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Friday, October 17, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Announces Start of 2025 Leaf Vacuum Season



The City of Athens Public Works Department has announced that its annual Leaf Vacuum Season will begin Monday, October 27, 2025, at 7 a.m. Crews will start collecting loose leaves across the city, operating in designated zones throughout the season.

Residents are asked to rake their leaves three to five feet from the edge of the road for pickup. Leaves should **not** be placed in the street, drainage ditches, or on sidewalks, as this can create safety hazards and clog storm drains, potentially leading to flooding. In neighborhoods with sidewalks, leaves should be placed behind them for collection.

Officials remind residents not to pile leaves around or behind obstacles such as mailboxes, fences, vehicles, trees, or utility covers. Doing so can damage the city's vacuum equipment and delay service. Leaf piles placed on water meter lids, manhole covers, or sewer caps will not be collected.

Public Works crews will follow a set zone rotation rather than taking call-in requests. Once all zones are completed, crews will re-start the rotation and make multiple passes through the city. Updates on which zones are currently being serviced can be found on the city's website at www.athenstn.gov/public-works.

Leaf pickup timing may vary due to weather or the volume of leaves in each area. The department expects to complete two full rounds of collection, with a third and final run announced later in the season. Leaf vacuum operations typically continue through February, depending on weather conditions.

As an alternative, residents can bag their leaves for faster pickup during the city's regular bi-weekly brush and junk routes. Leaves can also be mulched or composted for lawn and garden use.

For more information about Leaf Vacuum Season, contact the Athens Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

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Friday, Oct. 17, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Hi-Spec joins Athens Chamber



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Hi-Spec Property Inspections, LLC, located in Athens and surrounding areas. Nicholas Beasley the owner is a certified professional inspector. Contact him at 865.404.2626 or www.hispecpi.com

Chamber friends joining in the celebration and pictured here left to right are: Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat), Paul Semenoff (Chamber Diplomat), Krista Beasley, Nicholas Beasley (Owner, Hi-Spec Property Inspections, LLC), Ryan Albright, Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat). Back: Stephanie Devine, Robert Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Doug Bailey (Chamber Diplomat), Walt Bowman, and Bradley Johnson.

Community News You Can Use

- Remote Area Medical will be offering a community telehealth clinic at St. Paul's Table Graces food distribution this Wednesday, October 22. To learn more about RAM, visit <https://www.ramusa.org/about-ram/> For more information about Table Graces Food Pantry, visit <https://www.stpaulsathens.org/table-graces>
- Join the fun at the Jeepers Creepers Fall Jeep Crawl on Saturday, October 18, from 9 a.m. to noon at the McMinn County Senior Activity Center, 205 McMinn Ave., Athens. Enjoy live music, games, food, prizes, a costume contest, Corn hole, shuffleboard and horse-shoes, and more! \$20 to enter a Jeep, free for spectators. All proceeds benefit local seniors.
- The board of zoning appeals Meeting originally scheduled for October 22 has been cancelled due to lack of applications.

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THIS WEEK
NEXT WEEK
EVERY WEEK

Friday, Oct. 17, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Church News and Events

- Union McMinn Baptist Church (314 County Road 316, Niota) will be serving a free plate lunch for all on November 27th from 11am to 1pm. Come to the table for a free plate lunch. First Come, First Serve. The church is located right off I-75 exit 56.
- [Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship](#) (317 Maple Street, Athens) holds Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00pm.
- [Celebrate Recovery](#) meets every [Tuesday](#) at 6:00pm at Woodward Ave. Church of God in Athens. They also meet every [Thursday](#) at 6:00pm at Watts Bar Community Church in Decatur.
- [St. Mary's Legacy Clinic](#) offers free mobile medical care for the uninsured. The clinic is run by a small staff and many volunteer physicians. Their goal is to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ to rural East Tennessee. Anyone who is medically uninsured is eligible to receive care. *St. Mary's Catholic Church (1291 E Madison Ave, Athens) is the McMinn County location and accepts patients every 3rd Thursday of the month.*
- Clear Springs Baptist Church, 653 County Road 100 in Athens, will have a Red Back Hymnal Singing on Sunday, October 19 @ 6 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- East Niota Baptist Church, 301 East Farrell Street, will host a Yard Sale on Saturday, October 18, from 8 am to 2 pm. All proceeds will go to missions.
- Highway to Heaven Church (1413 Knoxville Ave., Athens) will be holding a Revival on Sunday, November 9 at 11 am and 6:30 pm. Bro. Chad Wilburn will be presiding over the services.
- The Carters will be singing at Cambria Baptist Church, 305 County Road 875, Etowah, on Sunday 10/19 at 11 am. Join the church as they celebrate The Carters' 46 years of Southern Gospel Singing.
- Brian Arner will be singing at the Athens Church of the Nazarene this Sunday, October 19 at 11:00 a.m.

NIOTA, TN CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT



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Friday, Oct. 17, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Old National Bank Supports YMCA Renovation with Capital Campaign Gift



Pictured from left to right: **Chris Adams**, Market President Old National Bank; **Miguel Maria**, Wealth Advisor, Old National Wealth Advisors; **Dani Long**, Small Business Banking Relationship Manager, Old National Bank; **Bradi Sewell**, CEO / Executive Director, Athens McMinn YMCA. Old National Bank **Ashley Hall**, Talent Manager, Old National Bank; **Amy Goodin**, Business Risk Officer, Old National Bank; **Matt Harper**, Community Banking Market Manager Old National Bank

Old National Bank recently joined in celebrating the renovation of the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA by contributing to the organization's ongoing capital campaign.

Chris Adams, Market President for Old National Bank, said the donation reflects the bank's commitment to supporting community growth and well-being. He noted that the YMCA plays an important role in promoting health, youth development, and community engagement throughout the Athens area.

The renovated YMCA continues to expand its programs and facilities, serving families and individuals across McMinn County.

We encourage you to e-mail results from local school sporting events for use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: wyxiradio@gmail.com

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Friday, Oct. 17, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

10-08-25

Yolanda Smith, 40, of Loudon, charged with violation of probation in Hamilton County, Simple Possession Casual Exchange of drug paraphernalia, Bond \$14,000

Robert Brinkle, 42 of Key West, Florida, Charged with public intoxication and criminal trespassing, Bond \$3,000

John Hixson, 40 of Athens, charged with state violation of probation in Rhea County.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information gathered using Public Sources.

Obituaries

Terry Egbert Crittenden, 67 of Athens, passed away on Wednesday, October 15 at his home. He was a member of Cedar Springs United Methodist Church and had worked for many years with Collins & Aikman and the Jiffy in Athens. The family will have a private service. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of Terry Egbert Crittenden.

Jeffrey Houston Johnson, 52, of Maricopa, AZ and a native of Athens passed away in SC; known to his family and friends as "Jay" and "Jeff". He graduated from Barber College, Trained K-9's, and at the time of his sudden passing, he was an Estimator with Energy Solutions. Jeff was a proud Mason. He was a member in good standing of the Thomas A. Hamilton Masonic Lodge #317 F and AM in Riceville, TN, where he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Plans for a Celebration of Life Service are still in the works and will be announced as soon as they become available. Hatcher Funeral Home & Cremation has been entrusted with the arrangements.

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