

City Calendar

<http://bit.ly/mgacal>

Friday, 9/10, Sat., 9/11 Last Morganton Festival Weekend 2021

Live music Friday, Craft
Vendors all day Saturday!
More info at www.morgantonfest.org

Monday, 9/13 City Council Meeting 6pm @ City Hall

Thursday, 9/16 Third Thursday Art Crawl Downtown Morganton

Monday, 10/4 City Council Meeting 6pm @ City Hall



Enjoy the market!

Farmers Markets are continuing through the end of October! Enjoy Wednesday Mini-Markets from 11a-2p at 111 N. Green St., or Saturday Markets from 8a-12p at 300 Beach St.

Main Street thrives amid pandemic

In a year when everything shut down, people worked from home, minimized time out in public and businesses closed frequently, Downtown Morganton persevered — and even thrived.

As part of its annual accreditation with the National Main Street program, Downtown Morganton is required to keep track of multiple statistics related to economic development each year that indicate its success as a Main Street office. The statistics for fiscal year 2020-2021 are in, and despite a few COVID-related setbacks, all the numbers for Downtown Morganton trended in a positive direction.

"Morganton residents should be very proud of the hard work from both the public and private sector that happened in order to get such impressive numbers, especially during a pandemic year," said Morganton Main Street Manager Abby Nelson. "When other municipalities shutdown, Morganton persevered and these numbers reflect that."

A summation of economic development numbers is below:

- Private Investment (consisting of property acquisitions and sales + private improvements and new constructions):

\$6,762,365

- Public Investment (consisting of property acquisitions and sales + private improvements and new constructions):

\$3,263,171

- Number of Public Improvement Projects: **6**

Business Development

Activity:

- o Number of Businesses Opened: **11**

- o Full Time Jobs Gained: **17**

- o Part Time Jobs Gained: **9**

- o Number of Businesses Closed: **4**

- o Full Time Jobs Lost: **11**
- o Part Time Jobs Lost: **3**

NET GAIN:

- Number of Businesses: **7**
- Number of Full Time Jobs: **6**
- Number of Part Time Jobs: **6**
- o Business Expansion: **1**
- o Building Redevelopment/Development Activity
- o Number of Façade Improvements: **19**
- o Number of Building Rehabilitations Completed: **3**
- o Number of New Construction Projects: **1**
- o Number of Housing Units Created: **10**

Downtown Morganton also saw significant volunteer time devoted to making our City a better place. In total, there were 831 hours of volunteer time logged. The current value of volunteer time in North Carolina is valued at \$25.98/hr, which equates to \$21,589.38 worth of volunteered time to Morganton's Main Street and Downtown.

Even in a year of uncertainty and chaos, Morganton's Downtown still found a way to safely hold promotional events and give our citizens something to do while encouraging adherence to all Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

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A family enjoys treats from Toasted & Rolled in Downtown Morganton during one of the Art Crawls in Downtown Morganton held in the last fiscal year.

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A total of 86 events were programmed during FY 2020-2021, including Farmers Markets, Carriage Rides, and other promotional activities throughout the year. Based upon a conservative estimate by Morganton's Main Street Office regarding attendance of these events and average money spent by attendees per event, the Main Street Office estimates some \$943,000 was spent in Downtown Morganton as a direct result of these promotional events.

"Against all odds, Downtown Morganton had a successful year," Nelson said. "This is a direct result of all of our citizens and volunteers pitching in to help events go on, business stay open, and allow our City to continue to thrive under less than ideal circumstances."

Spooky Meadows returns for 2021

Everyone's favorite local haunted hayride is back for 2021!

This year's Spooky Meadows event will be held on Oct. 22 & 23, 2021, from 7pm to 10pm both nights, at Catawba Meadows Park.

The hay rides for the evening will be provided by Valley Hills Antique Power Club, and all your favorite frights and sights will return on the ride route.

Ticket information is as follows:

13 years old and up: \$5

3 years old to 12 years old: \$4

2 years old and under: FREE

For more information, call 828-438-5350.

Morganton's electric service one of most environmentally-friendly in state

We all know Morganton's electric service is reliable, but did you know the City of Morganton is one of the most environmentally-friendly power providers in the state of North Carolina? Of all the power provided to its customers, 99.99% of Morganton's electric power sources that provide electricity to our customers emit no CO2 into the atmosphere.

According to information provided by Electricities of North Carolina, 89.03% of Morganton's power comes from nuclear energy, and 10.96% comes from hydroelectric sources, resulting in 99.99% clean

power. The other .01% of Morganton's electricity is from emergency gas-powered generators which only run during outages that may be caused by storms and Load Management times. This accounts for 0.01% of Morganton's electricity and produces less than 14 tons of CO2 emissions per year.

In all, for every kilowatt hour of electricity that goes to the businesses and schools and homes in Morganton, the City generates approximately one ten-thousandth of a pound of CO2 pollution.

"With many of our City residents concerned about

pollution, and several of our largest industrial businesses required to operate as environmentally-friendly entities, Morganton is proud to reliably provide nearly completely clean, pollution-free power to all of our customers," said Electric Services Director Brooks Kirby.

Graphics breaking down Morganton's energy sources for its power service are included below. Included in the graphic is the overall usage for NCMPA1, the public power member organization Morganton is included in.

2020 Energy Resource Mix for: MORGANTON

Fuel Source	Energy Received from NCMPA1 (MWh)	% of Energy Consumed	Tons of CO ₂ Produced	REPS Requirement	REPS Requirement (MWh)
Nuclear	283,584	89.03%	-		
Gas(CT)	29	0.01%	13		
Fuel Oil	0	0.00%	0		
Coal	1	0.00%	1		
Unbundled Renewable Energy	0	0.00%	-		
Solar (Shelby Solar)	0	0.00%	-	0.20%	610
SEPA Hydro	34,899	10.96%	-	3.00%	9,153
Other Renewable Energy	-	0.00%	-	6.80%	20,748
TOTAL	318,514	100.00%	14	10.00%	305,115

2020 Energy Resource Mix for: NCMPA1

Fuel Source	Delivered to NCMPA1 Participants (MWh)	% of Energy Consumed	Tons of CO ₂ Produced	REPS Requirement	REPS Requirement (MWh)
Nuclear	4,848,716	97.19%	-		
Gas(CT)	18,259	0.37%	8,308		
Fuel Oil	1	0.00%	1		
Coal	284	0.01%	314		
Unbundled Renewable Energy	52	0.00%	-		
Solar (Shelby Solar)	159	0.00%	-	0.20%	9,395
SEPA Hydro	121,270	2.43%	-	3.00%	140,918
Other Renewable Energy	-	0.00%	-	6.80%	319,414
TOTAL	4,988,742	100.00%	8,623	10.00%	4,697,268

MORGANTON CITY COUNCIL

Ronnie Thompson • Mayor

Butch McSwain • District 1

Chris Jernigan • District 2

Chris Hawkins • District 3

Wendy Cato - Mayor Pro Tem • District 4

CONTACT THE COUNCIL

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Morganton Matters is produced by the City's Public Information Office.

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