



City of

MORRISTOWN

Tennessee

FEBRUARY 2019

Community Events

Feb. 5 & 19 @ 5 pm

City Council Meeting
at City Center

Feb. 12 @ 4 pm

Planning Commission
at City Center

Feb. 19 @ 4 pm

Finance Comm. Meeting
at City Center

Fred Miller Park Arboretum



The Fred Miller Park Arboretum is located near downtown Morristown, Tennessee, along the Greenway, which connects city parks. The 18.5 acre park boasts a wide variety of native and planted tree specimens, so an arboretum was a natural fit.

Fred Miller Park is a popular site for walking, playing, family gatherings and organized events and lies on the site of the former Rheatown neighborhood. Urban renewal projects of the 1960s modified and encased the creek through

downtown to control flooding, built Morristown's famous SkyMart to promote economic development and created the park for public enjoyment.

The park is named in memory of Dr. Fred Miller, a local dentist who practiced from the 1950s to the early 1970s. His compassion for the needy led him to treat the dental needs of the children of Rheatown, often before treating his regular patients, and to give food and clothing to their families. He was active in political and civic organizations and in his church. When the park was created from the remains of Rheatown, City leaders named it for the man who cared so much for local children.

The arboretum was originally conceived and designed in 2003 in conjunction with the first year Morristown was designated a Tree City by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a diverse botanical area designated for the study and enjoyment of trees. Some mature native trees many years old were identified and labeled while some new trees were planted in 2003. Many of the trees then planted are now thriving. Other trees have been planted in the intervening years, so the arboretum showcases a great variety.

Thirty-one distinct varieties of trees are labeled with silver nameplates designating their common and scientific names. Many Arboretum trees are located near the looping and winding paths that cross Turkey Creek twice and follow the creek along the Greenway. Turkey Creek roughly bisects the park diagonally, then flows north underneath the city's downtown shopping district before ending at Cherokee Lake. The creek has many varieties of trees along its banks including weeping willows and river birches.

Other Arboretum trees are scattered throughout the park, along the park perimeter or in the newly acquired southwestern corner of the park which boasts some of the oldest and grandest trees around- including an enormous Eastern White Pine most likely more than a century in age.

Visitors to Fred Miller Park Arboretum will experience an oasis of nature in a beautiful setting- right in the heart of the Central Business District.

Important Dates to

Feb. 16 @ 6 pm

Tie's & Tiara's @ Talley Ward

Feb 17 @ Rose Center

Wallace Coleman

Message from The Mayor

Morristown Hosts the East Region - TN Stormwater Association

The City of Morristown hosted the East Region meeting of the Tennessee Stormwater Association (TNSA) on December 7, 2018, in the Community Room of the Morristown-Hamblen Library. TNSA is an independent organization with voluntary membership composed of cities, counties, private industries, consultants, individuals, and other parties interested in improving streams, rivers, lakes, and other waterbodies. More than 30 people attended from Farragut, Maryville, Sevier County, and several other cities and counties in the Knoxville area. We would like to thank the library staff for providing the meeting room and for their assistance.

TNSA meetings are held quarterly and focus primarily on compliance with the Stormwater Permit, which is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. Most cities and counties which have a population greater than 10,000, along with other state or federal entities such as colleges and military bases, must have a state Stormwater Permit. Approximately 100 permits are active in Tennessee. The City of Morristown and Hamblen County each hold a permit.

The Stormwater Permit requires the City to undertake activities to reduce stormwater pollution in six areas: public education, public participation, illicit discharge prevention, construction sites, ongoing treatment after construction, and operations of the permit holder. The City's Stormwater Department manages compliance with the permit, in partnership with Keep Morristown-Hamblen Beautiful.

Stormwater results from the runoff of rain and melting snow. It can pick up numerous pollutants as it flows across roads, parking lots, lawns, and fields on its way to a stream. As with nearly all towns, there are no treatment plants for stormwater in Morristown; stormwater flows directly to the streams or to sinkholes.

The City relies on the public to comply with our Stormwater Permit and protect the streams, rivers, and lakes in the area. If you see anyone dumping anything into a creek or drainage grate, or if you have any questions about the City's Stormwater Program, please call us at 585-4658 or e-mail at stormwaterconcerns@mymorristown.com.

Sign up to receive our e-newsletter at:

http://www.mymorristown.com/residents/city_newsletter.php



Mayor Gary Chesney