting</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>AUGUST 21</b>	9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	<b>State of the League Address</b>
	10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	<b>Farewell Presidential Address</b>
	11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.	<b>2020-2021 Officers</b>
	11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	<b>Presidential Address</b>
	11:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.	<b>86th Awards Part 2</b>

### RESOLUTIONS

Suggested resolutions for consideration at the 86th Annual Convention should be mailed to:

86th Convention Resolutions  
Arkansas Municipal League  
P.O. Box 38  
North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038

**The deadline for resolution submission is Friday, July 17.**

Resolutions may be drafted by an official of any member city or town and can relate to any matter of municipal concern. See your **2019-2020 Policies and Goals** for resolutions adopted at the 85th Convention.

### WANTED: Elected city officials with 25 years of service

Were you elected and began serving your city or town in 1995? The League would like to know.

The League will give special recognition to **elected city and town officials** who are in their 25th year of municipal service at the 86th League Annual Virtual Convention, August 19-21, in Little Rock.

**Names must be submitted to the League by July 17.**

Call Whitnee Bullerwell at 501-978-6105; Sheila Boyd, 501-537-3785; or write to P.O. Box 38, North Little Rock, AR 72115-0038.

# 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual Convention

## Wednesday, August 19th, 2020

1:30 P.M.	<p><b>WELCOME TO THE 86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION</b></p> <p>Speakers: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro President, Arkansas Municipal League Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League</p>
1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.	<p><b>OPENING GENERAL SESSION: THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADERS IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY</b></p> <p><i>We are honored to have keynote speaker, Dr. Rick Rigsby, join us for the opening of our 86th Virtual Convention and address our delegates. Join us as Dr. Rigsby shares leadership wisdom that will inspire, motivate and empower you.</i></p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Rick Rigsby, President and CEO, Rick Rigsby Communications</p>
2:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.	<p><b>UPDATE ON OPIOID LITIGATION</b></p> <p><i>Opioid addiction and opioid abuse are serious problems in Arkansas and our nation. We will discuss recent developments in the opioid litigation the Arkansas Municipal League and the Association of Arkansas Counties filed.</i></p> <p>Speakers: Honorable Leslie Rutledge, Attorney General, State of Arkansas Chris Villines, Executive Director, Association of Arkansas Counties Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League John Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League F. Jerome Tapley, Principal, Cory Watson Attorneys</p>
3:00 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.	<p><b>BREAK</b></p>
3:15 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.	<p><b>RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE</b></p> <p><i>Each municipality has a designated representative who will vote on legislative matters to be included in the League's Policies and Goals for the coming year.</i></p> <p>Presiding: Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League</p> <p>Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League John Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League</p>
4:15 P.M.	<p><b>WRAP FOR WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY PREVIEW</b></p>

## Thursday, August 20th, 2020

9:00 A.M.	<p><b>WELCOME TO THE 86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION, DAY 2</b></p> <p>Speakers: Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Governor, State of Arkansas State Senator Jim Hendren, President Pro Tempore State Representative Matthew Shepherd, Speaker of the House Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League</p>
9:00 A.M. to 10:10 A.M.	<p><b>LEGISLATIVE MATTERS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p><i>This session provides an overview of legislative matters of interest. With the upcoming legislative session, the 93rd General Assembly, League staff will discuss issues that will affect the cities and towns of Arkansas.</i></p> <p>Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League John Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Robert Moery, Campaign Director The Vote for Roads. Vote for Issue 1. Campaign</p>
10:10 A.M. to 11:10 A.M.	<p><b>CARES ACT AND FEMA UPDATES REGARDING COVID-19</b></p> <p>Speakers: John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Blake Gary, Associate Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League Caran Curry, Grants Attorney, Arkansas Municipal League Larry Walther, Chief Fiscal Officer and Director, Department of Finance and Administration Paul S. Louthian, Comptroller, Department of Finance and Administration</p>
11:10 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.	<p><b>LUNCH BREAK</b></p>

# Tentative Agenda

11:45 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.	<b>BE LOCAL BE HEARD INITIATIVE</b> Speaker: Whitnee V. Bullerwell, Deputy Director, Arkansas Municipal League
12:15 P.M. to 12:30 P.M.	<b>86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION AWARDS RECOGNITION PART I</b> <i>Welcome to the 86th Virtual Convention Awards Recognition. We will recognize municipalities and individuals that have made significant contributions to the cities and towns of Arkansas.</i> Speaker: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro President, Arkansas Municipal League
12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.	<b>RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE</b> <i>Each municipality has a designated representative who will vote on legislative matters to be included in the League's Policies and Goals for the coming year.</i> Presiding: Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League John Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League
1:30 P.M.	<b>WRAP FOR THURSDAY/FRIDAY PREVIEW</b>
<b>Friday, August 21st, 2020</b>	
9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	<b>STATE OF THE LEAGUE ADDRESS AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING</b> <i>Annual Business Meetings for the Municipal League Workers' Compensation Program (MLWCP), Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP), Municipal Vehicle Program (MVP), and Municipal Property Program (MPP) will be conducted. The League's Policies and Goals are presented and voted on by members. The nominating committee presents their recommended slate of new officers for 2020-2021.</i> Speakers: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League Mayor Doug Sprouse, Springdale City Attorney Howard Cain, Huntsville
10:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.	<b>BREAK</b>
10:45 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.	<b>FAREWELL PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS</b> Speaker: Mayor Harold Perrin, Jonesboro President, Arkansas Municipal League
11:00 A.M. to 11:05 A.M.	<b>INTRODUCTION OF 2020-2021 OFFICERS</b> <i>The new slate of League Officers will be introduced at this time.</i>
11:05 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.	<b>INCOMING PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS</b> Speaker: Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League
11:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.	<b>86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION AWARDS RECOGNITION PART II</b> <i>Welcome to the 86th Virtual Convention Awards Recognition. We will recognize individuals that have made significant contributions to the cities and towns of Arkansas.</i> Speaker: Mayor Gary Baxter, Mulberry First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League
11:45 A.M.	<b>86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION CLOSING MESSAGE</b> Speaker: Dr. Rick Rigsby, President and CEO, Rick Rigsby Communications
	<b>86TH VIRTUAL CONVENTION WRAP-UP</b> Speaker: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League

# Great Arkansas Cleanup soon underway

Each fall, thousands of Arkansans remove tons of trash from our state's roadways, shorelines, parks and public areas during the Great Arkansas Cleanup, Keep Arkansas Beautiful's fall statewide community improvement campaign. Communities large and small show their commitment to the Great Arkansas Cleanup campaign by recruiting volunteers of all ages and taking on a variety of community cleanup and environmental improvement projects. The Great Arkansas Cleanup runs from September through October.

During the 2019 Great Arkansas Cleanup, more than 7,000 volunteers worked almost 37,000 hours in communities across the state. The community improvement effort involved 189 events, with volunteers collecting 182,604 pounds of litter from 1,148 miles of roadways, 979 miles of waterways, and more than 20,400 acres of parks and public areas. The total economic value of the 2019 Great Arkansas Cleanup to Arkansas communities was more than \$1.5 million.

The Great Arkansas Cleanup began more than 40 years ago as the Greers Ferry Lake and Little Red River Cleanup. In 1985, then-U.S. Sen. Dale Bumpers guided legislation requiring an annual pickup event during the weekend after Labor Day on all federal lands. This law, the Carl Garner Federal Lands Cleanup Act, honors the founder of the event. Mr. Garner continued his advocacy for a clean and litter-free environment until his death in 2014.

Visit [keeparkansasbeautiful.com/get-involved/cleanups](http://keeparkansasbeautiful.com/get-involved/cleanups) for a list of cleanups scheduled near you and resources to help get a cleanup started in your city, including video tutorials, downloadable planning materials, cleanup safety tips, customizable fliers and media materials, and more. 🏠



# New League webinars connect cities with granting agencies

By Caran Curry, League staff

**H**ave you thought about seeking additional grant funding for your city or town but were too busy to take the time to drive somewhere to attend a briefing session? Who would have guessed that one of the pandemic's benefits would be the proliferation of webinars that allow us to attend meetings with others in the state and even across the country with just a few clicks of the mouse?

To take advantage of this time, the Arkansas Municipal League is hosting a monthly "Meet the Funders" webinar opportunity featuring various granting agency representatives who will brief us on their upcoming grant opportunities. In the future, a Meet the Funders webinar will be held at 2 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month. For most of the presentations, granting agency officials will present the information about the grant applications followed by a question and answer session. Occasionally we will also include discussions from cities that have previously received the same grants. Announcements about the sessions will be posted on the Grants Program page of AML's website at [www.arml.org/grants](http://www.arml.org/grants) and distributed to AML's listservs.

When I began working for the League this past spring, the most frequently requested funding was to help cities address aging, failing water and sewer systems. Naturally, it was one of the first presentations. Our session included a presentation by Debby Dickson, program fiscal manager of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division. The most important point that she made was if your city is

experiencing a water or sewer infrastructure problem, reach out to her so that the Natural Resources Division can assist you in the process of obtaining funding.

Water and sewer infrastructure needs can be complex and require you and funding agencies to work together. Unlike many other programs that have funding cycles, water and sewer funds are available year-round. While Dickson anticipates some level of additional funding as part of a federal stimulus package, the Natural Resources Division will need projects for that funding. Funding is currently available for your water and sewer infrastructure needs. For the latest information on funding opportunities, join their mailing list at <https://bit.ly/33fN8yf>. Dickson can be reached at 501-682-0548.

Upcoming Meet the Funders sessions will include presentations about the following grant opportunities: Department of Transportation, Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Program, Department of Arkansas Heritage, Arkansas Parks, National Endowment for the Arts, National Parks Service, Department of Agriculture, Creative Placemaking, Corporate Solicitations (Entergy, Walmart, Home Depot, etc.) and more. For further information, give me a call at 501-517-0416.



*Caran Curry is grants attorney for the Arkansas Municipal League. Contact Caran at 501-374-3484, ext. 219, or email [ccurry@arml.org](mailto:ccurry@arml.org).*

## Time to levy property taxes

**C**ity and town councils may levy general property taxes of up to five mills on the dollar (Ark. Const. art. 12 § 4; A.C.A. §§ 26-25-102 and 103). In order to implement this millage, the governing body of the city or town must certify the rate of taxation levied to the county clerk. (A.C.A. § 26-73-202). This must be done prior to the time fixed by law for the Quorum Court to levy county taxes. *Id.* Arkansas Code section 14-14-904(b) establishes the November or December meeting of the Quorum Court as the time to levy those taxes.

Accordingly, municipal officials should check with the Quorum Court to determine whether its levying meeting will be in November or December. It is important also to bear in mind that the city council must levy and certify its taxes annually, as failure to levy by the required date will result in a millage of zero for the following year (*See* Ark. Ops. Atty. Gen. No. 91-044 and 85-5).

The bottom line: If your city or town wishes to collect property taxes for the following year, make sure that council approval and certification to the county clerk occur prior to the meeting of the Quorum Court at which county taxes are levied. 🏛️



## Our Fayetteville Office Has Moved To:

**1580 E Stearns St  
Fayetteville, AR 72703  
(479) 443.2377**

[mce.us.com](http://mce.us.com)



## Meet Karen Mitchell, who keeps things moving at the front desk for the Arkansas Municipal League.



**City and Town:** What are your duties and responsibilities at the League?

**Karen Mitchell:** I've recently started a new position at the League where I'm responsible for helping our members and the public by answering and directing calls and questions to the appropriate person, official or department. I also assist with conferences, workshops and other meetings, and once we reopen to the public, I will greet and direct members and guests.

**How long have you been working at the League?**

**How did you get started?** Seventeen years, 10 months to be exact. I will celebrate 18 years in October. I began my journey as a claims analyst with the Health Fund [now MHBP].

**How has the League changed since you started?**

**What has stayed the same?** The biggest change was moving the Health Fund from 5th & Broadway to the Municipal League campus in 2003. Two constants that are always improving are the yearly winter conferences and summer conventions. You'll find tons of information and meet some of the staff that are here to assist you.

**What is the biggest lesson you've learned working for the cities and towns of Arkansas?**

I've learned that our city and town officials are awesome! It's their passion and knowledge for their hometowns that has allowed me to learn so much more history about each city and town in Arkansas. I've also learned that a town of five is just as important as a city of 10,000.

**What advice would you have for someone just getting into public service?** My advice would be "don't be afraid to ask." Regardless of how you might think the question sounds or if it's a common question, still ask.

**Where did you grow up? How has it changed?**

**Stayed the same?** North Little Rock from birth to present. The thing that was a big change for me was the combining of the two rival high schools (Ole Main Wildcats and Northeast Chargers) into one. Now it is the NLR High School Charging Wildcats. For the record, I was an Ole Main Wildcat! Everything changes and nothing remains the same!

**What is your favorite spot in your hometown?**

**Why?** Downtown Main Street, because it's more of a comfort spot of good memories. Especially the NLR City Hall, because there was a parade on Main Street and the Jackson 5 were in the parade. I was sitting in front of city hall when Michael Jackson waved at ME!

**What is your favorite part about working for the Arkansas Municipal League and the cities and towns of Arkansas?**

My favorite part about being a part of the AML staff is that we are able to help our members by being the center point of communication and information to help ensure their cities and towns can run as smoothly as possible. In fact, our motto says it all: "Great Cities Make a Great State."

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<b>Save up to 51%</b>	<b>Save up to 51%</b>	<b>Save up to 63%</b>																		
<b>Features &amp; benefits include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Cybersecurity &amp; Computer Maintenance</li> <li>&gt; 24x7 Helpdesk (onsite &amp; remote)</li> <li>&gt; Data Backup &amp; Disaster Recovery</li> <li>&gt; Records/Document Management, Email, &amp; Microsoft Office</li> <li>&gt; Video Archiving</li> <li>&gt; Policy &amp; Compliance</li> <li>&gt; Website</li> <li>&gt; Vendor Management and Procurement</li> </ul>	<b>Features &amp; benefits include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Cybersecurity &amp; Computer Maintenance</li> <li>&gt; 24x7 Helpdesk (remote)</li> <li>&gt; Data Backup &amp; Disaster Recovery</li> <li>&gt; Vendor Management and Procurement</li> </ul>	<b>Features &amp; benefits include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Cybersecurity &amp; Computer Maintenance</li> <li>&gt; Data Backup &amp; Disaster Recovery</li> </ul>																		
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## Meet Bill Campbell, communications director for the city of Jonesboro.

**City and Town:** What are your duties and responsibilities at the city of Jonesboro?



**Bill Campbell:** As director of communications, I handle media requests for the mayor and department directors. I also am responsible for FOIA requests, and my three-person department handles social media and our government access, 24-hour cable channel. I am also a confidant and advisor to the mayor, and sometimes represent him at functions that he cannot attend. I do many TV and radio interviews, as well as host a show featuring our staff and nonprofits that serve Jonesboro.

**Why did you choose your profession?** In this instance, it definitely found me. I am blessed, and that's a word I use sparingly, to have found Mayor Perrin and Jonesboro. I was a career journalist, starting as a sportswriter. I worked for the *Dallas Morning News* then the *Times-Picayune* of New Orleans. When the newspaper business turned sour, I spent two years recrafting a resume to find a new fit, and a family member made me aware of an opening with the city of Jonesboro.

**What's your favorite aspect of your job? What's the biggest challenge?** What I like best is helping people. It is easily quantifiable when you help someone without resources or connections and make their problems smaller. The biggest challenge is trying to inform the public accurately. Many misunderstandings come from a mistrust of what we try to do, and it requires a lot of patience to address.

**What's your favorite spot in Jonesboro?** Craighead Forest Park is an easy winner. When I moved here, I thought it was a state park! It even has campgrounds and an RV park, a 3.2-mile bike/pedestrian trail, and much more.

**What is the public perception of your job versus the reality of your job?** I don't really know, but I can promise that most people don't know exactly what anyone in government does. No one calls to thank engineering when the traffic lights all work well. No one congratulates sanitation when the trash gets picked up on time. No one commends our finance department when we have a clean audit. No one thanks the mayor for stretching their tax dollars. Part of my job is pointing out how your city government works for you.

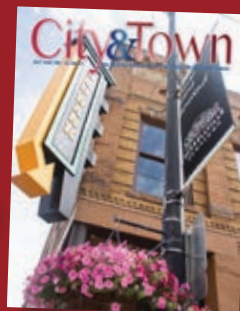
**What was your favorite subject in school?** History and sociology. There is nothing I enjoy more than meeting people from different backgrounds, learning different cultures, foods and ways of life. We all share one planet and are on it at the same time. No bigger coincidence will ever take place in our lives.

**What advice do you have for someone who would like to follow your footsteps into this job?** Don't panic, even when it feels appropriate. Don't lie to the public. Ever. If you have to eat crow, don't nibble. Own it. There will be mistakes. But honest mistakes are only compounded if you try to diminish or hide them. Be a listener, because most who call on you often feel unheard. Most important: If you are writing news releases, find a good editor. Typos are waiting to haunt you. ☹️

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Even after the darkest night, the sun will rise and our cities will be here and need us.

# Normalcy: A return to what and when?

By Jim von Tungeln

**E**ven the most detailed search would fail to find any city’s comprehensive plan that begins “Our community vision is to return to normal.” That, however, seems to be the prevalent sentiment among our communities today.

The sentiment exists despite the difficulty in defining or agreeing upon what “normal” means. Planners may view it as a time when we believed we could solve urban problems or predict the growth of our cities or regions. Some view it as a time when we thought we were making progress. Others view it as a time when we thought that new technologies would offer hope for a better world. And still others view it as a time when we thought that socioeconomic advances would go hand in hand with a growing unity in a march toward a brighter future.

Then we encountered an unpredictable event that demanded a response that was beyond what is normally expected of a government, especially a local government. That created severe consequences. They call that type of event a “Black Swan,” after a popular book by that name

authored by Nassim Nicholas Taleb in 2007. It is worth reading by anyone concerned with the future of cities.

Uncertainty still rules our encounter with this event. Nonetheless, we can count on a few things. As always, our cities will be in the vanguard of overseeing a return to some level of recognizable stability, or as U.S. presidential candidate Warren G. Harding termed it, “a return to normalcy.” Without doubt, some things won’t change, and without doubt, planning and preparation will offer hope in meeting a future that entails stability.

What won’t change? There will still be four seasons in the year and our cities must be prepared. There will continue to be winters with pipe-bursting temperatures and snows that add challenges to existing catastrophes. There will continue to be long summers, hot enough to buckle the asphalt on our streets and threaten the lives of the unprepared. There will continue to be springs that bring rain in volumes that flood our neighborhoods. And there will be autumns that make our citizens want to travel the state to experience a reassuring and comforting beauty.

The sun will rise in the morning, along with citizens who desire and expect a normal life. Many if not most answers to addressing this challenge won't come from far away, but from city halls, large and small, across our great state.

People will continue to work or seek work. As we are learning, more may find that they are able to do this gainfully from home. Cities will find they must adjust local laws and regulations to accommodate this. The entire zoning concept of "home occupation" may require overhauling. Cities may also find broadband internet access becoming a more pressing need than new traffic arteries.

People will continue to shop to the extent that they have wages to spend. The growing trend of internet shopping may become more pronounced. Personal automobile traffic may diminish while delivery traffic increases. Planning must consider the impact of this change on local streets designed to accommodate light local traffic. Our police officers and firefighters may find different challenges in providing public safety.

Families in our state and its cities will need a place to live that is affordable, decent, safe and sanitary. The accompanying dilemma is the fact that nothing tried so far to solve this has worked that well. The solution may come from local governments that are willing to look beyond tradition and embrace innovation. This may result in a fresh look at how we build our neighborhoods and house our people.

Associated with this challenge lies another constant: the creative tension between those who embrace urban sprawl and those who preach building our cities "up instead of out." We can expect this tension to increase. Already, results are correlating the spread of the COVID-19 virus and higher densities. A familiar graduate-school lesson reminds us of the danger in confusing correlation and causation. Still, the statistics may provide opponents new ammunition for resistance against designing our cities in a more efficient manner.

At the same time, cities will continue to lack financial resources to furnish the level of services desired by their citizens. There may not be a direct solution to this, especially if the economic effects of the existing pandemic continue. The first step, then, for a city may be to make sound plans for not increasing the cost of government. This brings back into focus the creative tension mentioned earlier that exists between proponents of sprawl and those who advocate tighter, taller and more efficient cities.

Finally, there will continue to be social disparities among the citizens of the state and individual cities. Urban planning has historically ebbed and flowed regarding this. Some modern researchers, for example,

argue that municipal regulations drive up the cost of housing. Municipal officials respond by pointing out that a safe dwelling place costs more than the slum tenements or shotgun shacks of old.

Current news reports indicate that those on the nonaffluent end of the economic spectrum may not be willing to continue to accept the status quo. Our cities and their planners will remain in the middle of battles for social change.

What can be done to maintain some degree of stability toward the normal? First, local government in our state must continue to do what it has done in the past, which is to innovate. Municipal government knows how to do much with little.

In this need for innovation, planners could rise above the perimeters that stifle thought. According to a quote attributed to Albert Einstein, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them." Does this mean that planners throw out any ideas that have worked in the past? Certainly not. As mentioned in a previous column, there are time-tested ideas that can help modern urban government. It may mean, though, that a single dwelling on a single lot may not be the optimum urban form for continuing a normal standard of living.

Planners must continue to educate their constituents. Too often public interaction has meant letting special interests take the planning function away from professionals. These includes professionals who are trained to produce ideas that address the health, safety and welfare of all citizens. Education should put greater focus on producing the agreement that sound ideas are worthy of implementation. For example, some medical evidence suggests that the treatment of addiction works best after the patient agrees that treatment would be personally beneficial. It is important for cities as well. Ideas work best when all parties believe the ideas are worthwhile. Planners call that "buy-in."

Such efforts may require cooperation from higher authorities who will permit innovation and not create barriers to fresh ideas. This means that local governments continue to remain close working partners with other levels of government. No institution proves better at this than the Arkansas Municipal League.



*Jim von Tungeln is staff planning consultant and available for consultation as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Persons having comments or questions may reach him at (501) 944-3649. His email is [uplan@swbell.net](mailto:uplan@swbell.net).*

# Creating healthy communities

Delta Population Health Institute challenges us to redefine health

By Emily Cooper Yates

We often associate health with physical or mental well-being on a personal level. Commonly, individual health is seen as something solely determined by lifestyle choices and is addressed in a clinic by a doctor, one on one. In reality, the components of health expand far beyond an individual's body and choices. The community and environment we live in significantly impacts our individual health, and the Delta Population Health Institute (DPHI) is working to illuminate the extent of this impact in the Delta region. DPHI's Executive Director Dr. Brookshield Laurent and Deputy Director Dr. Jennifer Conner are working to re-define what health means to Arkansans.

The DPHI is the community outreach arm of the New York Institute of Technology's College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYITCOM) at Arkansas State University. Launched in November of 2019, DPHI's mission is to promote opportunities for better health by addressing health disparities in population groups and works to cultivate "opportunities for health in our families, neighborhoods, schools and jobs, achieving greater health equity among all people throughout Arkansas and the Delta." Their mission is carried out through research, education, community engagement and policy engagement.

Through these avenues, DPHI helps Arkansas communities create a culture of health. Dr. Laurent shared that a culture of health involves assessing your community and ensuring that everyone has equal opportunity and access to resources to thrive.

"Countless studies have shown that the greatest impact of health outcomes in our community concern factors outside of the clinic and outside of the hospital setting—specifically the conditions where we live, learn, work, grow and play," she said.



According to Dr. Laurent, one thing we can do today to create a culture of health in our communities is to reassess our definition of the term health with community members.

The determinants of health expand beyond the individual. Every asset in a community is a determinant of health, from education to infrastructure. Redefining health also includes redefining how we heal. DPHI emphasizes the importance of thinking beyond the

clinic. “You don’t need a medical degree to address health in your community,” Dr. Laurent said.

The role of healer is not limited to doctors or nurses in a hospital. Anyone in a community who helps a person meet their basic needs is a healer. An educator is a healer. Even the roles of medical professionals expand beyond their office to the community to serve as leaders and resources, a concept DPHI teaches NYITCOM students.

While the COVID-19 pandemic creates difficult circumstances, it illuminates the interconnectedness of health and brings a new definition of health to the forefront. Dr. Conner cited access to the internet as an example of an issue exacerbated by the pandemic. A community with poor internet access is a community lacking in educational and economic opportunities and access to valuable resources. Dr. Conner added that we should listen to our community members and allow

them to tell their stories. Then we can begin to fully understand the health impact on our communities.

The Delta Population Health Institute offers health resources, community resources and regularly updated information on the COVID-19 pandemic on their website. DPHI has also published their inaugural report, which is accessible on their website. To access these resources and to learn more about DPHI, visit [delta-phi.org](http://delta-phi.org) or email [deltaphi@nyit.org](mailto:deltaphi@nyit.org).



*Emily Cooper Yates is the project coordinator for the University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED). Learn more about CCED at [www.uca.edu/cced](http://www.uca.edu/cced).*

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# The keys to a longer, healthier life

By Reza Hakkak, Ph.D.

One of the many lessons we have learned from the COVID-19 global pandemic is that individuals have a very large part to play in determining their own health. The current crisis has had a tremendous impact on our daily lives and routines, from how often we wash our hands to wearing a mask in public and keeping a safe distance between ourselves and others. I hope we take this time to assess how our habits and behaviors in our normal lives are having a negative effect on our health and seek ways to change them.

## An unnatural state

Even before the COVID crisis, Arkansas was not a healthy state. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, mortality rates here are and have long been among the highest in the country.

Among the poor health rankings, we were third nationally in deaths due to heart disease, seventh in deaths due to stroke, sixth in deaths due to cancer and third in deaths attributed to diabetes. Collectively, these health problems claimed more than 17,500 Arkansans in 2017.

The tragedy is that many of these deaths were preventable. Most of these deaths can be attributed to the effects of being overweight or obese. Arkansas has one of the highest obesity rates in the U.S. In 2019 we were ranked third in the country in our percentage of adults considered obese. Research shows a link between obesity and the development of chronic diseases, such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, which are some of the leading causes of preventable, premature death.

## The two causes

The main cause of obesity is having an unhealthy diet and lack of physical activity. It is not news to point out that sedentary people burn fewer calories than people who are active. When that inactivity is combined with a diet high in saturated fat and sugar and low in fiber and calcium, the results are tragically predictable.

It does not help that there is a perpetual cycle at play here. We eat foods high in calories and saturated fats, which results in weight gain. That extra weight promotes inactivity. The inactivity leads to poor health outcomes.

We must find a way to break this cycle. I submit that there is no time like the present, especially with health concerns being front and center in our daily lives right now.

## Simple solutions

The answer is simple, but that doesn't mean it's easy. We must adopt a lifestyle that embraces healthier eating and more exercise.

A healthy diet can include eating whole grains, fruits, vegetables, lean protein, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, and drinking water. I would note that Arkansas has an advantage in this regard in that its economy is so heavily invested in agriculture. Wholesome, fresh produce should be abundant. Our public policies should aim to make it accessible and affordable.

Exercise is, for many, a more daunting aspect of lifestyle change. However, understand that tremendous effects can be accomplished without huge sacrifices. The CDC recommends adults do at least 150 minutes of moderately intensive activity or 75 minutes of vigorously intensive activity, or a combination of both, per week. Ideally, this would be combined with two days of strength training per week. This may sound like a lot, but all told is around four hours of exercise in an entire week. The average American spends more than that on their phone every day.

Eating responsibly and exercising regularly are the keys to living a longer life of higher quality. I challenge you to grab those keys and share them with loved ones who can use them to unlock the positive benefits.



*Reza Hakkak, Ph.D., is a professor and chair of the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition and associate dean for research in the College of Health Professions at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.*

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The city of Fayetteville utilized recent aerial photography to estimate their urban tree canopy at around 35 percent.

# Assessing and increasing urban tree canopy cover

By Krissy Kimbro Thomason

**N**ever is the value of a full, lush layer of leaves overhead more recognized than when it provides a shady respite from scorching summer temperatures. Increasing the number of trees planted in urban and community forests is a major goal of urban forestry due to the numerous benefits they provide, such as shade, a decrease in peak summer temperatures, less air pollution, stormwater runoff mitigation, increased property values, wildlife habitat and the enhanced aesthetic value of a greener urban landscape. These benefits, while valuable on their own, can also attract new residents and businesses to a community. An increase in urban tree canopy brings an associated increase in these benefits.

## What is the urban tree canopy?

The urban tree canopy is defined by the USDA Forest Service as the layer of tree leaves, branches and stems that provide tree coverage of the ground when viewed from above. Tree canopy coverage in a community can reflect many factors, including financial investment, volunteer hours and intentional planning. An increase or decrease in the urban tree canopy can likewise reflect fluctuations in those factors.

To help city planners and community advocates make sound decisions about tree planting and development, it is helpful to know the amount of tree canopy present and to have a way to analyze whether it is increasing or decreasing. Just as an urban tree inventory of community trees reflects the number and sizes of trees by species in a defined area, an urban tree canopy assessment helps

measure and monitor tree cover present in an area. Historical data points to a progressive decline in tree canopies across the United States. Development, natural disasters, and insects and disease are among the leading causes for this decline. Assessing their urban tree canopy can help a community measure, monitor and improve tree cover over time, as well as respond to and prevent threats that can lead to tree canopy loss.

## Urban tree canopy goals

According to the Center for Watershed Protection, researchers estimate that the average canopy cover in urban and metropolitan areas of the United States is around 30 percent. In 1997, conservation organization American Forests published an article promoting a benchmark of 40 percent canopy cover for all urban and metropolitan areas. However, according to the American Forests website ([americanforests.org](http://americanforests.org)), over the last two decades research has since proven that a universal approach is less feasible than one more tailored to individual cities based on their climate and various land-use patterns. From a 15-percent goal in desert cities to one that exceeds 50 percent in cities with sizeable urban forestry and planning budgets, what matters is that the community values promoting an increase in the urban tree canopy and will both set and work toward attainable goals.

If your city is seeking to set a goal for increased tree canopy coverage, the first step is to conduct an urban tree canopy assessment to determine the current percent canopy cover. From there, short- and long-term plans can



be made based on local needs and accommodating for constraints such as development and climate.

## Canopy assessment tools and calculation methods

Canopy cover measures what percent of the land area is covered by tree canopies, as opposed to other vegetation or impervious surfaces such as parking lots. It is one of the most useful tools in an urban forester's toolkit. Canopy cover can be measured through ground surveys (assessing from below) or through various applications that use aerial photography and random points on the maps (assessing from above).

For a ground survey, sample 50 to 100 randomly selected streets (plots). Plots may consist of two to three city blocks. A total of 100 trees of each species or class of trees being studied should be represented in the overall totals.

For an aerial survey, photogrammetry and remote sensing techniques allow the user to make approximations based on the frequency trees occur within the selected area seen on the images. Ideally, the aerial photograph is taken around noon, minimizing shadows, and during early to mid-summer when deciduous trees are in full leaf.

Online assessment tool i-Tree Canopy ([canopy.itreetools.org](http://canopy.itreetools.org)) uses aerial photography from Google Maps and random sample points to estimate tree cover and tree benefits for project areas determined by the user. A community can utilize existing geographic boundaries, upload an ESRI shapefile or draw their own project area boundary. The community then defines a list of ground cover types—building, tree, shrub, body of water and others—to be analyzed in the selected defined area. Zooming in on the aerial photography at each randomly generated point allows the user to classify the cover type in that spot. The more points completed, the better the cover estimate for the area being analyzed.

## Community urban tree canopy ordinances

Once a current urban tree-canopy cover percentage has been assessed, urban foresters and city planners can begin to work toward preserving the current canopy level and take steps toward improving it. Many cities find that by working toward improved tree health of current community trees, they can raise their canopy cover without necessarily planting more trees than usual. Incorporating best practices for tree care and protection into city ordinances is easily done, and by providing for proper tree care and eliminating destructive practices, communities can go a long way toward maintaining their urban forests. Provisions to consider including in ordinances include pruning recommendations, planting requirements, permits for activities that may damage



PHOTO BY KRISSEY KIMBRO THOMASON

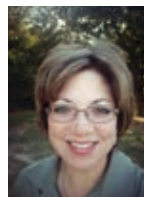
A healthy urban tree canopy provides benefits to the community such as increased shade and decreased peak summertime temperatures, and it can help attract new residents and businesses to the area.

city-owned or privately owned trees, and a process for resolving conflicts between trees and structures.

## Canopy cover as part of a complete management strategy

The urban tree canopy percentage is just one of many criteria to consider when developing a community strategy. As American Forests states on their website, “a robust tree canopy comprised of largely invasive species, for example, is not a healthy urban forest. Age and species diversity, condition of trees and equitable distribution across income levels, to name a few, should also be considered.”

If you do not currently have an urban forestry professional working with your community to help facilitate planning, consider seeking out advice from one or from your local extension service or Forestry Division office. Estimating current canopy cover is a fairly easy process, and a professional can help guide you through. Afterward, they can then assist you in selecting a reasonable and attainable goal based on local climate and land use and can offer advice on suitable ordinances to help you reach your goal.



*Krissy Kimbro Thomason is the urban forestry coordinator for Arkansas Department of Agriculture–Forestry Division. Contact Krissy at 479-228-7929 or email [kristine.thomason@agriculture.arkansas.gov](mailto:kristine.thomason@agriculture.arkansas.gov).*

# Manhole rehabilitation: keeping gravity lines flowing

By Jacob Gillip, PE

In most wastewater collection systems, manholes are one of the primary sources of inflow and infiltration. Inflow and infiltration (or I&I) are terms used to describe the ways that groundwater and stormwater enter into dedicated wastewater or sanitary sewer systems. Depending on the system, there could easily be 15-25 manholes per mile of gravity sewer line. Since gravity sewer lines are often bedded in granular fill, the lines often function much like a French drain—groundwater collects along its length and flows along the sewer line. This groundwater in the sewer line trench will infiltrate into the sewer line at any available opening. Manholes are frequently the location at which this occurs.

There are numerous reasons for this infiltration. Older manholes could be constructed of brick overlaid with mortar. As the bricks settle, the mortar cracks and the manhole leaks. Often, the floor of the manhole was not securely attached to the walls. Other manholes are damaged by hydrogen sulfide attack. Hydrogen sulfide forms from wastewater in anaerobic conditions (an absence of oxygen) and can break down concrete, mortar and grout. This can cause loss of hydraulic integrity at the seal around the sewer mains entering and exiting the manhole, at the seals between sections in precast manholes, and the construction joint between the barrel and the floor of a cast-in-place manhole.

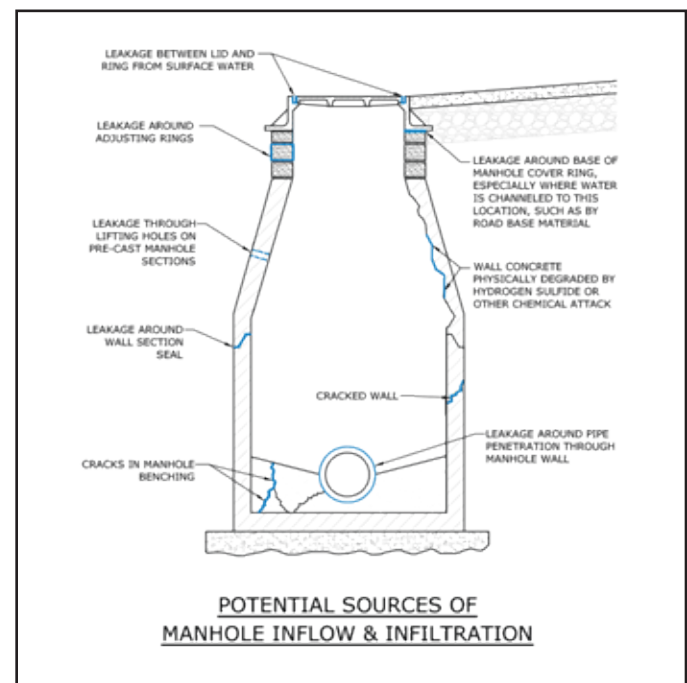
Other sources of groundwater or stormwater runoff are the ring and cover of the manhole. Some manholes are subject to submergence, even if only in the form of sheet flow across the lid. This allows direct stormwater inflow into the manhole around the lid.

An additional susceptible area is the junction between the concrete and the cast iron manhole ring and cover. The cast iron ring and cover are subject to greater thermal expansion than the concrete below, and the seal between the two is typically constructed of grout, which will eventually crack due to thermal stresses. If the manhole is submerged, it increases the amount of flow that can come into the top of the manhole. Manholes in paved areas may also collect stormwater runoff or groundwater from the aggregate base beneath the pavement.

## Rehabilitation of the manhole barrel

If the barrel of the manhole is leaking, cracked or even structurally at risk, the first step in rehabilitation is typically to rebuild the lining of the manhole with a cementitious grout. The cementitious grout provides a good adherence to the underlying existing manhole materials and provides a measure of waterproofing on its own. Particular attention would be given to problem areas, such as joints between sections of precast manholes, cracks, pipe penetrations, or the top ring of the manhole. Manholes that have lost wall thickness due to aggressive chemical attacks can even be structurally reinforced by the application of some kinds of cementitious grout. Depending on the issues with the manhole, such a product may rehabilitate the manhole to an adequate degree.

However, if the manhole is subject to sulfate attacks or wastewater containing any other aggressive chemicals, an epoxy coating over the cementitious liner offers an increased level of waterproofing, chemical resistance and even abrasion resistance. A grout-epoxy system will be more costly than a grout-only system, but it will provide better resistance to chemical or abrasive attack.

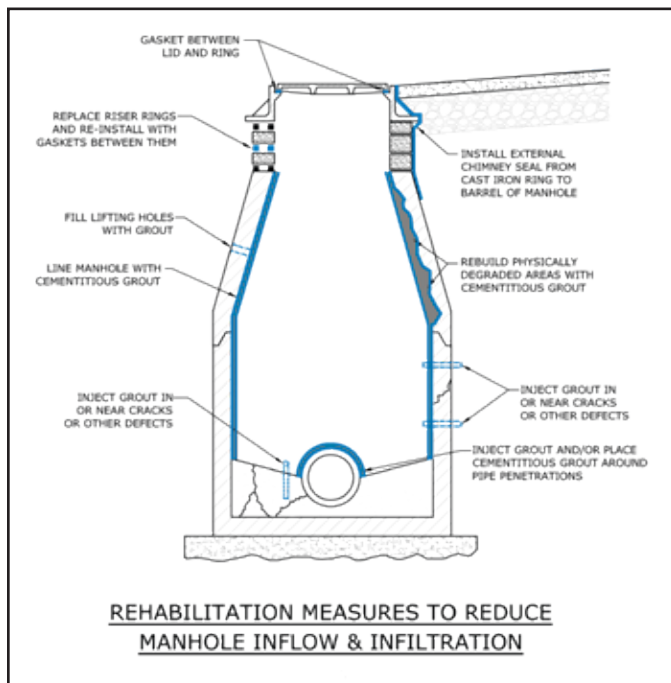


## Rehabilitation of pipe penetrations

As noted above, leakage around pipe penetrations can often be addressed by the application of cementitious grout to the interior of the manhole, especially in situations in which the annular space (space between a penetrant and whatever surrounds it) around the pipe penetration is physically degraded. An alternate approach to addressing the issue could involve the injection of a foam or grout through the wall of the manhole into the soils or void space on the outside of the manhole. This can be especially beneficial where there is a large volume of water entering around a pipe penetration. This method can also be useful for sealing cracks in the manhole wall.

## Hydraulic integrity of the ring and cover

One of the easiest areas of the manhole to address is the ring and cover. If the ring and lid are frequently subject to submersion or sheet flow across the top of the manhole, and if that manhole is in relatively good shape, sealing the ring to the concrete barrel of the manhole may produce good results. This seal can be achieved through several different products, all with the same



general approach—create a flexible seal between the concrete barrel and the cast iron lid. This may be done either on the exterior or the interior of the manhole and can be achieved with several different flexible membranes or elastomeric coatings.

In the circumstance of a manhole with flow across the top of the lid, there are products and systems designed to seal the lid of the manhole to the ring, preventing leaking around this junction. Some of these systems also include an alternate method to ventilate the manhole.

## Is manhole rehabilitation right for your system?

There is not a one-size-fits-all solution to I&I into a wastewater system. Manholes are just one component of a wastewater collection system and are far from the only contributor of inflow or infiltration. Even after a manhole rehabilitation program, many system owners are surprised to find that the wet weather flows are reduced, but the dry weather flows are increased! If you reduce infiltration into a system, you also reduce exfiltration out of the system.

As with most infrastructure improvements, an engineering study is the best way to determine what improvements will be most cost-effective and will have the most impact on your system. This discussion is by no means exhaustive, either. There are many exciting tools available for such purposes, and more are being continually developed.



*Jacob Gillip is a project engineer and project manager in the Water/Wastewater Department at MCE's Little Rock office. Contact Jacob by phone at 501-371-0272 or email him at [jgillip@mce.us.com](mailto:jgillip@mce.us.com).*

# Mental illness and substance use in young adults

Entering adulthood can be an emotional time, but sometimes the ups and downs can mean something more. Millions of young adults between the ages of 18 to 25 are living with a mental or substance use disorder, and many either do not realize they have one or are not paying attention to the signs and seeking help. In fact, of the 8.9 million young adults who reported having a mental illness in 2018, more than two in five went untreated, and of the 5.1 million with a substance use disorder, nearly nine in 10 did not get treatment.

Here are a few common signs of a potential mental or substance use disorder:

- Trouble sleeping or oversleeping
- Feelings of anxiousness
- Changes in appetite and weight
- Difficulty in daily functioning
- Thoughts of suicide
- Loss of interest in hobbies and friends
- Changes in overall energy levels
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Extreme mood changes

It is important to remember that asking for help is a normal part of life, and no one should feel like you have to take on the world alone. If you are concerned that you or someone in your life may be drinking too much, using drugs or dealing with mental illness, there are resources available to help at 800-662-HELP (4357) for treatment referral.



## 5 reasons not to share your prescription medications

As much as 40 percent of adults say they borrow or lend prescription drugs, but it's very dangerous to do. Understanding the risk of sharing prescription drugs while at work or in the home is very real. Here are the top five reasons to not do so:

1. Federal law prohibits the possession or use of someone else's prescription drugs.
2. You could get fired from your job for distributing prescription drugs without a medical license.
3. Someone else's prescription drugs may cause problems with your current medicines or medical conditions. They also may cause you to have a serious side effect or allergic reaction.
4. Using leftover prescription drugs—yours or someone else's—may mean you do not get the correct amount, and your infection or illness may become harder to treat.
5. You could be responsible for coworkers' injuries if they take your prescription drugs. And, depending on where you live, if the person you gave the drugs to gives them to someone else, you may be legally responsible for the other person's injuries.

In addition to our top five reasons not to share, many employers are now implementing "Prescription Impairing Effects Pre-duty Disclosure Policies" for employees in safety or security sensitive positions, where you are required to disclose to the employer any impairing effect from medications you may have taken prior to your next shift.

*XPert Diagnostics (formerly a'TEST CONSULTANTS, Inc.) provides drug and alcohol testing as a service of the Arkansas Municipal League Legal Defense Program. The program helps cities and towns comply with the U. S. Department of Transportation's required drug testing for all holders of commercial drivers' licenses.*

# Maximize Your Benefit

## Join the Municipal Health Benefit Program

MHBP provides coverage to 350 entities.  
And that number is growing!

Download the  
MHBP booklet at:  
[www.arml.org/mhbp](http://www.arml.org/mhbp)

In 2020 the Program offers:

- ◆ Optional Routine Dental and Vision Benefits
- ◆ Optional Life & AD&D Coverage
- ◆ No Lifetime Dollar Maximums
- ◆ Preventative Care
- ◆ Coverage for Adult Dependents age 19 to 26 years
- ◆ Special Bariatric Surgery & Chemical Dependency Programs



The Municipal Health Benefit Program provides quality health protection for your officials and employees at a reasonable rate.

For further information, please call 501-978-6126.



[www.arml.org/mhbp](http://www.arml.org/mhbp)

# 2019/2020 State Turnback Funds

<b>Actual Totals Per Capita</b>						
	<b>STREET</b>		<b>SEVERANCE TAX</b>		<b>GENERAL</b>	
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January	\$5.662	\$6.789	\$0.246	\$0.083	\$2.145	\$2.145
February	\$5.675	\$6.340	\$0.096	\$0.118	\$1.087	\$1.087
March	\$5.085	\$5.758	\$0.438	\$0.101	\$1.087	\$1.087
April	\$5.401	\$6.088	\$0.338	\$0.064	\$1.085	\$0.924
May	\$5.811	\$5.943	\$0.227	\$0.034	\$1.086	\$0.924
June	\$6.017	\$5.605	\$0.209	\$0.030	\$1.088	\$0.924
July	\$5.801	\$6.094	\$0.182	\$0.022	\$2.959	\$2.795
August	\$5.990		\$0.114		\$0.924	
September	\$5.899		\$0.155		\$1.087	
October	\$5.654		\$0.124		\$1.087	
November	\$5.652		\$0.064		\$1.087	
December	\$5.775		\$0.069		\$1.087	
<b>Total Year</b>	<b>\$68.422</b>	<b>\$42.617</b>	<b>\$2.261</b>	<b>\$0.452</b>	<b>\$15.810</b>	<b>\$9.888</b>

<b>Actual Totals Per Month</b>						
	<b>STREET</b>		<b>SEVERANCE TAX</b>		<b>GENERAL</b>	
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January	\$10,702,464.91	\$12,833,880.33	\$464,101.95	\$156,199.64	*\$4,054,867.57	* \$4,054,970.57
February	\$10,728,532.32	\$11,984,924.80	\$181,468.75	\$223,221.26	\$2,055,501.82	\$2,055,049.55
March	\$9,611,591.51	\$10,883,990.67	\$828,851.20	\$191,150.53	\$2,055,055.19	\$2,055,396.67
April	\$10,209,400.74	\$11,509,342.85	\$638,095.99	\$120,647.65	\$2,051,915.02	\$1,747,446.98
May	\$10,985,547.22	\$11,233,895.61	\$428,651.27	\$63,817.15	\$2,052,767.40	\$1,747,094.76
June	\$11,374,227.00	\$10,595,347.60	\$395,730.25	\$57,224.47	\$2,056,915.45	\$1,747,446.98
July	\$10,966,523.76	\$11,520,392.64	\$343,609.83	\$41,735.92	** \$5,592,768.93	*** \$5,284,317.00
August	\$11,322,293.50		\$214,617.36		\$1,746,588.81	
September	\$11,150,912.22		\$292,391.02		\$2,055,099.92	
October	\$10,687,834.00		\$235,240.93		\$2,055,035.24	
November	\$10,684,885.09		\$121,344.58		\$2,055,035.24	
December	\$10,916,904.58		\$130,060.08		\$2,054,709.31	
<b>Total Year</b>	<b>\$129,341,116.85</b>	<b>\$80,561,774.50</b>	<b>\$4,274,163.21</b>	<b>\$853,996.62</b>	<b>\$29,886,259.90</b>	<b>\$18,691,722.51</b>

\* Includes \$2 million appropriation from the Property Tax Relief Fund

\*\*Includes \$3,513,475.89 supplemental for July 2019

\*\*\* Includes \$3,513,475.64 supplemental for July 2020

# Local Option Sales and Use Tax in Arkansas



KEY: Counties not collecting sales tax

Source: Rachel Garrett, Office of State Treasurer

See also: [www.dfa.arkansas.gov](http://www.dfa.arkansas.gov)

Sales and Use Tax Year-to-Date 2020 with 2019 Comparison (shaded gray)

Month	Municipal Tax	County Tax	Total Tax	Interest
January	\$62,951,910	\$59,187,540	\$116,974,957	\$188,294
February	\$73,128,305	\$66,363,635	\$134,405,060	\$265,350
March	\$57,761,974	\$55,016,953	\$107,625,338	\$241,046
April	\$58,720,966	\$53,915,385	\$99,595,300	\$239,875
May	\$61,816,632	\$61,136,496	\$116,516,851	\$37,445
June	\$66,569,122	\$63,455,242	\$124,973,319	\$199,380
July	\$62,196,778	\$52,242,794	\$114,439,573	\$239,855
August	\$63,103,397	\$53,989,906	\$117,093,303	\$229,107
September	\$63,071,625	\$54,693,037	\$117,764,662	\$213,728
October	\$64,934,499	\$55,729,333	\$120,663,833	\$214,922
November	\$62,765,968	\$54,501,529	\$117,267,498	\$182,403
December	\$62,102,384	\$54,327,357	\$116,429,741	\$184,380
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$380,948,910</b>	<b>\$328,943,583</b>	<b>\$709,892,493</b>	<b>\$667,574</b>
Averages	\$63,491,485	\$54,823,930	\$118,315,416	\$219,299

**July 2020 Municipal Levy Receipts and July 2020 Municipal/County Levy Receipts with 2019 Comparison (shaded gray)**

CITY SALES AND USE . . . . .	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR	Garfield	12,304.96	9,222.51	Mountain Home	674,751.09	586,889.06	COUNTY SALES AND USE . . . . .	AMOUNT	LAST YEAR
Alexander	125,963.08	104,199.21	Garland	2,256.26	342.54	Mountain View	200,832.35	193,161.84	Arkansas County	323,776.84	287,022.60
Alma	269,130.40	231,547.77	Gassville	22,785.42	19,409.72	Moutainburg	14,057.98	10,979.97	Ashley County	233,950.04	281,554.09
Almyra	4,098.24	2,537.63	Gentry	137,059.64	121,689.22	Mulberry	28,679.59	25,381.49	Crossett	56,932.89	68,517.57
Alpena	6,480.14	5,864.02	Gilbert	1,171.70	1,030.97	Murfreesboro	36,136.89	28,207.59	Fountain Hill	1,809.20	2,177.33
Alzheimer	5,314.29	3,020.14	Gillett	11,564.50	9,095.53	Nashville	130,678.18	114,390.33	Hamburg	29,536.46	35,546.52
Altus	6,305.45	6,834.77	Gillham	5,575.06	2,227.03	Newport	231,230.28	193,423.78	Montrose	3,659.75	4,404.43
Amity	18,988.86	11,226.96	Gilmore	403.13	295.97	Norfolk	6,670.12	5,340.04	Parkdale	2,863.70	3,446.41
Anthonyville	1,592.14	1,037.68	Glenwood	90,653.07	71,462.53	Norman	4,094.83	3,883.21	Portland	4,445.46	5,350.02
Arkadelphia	384,698.76	177,967.75	Goshen	12,345.78	9,023.31	North Little Rock	2,926,633.16	2,992,772.42	Wilmot	5,686.05	6,843.06
Ash Flat	138,775.49	105,065.75	Gosnell	17,911.29	15,045.87	Oak Grove	1,316.62	933.11	Baxter County	599,696.19	518,234.43
Ashdown	170,170.25	129,422.71	Gould	14,088.52	12,316.24	Oak Grove Heights	10,713.99	6,287.38	Big Flat	1,815.50	1,568.89
Atkins	69,475.13	58,521.45	Grady	6,987.71	3,598.84	Ola	17,448.39	19,295.65	Briarcliff	4,119.79	3,560.17
Augusta	26,780.57	26,799.00	Gravette	111,272.70	82,285.59	Oppelo	3,688.90	3,710.81	Cotter	16,933.05	14,632.89
Austin	46,846.03	35,544.47	Green Forest	126,442.17	117,657.77	Osceola	100,602.95	77,300.71	Gassville	36,275.13	31,347.58
Avoca	10,172.93	6,621.74	Greenbrier	276,747.06	226,299.89	Oxford	2,987.93	1,348.28	Lakeview	12,935.45	11,178.32
Bald Knob	68,802.80	55,989.64	Greenland	35,117.38	32,682.38	Ozark	192,870.82	159,753.14	Mountain Home	217,301.66	187,783.75
Barling	67,878.99	48,842.83	Greenwood	294,794.23	237,082.65	Palestine	24,933.49	33,173.95	Norfolk	8,920.40	7,708.67
Batesville	745,081.15	651,395.68	Greers Ferry	32,383.48	27,766.20	Pangburn	9,167.20	7,882.41	Salesville	7,855.55	6,788.46
Bauxite	15,146.02	16,226.04	Guion	NA	3,989.63	Paragould	374,458.71	329,524.21	Benton County	903,233.66	914,623.41
Bay	10,716.53	10,387.51	Gum Springs	361.03	541.93	Paris	86,099.03	78,098.64	Avoca	10,375.40	10,506.23
Bearden	6,723.07	11,264.37	Gurdon	32,510.78	23,482.89	Patmos	848.71	586.67	Bella Vista	563,970.91	571,082.56
Beebe	160,872.42	137,444.95	Guy	8,357.00	5,319.57	Patterson	975.74	1,220.34	Bentonville	750,536.72	760,000.96
Beehiveville	125.05	76.96	Hackett	6,384.13	5,735.40	Pea Ridge	88,021.32	67,439.48	Bethel Heights	50,431.24	51,067.17
Bella Vista	236,504.87	178,483.47	Hamburg	115,796.82	94,681.78	Perla	2,073.97	276.17	Cave Springs	41,055.11	41,572.81
Belleville	2,448.40	1,864.07	Hampton	8,162.54	NA	Perryville	26,733.73	23,048.90	Centerton	202,299.00	204,849.98
Benton	1,839,914.53	1,597,089.98	Hardy	26,656.75	22,796.53	Piggott	70,489.96	67,541.66	Decatur	36,122.54	36,578.05
Bentonville	2,366,754.69	3,068,974.73	Harrisburg	60,786.48	62,717.55	Pine Bluff	1,814,697.79	1,295,337.63	Elm Springs	2,912.77	2,949.50
Berryville	310,499.07	270,497.54	Harrison	554,017.70	531,103.81	Pineville	2,367.76	2,066.56	Garfield	10,673.05	10,807.64
Bethel Heights	87,754.41	84,538.46	Hartford	6,526.65	4,088.51	Plainview	5,112.99	4,688.94	Gateway	8,610.73	8,719.31
Big Flat	644.49	408.75	Haskell	47,698.02	42,965.96	Pleasant Plains	11,540.44	10,713.61	Gentry	72,819.13	73,737.38
Black Rock	7,904.46	237.61	Hatfield	5,641.13	4,296.74	Plumerville	11,107.20	12,961.30	Gravette	66,185.68	67,020.28
Blevins	3,718.68	2,553.81	Havana	3,693.46	3,358.56	Pocahontas	332,772.61	262,938.41	Highfill	12,395.20	12,551.50
Blue Mountain	275.99	175.89	Hazen	76,161.00	74,177.71	Portia	4,101.82	3,872.84	Little Flock	54,959.84	55,652.88
Blytheville	402,646.13	344,134.56	Heber Springs	185,634.91	155,497.18	Portland	8,242.91	7,150.04	Lowell	155,779.80	157,744.17
Bonanza	2,448.24	2,746.17	Hector	6,250.93	3,366.42	Pottsville	39,150.85	39,746.78	Pea Ridge	101,925.53	103,210.80
Bono	20,465.33	18,455.40	Helena-West Helena	309,456.33	255,213.32	Prairie Grove	166,622.29	122,856.14	Rogers	1,189,854.03	1,204,858.04
Booneville	153,122.56	125,064.47	Hermitage	6,170.62	5,071.92	Prescott	81,578.26	75,494.02	Siloam Springs	319,745.10	323,777.07
Bradford	17,366.01	11,311.02	Higginson	1,868.61	2,469.28	Pyatt	1,359.68	1,392.88	Springdale	139,302.47	141,059.07
Bradley	2,893.63	3,397.74	Highfill	12,128.40	75,338.01	Quitman	25,444.62	19,875.73	Springtown	1,849.71	1,873.04
Branch	2,733.94	1,735.71	Highland	39,594.33	29,033.04	Ravenden	3,454.41	2,072.14	Sulphur Springs	10,864.40	11,001.42
Briarcliff	1,531.31	1,046.85	Holly Grove	8,894.45	6,223.58	Rector	32,378.01	27,512.83	Boone County	483,821.64	448,105.43
Brinkley	183,031.43	146,661.45	Hope	196,464.82	170,720.58	Redfield	44,713.72	34,410.79	Alpena	5,105.37	4,728.48
Brookland	86,520.88	64,271.69	Horatio	7,434.51	6,173.34	Rison	18,118.05	12,857.70	Bellefonte	7,265.95	6,729.57
Bryant	1,356,932.93	1,258,249.94	Horseshoe Bend	30,414.21	22,894.83	Rockport	18,916.65	17,975.69	Berfman	7,025.88	6,507.22
Bull Shoals	42,700.58	36,198.08	Hot Springs	1,869,926.49	1,725,241.47	Roe	672.24	516.21	Diamond City	12,515.35	11,591.46
Cabot	1,018,433.06	858,521.56	Hoxie	19,283.91	14,974.48	Rogers	3,360,498.12	3,423,952.17	Everton	2,128.57	1,971.44
Caddo Valley	46,541.97	57,464.54	Hughes	7,614.05	5,687.00	Rose Bud	21,719.64	18,436.29	Harrison	207,143.51	191,851.99
Calico Rock	54,063.65	41,936.36	Humphrey	3,281.10	2,132.03	Rudy	15,187.22	9,299.88	Lead Hill	4,337.16	4,016.99
Camden	375,164.64	317,787.84	Huntington	4,236.50	3,278.30	Russellville	1,217,037.63	1,079,513.43	Omaha	2,704.72	2,505.06
Caraway	7,972.19	4,741.15	Huntsville	159,212.01	127,939.06	Salem	28,675.35	21,951.19	South Lead Hill	1,632.44	1,511.93
Carlisle	56,976.78	53,705.98	Imboden	11,167.64	9,186.32	Salesville	5,070.19	3,512.01	Valley Springs	2,928.78	2,712.58
Cash	2,478.80	2,410.14	Jacksonville	771,506.08	602,099.32	Scranton	4,663.39	3,578.04	Zinc	1,648.45	1,526.75
Cave City	26,484.61	19,325.63	Jasper	38,067.41	28,415.76	Searcy	954,362.05	820,723.40	Bradley County	148,568.50	133,242.62
Cave Springs	127,723.90	29,867.98	Jennette	218.31	148.34	Shannon Hills	14,616.95	9,897.03	Banks	1,147.18	1,028.84
Cedarville	9,871.48	4,892.45	Johnson	59,845.78	47,629.85	Sheridan	260,568.17	237,172.49	Hermitage	6,788.68	6,886.57
Centerton	333,585.76	239,234.79	Joiner	4,425.94	5,452.00	Sherrill	944.81	501.47	Warren	55,536.24	49,807.30
Charleston	37,660.37	28,581.18	Jonesboro	1,696,077.18	1,566,424.32	Sherwood	1,106,813.91	796,316.11	Calhoun County	110,584.14	88,261.36
Cherokee Village	21,092.61	21,704.34	Judsonia	14,621.59	10,494.39	Shirley	2,775.81	2,741.71	Hampton	31,345.20	25,017.78
Cherry Valley	NA	4,849.95	Junction City	6,933.63	6,106.12	Siloam Springs	795,019.59	659,449.06	Harrell	6,013.36	4,799.48
Chidester	3,638.99	3,096.31	Keiser	4,991.36	3,611.22	Sparkman	4,810.57	4,155.61	Thornton	9,635.57	7,690.51
Clarendon	42,103.39	46,300.44	Keo	1,517.04	1,336.02	Springdale	2,791,239.82	2,777,493.51	Tinsman	1,278.42	1,020.36
Clarksville	440,774.58	401,649.57	Kibler	3,657.31	2,964.28	Springtown	219.94	216.83	Carroll County	197,003.36	195,257.16
Clinton	110,988.21	91,797.87	Kingsland	2,411.16	1,808.02	St. Charles	1,846.95	1,304.43	Beaver	721.20	714.81
Coal Hill	5,000.39	3,717.61	Lake City	14,085.95	11,376.86	Stamps	13,143.43	14,188.98	Blue Eye	216.36	214.44
Conway	2,920,663.46	2,724,309.63	Lake Village	81,649.79	81,591.41	Star City	82,094.52	72,495.01	Chicot County	153,126.03	117,028.23
Corning	76,871.62	82,455.82	Lakeview	4,725.66	3,682.92	Stephens	6,298.09	5,253.93	Dermott	27,880.58	21,308.03
Cotter	16,658.71	14,205.16	Lamar	20,329.24	29,001.11	Strong	10,943.17	9,205.61	Eudora	21,897.21	16,735.18
Cotton Plant	2,736.14	3,712.95	Lead Hill	5,899.99	5,518.94	Stuttgart	634,602.86	566,590.33	Lake Village	24,850.29	18,992.11
Cove	14,146.48	9,477.23	Leopanto	32,280.43	25,840.18	Sulphur Springs	3,095.20	2,097.46	Clark County	452,657.71	412,072.22
Crawfordsville	11,180.55	7,184.81	Leslie	7,652.11	5,707.49	Summit	6,496.19	2,176.51	Clay County	95,446.16	89,133.96
Crossett	127,462.50	228,608.56	Levisville	11,359.22	9,598.92	Sunset	8,243.45	4,129.18	Corning	25,763.06	24,059.26
Damascus	9,635.44	9,067.36	Lincoln	56,791.01	40,778.98	Swift	5,509.85	4,716.79	Datto	1,144.35	1,068.66
Dardanelle	47,905.05	37,731.40	Little Flock	NA	NA	Taylor	11,636.13	8,178.76	Greenway	2,391.69	2,233.51
Dardanelle	185,939.01	165,096.48	Little Rock	6,285,782.66	6,604,493.37	Texarkana	470,321.58	420,507.67	Knobel	3,284.28	3,067.08
Decatur	19,949.19	25,070.97	Lockesburg	6,807.70	4,257.32	Texarkana Special	206,844.31	184,257.11	McDougal	2,128.49	1,987.72
Delight	5,519.73	3,540.75	Lonoke	261,811.83	216,924.44	Thornton	1,517.03	952.39	Nimmons	789.60	737.38
De Queen	144,239.52	139,942.86	Lowell	437,492.71	429,649.91	Tontitown	292,519.44	258,838.97	Peach Orchard</		



Caraway	25,328.42	22,926.01	Cave City	2,639.61	2,212.01	Birdsong	466.10	450.11	Waldron	33,255.01	26,477.03
Cash	6,772.73	6,130.33	Cushman	7,364.85	6,171.79	Blytheville	177,574.54	171,481.56	Searcy County	84,097.58	69,712.62
Egypt	2,217.97	2,007.59	Magness	3,291.37	2,758.19	Burdette	2,171.37	2,096.86	Big Flat	8.23	6.82
Jonesboro	1,332,029.36	1,205,685.76	Moorefied	2,232.27	1,870.65	Dell	2,535.16	2,448.17	Gilbert	230.33	190.93
Lake City	41,230.47	37,319.74	Newark	19,161.63	16,057.58	Dyess	4,661.05	4,501.12	Leslie	3,627.63	3,007.12
Monette	29,924.76	26,905.36	Oil Trough	4,236.42	3,550.15	Etowah	3,990.31	3,853.39	Marshall	11,146.11	9,239.56
Crawford County	883,965.08	739,072.09	Pleasant Plains	5,686.57	4,765.39	Gosnell	40,335.11	38,951.12	Pindall	921.30	763.71
Alma	64,330.89	53,786.25	Southside	63,562.53	53,265.84	Joiner	6,548.20	6,323.52	St. Joe	1,085.81	900.08
Cedarville	16,548.67	13,836.14	Sulphur Rock	7,430.01	6,226.41	Keiser	8,628.62	8,332.55	Sebastian County	909,595.88	826,201.74
Chester	1,887.55	1,578.15	Izard County	53,945.27	47,331.45	Leachville	22,657.24	21,879.82	Barling	83,132.70	75,510.88
Dyer	10,399.31	8,694.73	Jackson County	313,308.29	258,967.18	Luxora	13,391.98	12,932.48	Bonanza	10,282.06	9,339.38
Kibler	11,408.38	9,538.40	Amagon	1,123.74	928.83	Manila	37,993.22	36,689.59	Central City	8,976.69	8,153.68
Mountainburg	7,490.83	6,262.99	Beedeville	1,226.94	1,014.14	Marie	954.95	922.18	Fort Smith	1,541,576.09	1,400,240.35
Mulberry	19,647.10	16,426.69	Campbell Station	2,924.02	2,416.87	Osceola	88,184.74	85,158.93	Greenwood	160,078.29	145,401.89
Rudy	724.15	605.46	Diaz	15,113.15	12,491.88	Victoria	4,220.63	406.20	Hackett	14,520.06	13,188.82
Van Buren	270,560.12	226,211.91	Grubbs	4,426.16	3,658.47	Wilson	10,265.67	9,913.43	Hartford	11,480.15	10,427.62
Crittenden County	1,482,301.74	1,323,898.53	Jacksonport	2,430.95	2,009.32	Monroe County	NA	NA	Huntington	11,354.97	10,313.92
Anthonyville	1,203.38	1,074.78	Newport	90,346.35	74,676.42	Montgomery County	224,211.76	175,267.86	Lavaca	40,931.55	37,178.83
Clarkedale	2,773.00	2,476.67	Swifton	9,150.45	7,563.37	Black Springs	833.41	651.48	Mansfield	12,928.57	11,743.25
Crawfordsville	3,580.24	3,197.64	Tuckerman	21,351.05	17,647.86	Glenwood	353.57	276.39	Midland	5,811.60	5,278.78
Earle	18,043.21	16,115.06	Tupelo	2,064.01	1,706.02	Mount Ida	9,058.04	7,080.73	Sevier County	508,193.03	279,588.42
Edmondson	3,191.57	2,850.51	Weldon	859.99	710.83	Norman	3,182.10	2,487.47	Ben Lomond	1,651.30	1,470.65
Gilmore	1,769.19	1,580.13	Jefferson County	546,646.08	401,691.47	Oden	1,953.03	1,526.70	De Queen	75,094.25	66,879.10
Horseshoe Lake	2,182.53	1,949.29	Alzheimer	13,702.10	10,068.70	Nevada County	141,169.65	143,304.69	Gilham	1,822.12	1,622.79
Jennette	773.60	690.93	Humphrey	4,288.87	3,151.58	Bluff City	1,299.65	1,319.31	Horatio	11,889.35	10,588.68
Jericho	889.45	794.40	Pine Bluff	683,475.56	502,237.77	Bodcaw	1,446.39	1,468.26	Lockesburg	8,415.93	7,495.25
Marion	92,271.49	82,411.09	Redfield	18,060.59	13,271.45	Cale	828.01	840.53	Sharp County	286,358.18	225,161.61
Sunset	1,331.94	1,189.60	Sherrill	1,169.89	859.52	Emmet	4,978.51	5,053.81	Ash Flat	13,274.25	10,437.46
Turrell	4,137.08	3,694.98	Wabbaseka	3,550.85	2,609.27	Prescott	34,545.64	35,068.10	Cave City	23,595.67	18,553.12
West Memphis	196,165.67	175,202.85	White Hall	76,948.95	56,544.35	Rosston	2,735.56	2,776.93	Cherokee Village	52,528.12	41,302.53
Cross County	557,516.76	275,948.87	Johnson County	140,761.44	129,729.90	Willisville	1,593.12	1,617.22	Evening Shade	5,851.51	4,601.00
Cherry Valley	8,398.55	7,087.90	Clarksville	103,394.04	95,290.99	Newton County	46,691.78	38,830.94	Hardy	9,887.97	7,774.84
Hickory Ridge	3,509.07	2,961.46	Coal Hill	11,400.61	10,507.14	Jasper	2,908.87	2,419.15	Highland	14,154.69	11,129.74
Parkin	14,255.61	12,030.91	Hartman	5,846.75	5,388.54	Western Grove	2,397.01	1,993.46	Horseshoe Bend	108.36	85.20
Wynne	107,942.68	91,097.42	Knoxville	8,235.02	7,589.64	Ouachita County	753,780.50	618,794.92	Sidney	2,451.67	1,927.74
Dallas County	169,460.61	153,398.87	Lamar	18,081.01	16,663.98	Bearden	11,569.17	9,497.38	Williford	1,015.89	798.79
Desha County	124,641.27	108,284.29	Lafayette County	77,817.97	70,959.95	Camden	145,908.07	119,779.13	St. Francis County	410,143.67	144,150.08
Arkansas City	4,823.80	4,190.76	Bradley	3,667.45	3,344.24	Chidester	3,461.17	2,841.35	Caldwell	10,088.18	9,484.68
Dumas	62,024.09	53,884.51	Buckner	1,605.97	1,464.44	East Camden	11,150.00	9,153.28	Colt	6,870.86	6,459.84
McGehee	55,605.53	48,308.28	Lewisville	4,575.06	6,816.29	Louann	1,964.12	1,612.39	Forrest City	279,397.20	262,682.98
Mitchellville	4,744.72	4,122.06	Stamps	9,886.92	9,015.60	Perry County	10,670.94	8,760.01	Hughes	26,192.92	24,620.00
Reed	2,266.92	1,969.43	Lawrence County	349,870.60	280,419.77	Adona	1,269.39	1,025.22	Madison	13,978.04	13,141.84
Tillar	276.78	240.45	Alicia	944.03	756.64	Bigelow	1,913.19	1,545.19	Palestine	12,378.48	11,637.96
Watson	2,780.95	2,416.00	Black Rock	5,039.92	4,039.47	Casa	1,038.59	838.82	Wheatley	6,452.80	6,066.78
Drew County	191,849.58	399,615.49	Hoxie	21,164.60	16,963.33	Fourche	376.56	304.13	Widener	4,962.30	4,665.42
Jerome	586.91	498.60	Imboden	5,154.11	4,131.00	Houston	1,050.74	848.63	Stone County	109,184.70	95,899.66
Monticello	142,469.75	121,033.04	Lynn	2,192.59	1,757.35	Perry	1,639.88	1,324.45	Fifty Six	1,993.98	1,751.36
Tillar	3,070.01	2,608.08	Minturn	829.83	665.11	Perryville	8,867.48	7,161.86	Mountain View	31,673.13	27,819.30
Wilmar	7,690.09	6,533.00	Portia	3,326.95	2,666.54	Phillips County	138,529.64	111,396.02	Union County	524,354.38	577,508.41
Winchester	2,513.20	2,135.05	Powhatan	548.15	439.34	Elaine	15,507.25	12,469.88	Calion	15,286.62	16,836.23
Faulkner County	892,408.21	789,454.81	Ravenden	3,578.19	2,867.90	Helena-West Helena	245,728.04	197,597.62	El Dorado	650,886.51	716,867.19
Enola	2,717.37	2,403.88	Sedgwick	1,157.20	927.49	Lake View	10,801.44	8,685.77	Felsenthal	3,745.72	4,125.43
Holland	4,478.04	3,961.43	Smithville	593.83	475.95	Lexa	6,073.39	5,607.52	Huttig	20,952.04	23,075.96
Mount Vernon	1,165.74	1,031.25	Strawberry	2,299.18	1,842.78	Marvell	28,917.63	23,253.57	Junction City	18,689.35	20,583.90
Twin Groves	2,693.26	2,382.55	Walnut Ridge	40,639.07	32,572.04	Pike County	204,122.16	161,307.81	Norphlet	23,580.90	25,971.31
Woolster	6,914.03	6,116.38	Lee County	38,714.82	31,520.32	Antoine	1,309.05	1,034.48	Smackover	62,038.55	68,327.43
Franklin County	258,592.55	198,955.84	Aubrey	1,199.69	976.75	Daisy	1,286.67	1,016.79	Strong	17,651.45	19,440.79
Altus	8,033.43	6,807.76	Haynes	1,058.55	861.84	Delight	3,121.58	2,466.83	Van Buren County	332,027.19	260,903.38
Branch	3,889.54	2,992.53	LaGrange	628.07	511.36	Greenwood	24,457.96	19,327.94	Clinton	29,493.88	23,175.97
Charleston	26,728.66	20,564.49	Marianna	29,039.65	23,643.11	Murfreesboro	18,360.25	14,509.22	Damascus	2,833.77	2,226.75
Denning	4,806.88	3,698.31	Mori	1,524.32	1,241.05	Poinsett County	276,700.86	129,009.93	Fairfield Bay	24,427.10	19,194.55
Ozark	39,043.77	30,038.48	Rondo	1,397.30	1,137.63	Fisher	2,268.44	1,929.56	Shirley	3,298.51	2,591.93
Wiederkehr Village	402.74	309.86	Lincoln County	151,313.11	123,961.94	Harrisburg	23,416.77	19,918.57	Washington County	1,663,353.77	1,595,930.50
Fulton County	219,446.13	181,041.53	Gould	5,125.83	4,199.29	Lepanto	19,256.27	16,379.60	Elkins	49,985.79	47,959.64
Ash Flat	454.56	350.99	Grady	2,749.70	2,252.67	Marked Tree	26,102.27	22,202.89	Elm Springs	33,147.68	31,804.05
Cherokee Village	4,283.66	3,533.99	Star City	13,926.10	11,408.84	Trumann	74,217.52	63,130.27	Farlington	112,770.07	108,198.98
Hardy	226.88	187.17	Little River County	344,348.60	189,045.14	Tyronza	7,751.34	6,593.37	Fayetteville	1,388,955.74	1,332,655.05
Horseshoe Bend	91.83	75.76	Ashdown	51,816.93	38,560.56	Weidenburg	620.51	527.82	Goshen	20,217.06	19,397.57
Mammoth Spring	5,277.60	4,353.99	Foreman	11,091.87	8,254.23	Weiner	7,283.41	6,195.35	Greenland	24,426.59	23,436.47
Salem	8,832.02	7,362.35	Ogden	1,974.81	1,469.60	Poik County	304,246.67	245,707.05	Johnson	63,312.82	60,746.47
Viola	1,820.43	1,501.84	Wilton	4,103.22	3,053.49	Cove	9,126.20	7,370.24	Lincoln	42,453.95	40,733.10
Garland County	2,494,910.04	2,180,908.46	Winthrop	2,106.47	1,567.57	Grannis	13,235.38	10,688.78	Prairie Grove	83,548.76	80,162.15
Fountain Lake	8,537.62	7,463.10	Logan County	348,063.40	302,056.70	Hatfield	9,866.82	7,968.36	Springdale	1,211,796.87	1,162,677.24
Hot Springs	275,921.98	241,195.30	Blue Mountain	1,235.33	1,072.04	Mena	137,060.32	110,688.76	Tontitown	46,436.95	44,554.65
Lonsdale	1,595.50	1,394.70	Booneville	39,749.64	34,495.37	Vandervoort	2,078.48	1,678.56	West Fork	43,737.57	41,964.69
Mountain Pine	13,069.51	11,424.63	Caulksville	2,121.97	1,841.49	Wicks	18,013.52	14,547.56	Winslow	7,380.85	7,081.67
Grant County	250,772.98	211,388.46	Magazine	8,438.08	7,322.74	Pope County	420,614.95	360,461.35	White County	1,318,110.38	1,051,790.26
Greene County	627,826.32	554,546.96	Morrison Bluff	637.59	553.31	Atkins	50,514.66	43,290.39	Bald Knob	40,747.88	32,514.90
Delaplaine	1,619.46	1,304.44	Paris	35,186.90	30,535.93	Dover	23,079.97	19,779.23	Beebe	102,889.46	82,100.97
Lafe	6,394.07	5,647.76	Ratcliff	2,012.39	1,746.39	Hector	7,537.00	6,459.11	Bradford	10,675.75	8,518.75
Marmaduke	15,510.50	13,700.13	Scranton	2,231.56	1,936.59	London	17,402.10	14,913.37	Garner	3,994.61	3,187.52
Oak Grove Heights	12,411.19	10,962.57	Subiaco	5,698.45	4,945.24	Pottsville	47,533.36	40,735.45	Georgetown	1,744.13	1,391.73
Paragould	364,559.62	322,008.52	Lonoke County	355,838.35	291,771.75	Russellville	467,629.11	400,751.83	Griffithville	3,164.75	2,525.32
Hempstead County	427,328.76	357,134.81	Allport	1,438.87	1,179.81	Prairie County	80,076.56	66,383.92	Higginson	8,734.70	6,969.88
Blevins	3,990.06	3,334.64	Austin	25,499.25	20,908.26	Biscoe	3,327.55	2,758.56	Judsonia	28,398.34	22,660.54
Emmet	544.67	455.21	Cabot	297,482.87	243,922.82	DeValls Bluff	5,674.25	4,703.98	Kensett	23,180.02	18,496.57
Fulton	2,546.04	2,127.82	Carlisle	27,701.34	22,713.88	Hazen	13,456.86	11,155.81	Letona	3,586.71	2,862.03
Hope	127,871.83										

# MUNICIPAL MART

To place a classified ad in City & Town, please email the League at [citytown@arml.org](mailto:citytown@arml.org) or call 501-374-3484. Classified ads are FREE to League members and will run for two consecutive months from the date of receipt unless otherwise notified. FOR NON-MEMBERS, classifieds are available for the rate of \$0.70 per word and will run for one month unless otherwise notified. Once we receive the ad, we will send an invoice. The ad will run once payment is received.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR-WATER AND SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE**—Fort Smith is seeking a deputy director for water and sewer maintenance who is an innovative, dedicated manager and self-motivated leader who can maintain a collaborative and supportive work environment in the department. Under the general guidance of the utilities director, this position is responsible for assisting in the overall management, administration, and leadership of the Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Program, Sewer Collection System Operation and Maintenance Program, and Sewer Collection System Construction Program. The deputy director will strategically manage the department's operational goals and will work harmoniously with department managers to carry out the organization's assigned duties. The chosen candidate will hold a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, business administration or a related area, with at least 10 years of experience working with water and wastewater line management. A master's degree is a plus. Five years of supervisory experience, including three years of administrative or managerial experience, is required. A Grade 4 Arkansas Water Distribution Operator License is required, or the selected candidate must obtain the license within one year of employment. The starting salary is up to \$95,867 with growth potential to \$115,000. Please apply online at: <http://bit.ly/SGRCcurrentSearches>. For more information on this position contact: Gary Holland, Senior Vice President, Strategic Government Resources, [GaryHolland@governmentresource.com](mailto:GaryHolland@governmentresource.com), 405-269-3445. Closing date: August 28.

**CITY PLANNER AND/OR CITY ENGINEER**—The city of Tontitown is seeking resumes/applications for the position of city planner and/or city engineer. Please submit qualifications along with salary requirements to Attn: Mayor, P.O. Box 305, Tontitown, AR 72770.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR**—WEST MEMPHIS is seeking applicants for the position of finance director. This is a full-time position with benefits. The finance director is responsible for overseeing the financial activities of the city of West Memphis, including strategic and tactical matters as they relate to budget management, cost/benefit analysis, forecasting needs and securing new funding, as well as optimizing the fiscal arrangement of the city. Minimum qualifications and requirements: bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in finance, accounting, business or public administration or related field; five years of increasingly responsible experience in a financial management role; valid driver's license; three years of supervisory experience; prior experience with auditing process and handling public funds preferred; knowledge of operations, services and activities of a comprehensive financial management and investment planning program; knowledge of principles and practices of accounting, financial planning, investment planning, internal auditing, and budgeting systems. Salary commensurate with experience. For a complete job description and to submit an application, visit the Employment Opportunities page at [www.westmemphisar.gov](http://www.westmemphisar.gov). Applications accepted until position is filled. The city of West Memphis is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR**—The city of Sherwood is currently accepting applications for the position of human resources director. All candidates for this position should be able to develop policy, direct and coordinate human resources activities such as employment, compensation, labor relations, benefits, training, and employee services by performing duties personally or through subordinate supervisors. Applicants must possess the ability to effectively communicate on a one-to-one basis with the public; ability to maintain effective working relationships with employees, officials and the public. Must possess working knowledge of the principles of modern human resources management and a background in the fundamental principles and practices of public personnel administration; knowledge of the practices, terminology and requirements of a wide variety of occupations and an understanding of municipal government functions; knowledge of office practices with ability to identify and assign personnel as required. Broad knowledge of labor and employment law requirements is a must. Completion of a bachelor's degree in Personnel Administration, Industrial/Organizational Psychology or Sociology, Public Administration or a related area; preference for Human Resources Professional Certification (SHRM-CP or SHRM-SCP), Master's Degree or equivalent; recent experience in Human Resources or Personnel Administration or any equivalent combination of education and experience is required. Starting salary range is \$64,163 to \$80,204 DOE.

**POLICE CHIEF**—The city of Gillett is accepting applications for a police chief. Resumes can be mailed to P.O. Box 367, Gillett, AR 72055; faxed to 870-548-3121; or emailed to [gillett003@centurytel.net](mailto:gillett003@centurytel.net). For more information, call city hall at 870-548-2541.

**PUBLIC WORKS LABORERS**—The city of Monticello is currently taking applications for full-time public works laborers. Applicants must possess the ability to work independently, be trainable, have good listening skills, knowledge of public works and have a minimum of a high school diploma. Must be able to pass a pre-employment

background check, motor vehicle check and drug screen. Applicants should have an interest in obtaining either water and/or wastewater licensing to the level that is required for the city. Some job responsibilities include assisting daily with the upkeep of all city streets including asphalt repair, replacement and repair of all culverts, assist with water leak repairs, maintenance of sewer ponds, tree limb removal, general maintenance of city grounds and buildings, lawn care around wells, sewer ponds and City of Monticello Lake and communicating with the public works superintendent and assistant public works superintendent on daily issues that may arise. On-the-job training will be provided. Hours may vary depending on daily assigned tasks. Salary DOE. Full benefits package included for full-time employees. To apply please contact Patty Burchett at 870-367-4400 for an application. You will need to provide either an email or a fax number to receive an application at this time due to CoVid-19 guidelines.

**PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER**—The city of Prairie Grove is accepting applications for the position of public works manager. Applicants can view a complete job description by contacting [pgwater@pgtc.com](mailto:pgwater@pgtc.com) or by contacting Mayor Hudson at [sonnyhudson@pgtc.com](mailto:sonnyhudson@pgtc.com). Prairie Grove is a vibrant, fast growing city in northwest Arkansas, roughly 5 miles west of Fayetteville, with a population expected to reach 7,000 following the 2020 census. The city services 3,000 water and sewer customers, operates a water treatment and wastewater treatment facility, and operates its own solid waste and recycling division. More information can be found at [www.prairiegrovearkansas.org](http://www.prairiegrovearkansas.org). Applicants should submit a detailed resume as well as an application to Mayor Hudson by mail at P.O. Box 944, Prairie Grove AR 72753; or by email to [sonnyhudson@pgtc.com](mailto:sonnyhudson@pgtc.com); or in person at City Hall, 975 E. Douglas Street, Prairie Grove, AR 72753. A salary range of \$67,000 to \$75,000, depending on qualifications, will be considered, with benefits to be negotiated that could include phone, work vehicle, health insurance, retirement, and other benefits. Applications will close August 18.

**PUBLIC WORKS OPERATOR**—The city of Monticello is currently taking applications for a full-time public works operator. Applicant must possess an Arkansas CDL, at least two years of verifiable experience of operating heavy equipment, general knowledge of public works and have a minimum of a high school diploma. Must be 18 years of age and be able to pass a pre-employment background check, motor vehicle check and drug screen. Applicant should have an interest in obtaining either water and/or wastewater licensing to the level that is required for the city. Some job responsibilities include assisting daily with the upkeep of all city streets including asphalt repair, replacement and repair of all culverts, assist with water leak repairs, maintenance of sewer ponds, tree limb removal, general maintenance of city grounds and buildings, lawn care around wells, sewer ponds and City of Monticello Lake, operation of heavy equipment as needed, assist with driving the solid waste disposal trucks as needed and communicating with the public works superintendent and assistant public works superintendent on daily issues that may arise. On-the-job training will be provided. Hours may vary depending on daily assigned tasks. Salary DOE. Full benefits package included. To apply please contact Patty Burchett at 870-367-4400 for an application. You will need to provide either an email or a fax number to receive an application at this time due to CoVid-19 guidelines.

**WASTEWATER MANAGER**—The city of De Queen is accepting applications for the position of Wastewater Manager. Job duties will include overseeing plant operations with a daily flow of 3 million gallons and overseeing the collections system. The Wastewater Manager will be responsible for managing six employees on a daily basis. A Class 4 wastewater license is preferred but a Class 3 license will be considered. Salary commensurate to experience. An excellent benefit package and retirement plan will be provided. This position will start on October 5. Send resumes to [mayor@cityofdequeen.com](mailto:mayor@cityofdequeen.com) or call 870-584-3445 for additional information. The city of De Queen is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

**WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATORS**—The city of Glenwood is seeking licensed personnel for two positions: water plant operator and wastewater operator. A single operator with all credentials is preferred. The facilities require: water T-3 and D-2, wastewater Class 3. Applicants with T-2 and Class 2 will be considered if willing to advance their licensure. Salary commensurate with licensing and experience. Excellent benefit package includes vacation, sick leave, holidays, insurance paid, retirement co-match. Email resumes to Mayor B.T. Smith at [bt@glenwoodar.com](mailto:bt@glenwoodar.com) or call 870-356-3613 Ext. 3. Applications will be accepted through September 15.

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