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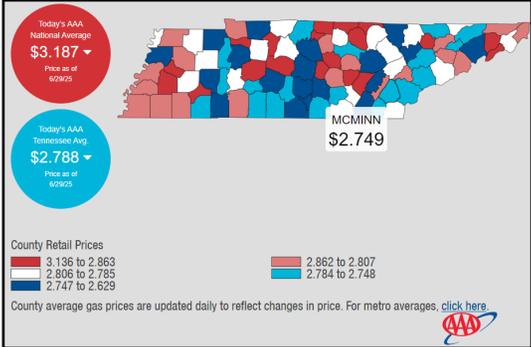
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McMinn Gas Prices Below State and National Averages Ahead of July 4th



With Independence Day fast approaching and over 61 million Americans expected to travel, gas prices are creeping upward—but Tennessee drivers are still enjoying some of the lowest prices in the country.

As of June 29, the average price for a gallon of regular gasoline in **McMinn County is \$2.749**, according to AAA data. This sits below both the **Tennessee state average of \$2.788** and the **national average of \$3.22**. Compared to one year ago, when the national average was \$3.49, fuel is significantly cheaper across much of the country. Tennessee ranks among the top 10 least expensive states for gas, tied with Texas and Louisiana at **\$2.82 per gallon**, a reflection of favorable supply and distribution conditions in the region.

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Still, AAA warns that with the holiday travel rush, prices may inch upward. The current national average of **\$3.22** is up two cents from last week and four cents from a month ago.

In McMinn County, gas prices are consistent with nearby counties in East Tennessee, many of which fall into the \$2.74–\$2.78 range. The region remains more affordable than much of the western and northeastern U.S., where prices often exceed \$3.50.

Interestingly, while Tennessee enjoys some of the cheapest gas, it also ranks **third-highest nationally for public EV charging costs**, averaging **47 cents per kilowatt-hour**, according to AAA.

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- Tuesday– Walmart Madisonville 10:30-2:00
- Wednesday–Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00
- Thursday & Friday Closed

BEST OF THE BEST
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Travelers are encouraged to plan ahead, fill up early in the week, and use fuel-saving driving techniques to minimize costs as they hit the road for the holiday.

Source: [AAA Gas Prices, June 26, 2025](#)

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Monday, June 30, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Lightning Strike Sparks House Fire in Englewood



A lightning strike during a severe storm Friday evening is believed to have sparked a house fire on Ferguson Street in Englewood.

The incident occurred around 5:30 p.m. when lightning reportedly struck the home's electrical service entrance, igniting a small fire along the side of the house. Thanks to a swift response, the fire was quickly contained, resulting in only minimal damage.

Englewood Rural Fire Department, Etowah Rural Fire Department, and Athens Utilities Board (AUB) all responded to the scene.

Photos by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department.

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens Chamber is awarding **\$20,000 in prize money** to local entrepreneurs. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to grow your business! To apply, simply complete the one-page application on their Facebook page [HERE](#) and submit it along with a business plan by **July 15**. For more information or questions, contact the Chamber at **(423) 745-0334**.

TODAY IN HISTORY:

1859 - French acrobat Blondin crossed Niagara Falls on a tight-rope as 5,000 spectators watched.

1921 - Documents were signed forming the Radio Corporation of America, better known as RCA. RCA soon rivaled its main competitor, General Electric (GE).

1934 - Adolf Hitler began his "blood purge" of political and military leaders in Germany in what came to be known as "The Night of the Long Knives."

1971 - The 26th Amendment to the Constitution, lowering the minimum voting age to 18, was ratified as Ohio became the 38th state to approve it.

1994 - The U.S. Figure Skating Association stripped Tonya Harding of the national championship and banned her from the organization for life for an attack on rival Nancy Kerrigan.

2001 - Doctors implanted a dual-purpose pacemaker in Vice President Dick Cheney's chest.

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City of Athens Fireworks Reminder



As we approach the July 4th holiday, the City of Athens reminds residents of the rules regarding fireworks within the city limits:

Please note that the following regulations are in reference only to documentation found in the bylaws set forth by the City of Athens, Tennessee as listed on the website of the City of Athens Fire Department found on the following webpage [HERE](#). Regulations may vary by location, so residents are encouraged to contact their local city hall or fire department to confirm what is allowed in their area.

- Fireworks are broadly prohibited. This includes items like firecrackers, Roman candles, bottle rockets, sparklers, and any device that explodes or creates a visible or audible effect through combustion.
- The manufacture, sale, and use of fireworks are not allowed within the city, unless a special permit is granted.
- Public displays may be allowed with a permit issued by the Fire Department. These displays must be handled by approved professionals and be deemed safe by both the Police and Fire Chiefs.
- Permit applications must be submitted in writing at least 15 days in advance of any planned display. Permits are for public events only and are not transferable.

For everyone's safety, we appreciate your cooperation and wish you a safe and enjoyable Independence Day.

The United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties is currently seeking a new

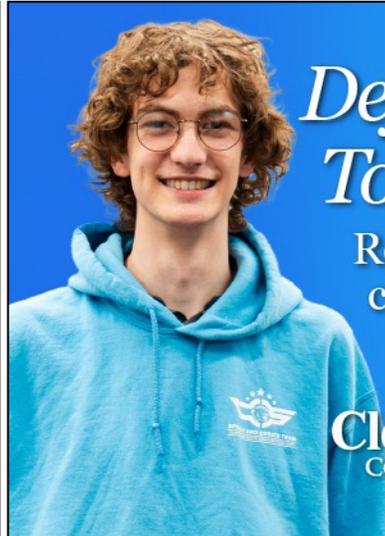
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties is responsible for leading the organization in its mission to improve health, education, and financial stability in the community. The role involves strategic planning, fundraising, community engagement, and overseeing operational and administrative tasks to ensure the organization meets its short- and long-term goals. This position will remain open until filled.

Click here for full job description and application information.



United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties



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Stroke Patient Airlifted from Etowah



Emergency crews responded to a medical call Thursday afternoon on County Road 790

in Etowah for a possible stroke patient.

AMR and Etowah Rural Fire Department were dispatched around 1:30 p.m. The patient was stabilized and transported by AMR to the helipad at Etowah City Fire Department, where a LifeForce helicopter airlifted them to UT Medical Center in Knoxville for advanced care.

Photo by Etowah Rural Fire Department

Motorcycle Crash Injures One in Englewood



A motorcycle crash Saturday evening in Englewood sent one person to the hospital after the driver lost control at the intersection of Highway 310 and County Road 485.

The accident occurred around 5:30 p.m. when the driver of a 2016 Harley Davidson reportedly lost control of the bike, causing it to flip several times.

Emergency crews treated the rider at the scene before AMR transported them to Turkey Creek Medical Center in Farragut for further care.

Etowah Rural Fire Department, Englewood Rural Fire Department, and Tennessee Highway Patrol responded. THP Sgt. Kyle Millsaps is leading the investigation.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept.

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Monday, June 30, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Victoria "Vickie" Moses McConkey Carver, 62 of Englewood, passed away at Parkwest Hospital on Thursday, June 26. Graveside services will be held on Monday, June 30 at 1:00 PM at Chestua Baptist Church Cemetery in Madisonville. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Victoria "Vickie" Moses McConkey Carver.

Kadasia Chalice Arnwine, 31 of Athens, passed away on Thursday at her residence in Athens. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced. Arrangements entrusted to M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Galhia Parris, 81 of Charleston, passed away on June 29, at her home. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced. Arrangements entrusted to M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Marie E. Berry, 85, passed away on June 29 at a health care facility in Cleveland. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced. Arrangements entrusted to M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Davis Tilden Haynes, 76 of Athens, passed away on Thursday, June 26. Davis earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of Georgia and later, his Master of Science from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. He served in the United States Army Reserves from 1970-1976. After working for many years in logistics/purchasing



(including Heil in Athens), he retired from Merck (Scholl's / Schering-Plough) in Cleveland, TN, after 25 years as a Procurement Specialist. Davis had a strong faith in Christ. His priorities were faith, family and community. He was an active member of Mars Hill Presbyterian Church. He served on boards and volunteered his time and resources to various non-profits. In keeping with his servant heart, Davis donated his body to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (Memphis) in hopes of helping others through medical research. A Celebration of Life will be held in the near future at Mars Hill Presbyterian Church in Athens.



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