

Welcome to Walnut Mountain



Welcome Home!

Welcome to your new home on Walnut Mountain. We hope that some of the information in this little booklet will help you find your way around and answer whatever questions you might have.

Information You Need to Get Started

Congratulations! You are now a member of the WMPOA, which stands for Walnut Mountain Property Owners' Association and makes you eligible to vote for the board members and important issues on the Mountain.

When you started getting acquainted with your new neighborhood, you should have met with the Office Manager in the Administrative Office (first building to your left inside Gate 2) and received the following: a copy of Walnut Mountain's governing documents - the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (better known as the CCR's), the By Laws, and a copy of the Rules and Regulations (R&R's). These documents will help answer a great many of the questions you had when you purchased property, but there are always additional questions, which we hope to answer for you here.

While at the office, you will need to purchase your gate pass, get the keys to your post office box, pick up your free Property Owners' Telephone Directory (which is published every two years) and buy a map of the Mountain. Please read through all this information and look over the map. You will want to use the map to find the pool, clubhouse, tennis courts, lakes, waterfall, nature trails, the picnic area by the creek, and the campground. You are in Cherokee Indian Territory so some of the map names are in their native language. Ellijay, by the way, is Cherokee for *Green Valley*.

Now for some of the other questions that may come up, and in no order, here are some answers:

MOUNTAIN INFORMATION

- The **Administrative Office** is where you buy your gate passes. Also available are front license tags, t-shirts and sweatshirts, and maps. There are also business cards and brochures for companies that other homeowners have used and been happy with. The Office is open Mon.-Fri. from 8:00am until 4:30pm, closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch.
- The **Welcome Station** is open Mon.-Sat. from 7:30am until 4:00pm and Sunday from 11:00am until 3:00pm. It is closed on major holidays.

- The **mail kiosk** is located right across from the Welcome Station, by gate 3. You get your keys to your box from the Office Manager when you buy your gate pass.

- The **dumpsters** are located behind the office/maintenance building. Pickup is Monday and Friday. Nothing goes in them except household garbage.



There is a large bin where you can recycle aluminum cans only, under the shed. If you want to recycle paper, plastic, glass and/or cardboard, the county recycle center is on the right on 52 East (by the county jail).

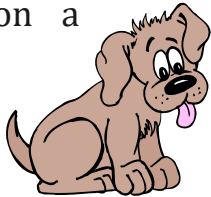
If you have branches and cuttings from your yard, place them in a neat stack by your driveway and the maintenance folks will pick them up, chip them and spray them back on your property. If you have items such as: paint, chemicals, furniture, mattresses and large tree limbs, you can take them to the county dump, located off Highway 52 West on Tower Road.

- The **Property Owners' Association** (POA) Board of Directors meets every month on the 3rd Saturday at 8:30am. You are invited to attend the meetings, and the first 15 minutes of the meeting are for property owners' issues. There is a quarterly POA meeting at 11:00 am on the third Saturday of January, April, July and October, (following the Board meeting) when all members are welcome to ask questions or make comments. July is when the new Board members are elected. See your CCR's for more information on this.
- The **pool** usually opens on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and normally closes at the end of September. The hours are 10:00am until sunset every day. To use the pool, you will need a picture id card which you can get from the office. There is no life guard so you swim at your own risk.
- The **clubhouse** is available to rent by property owners for a small fee and a security deposit. It has great amenities, including a large gas fireplace, fully furnished kitchen, giant TV, chairs and tables. Not only does the Events Coordinator plan functions there, individuals have held memorial services, family reunions, Thanksgiving dinners, and many other gatherings. It is a great place for a party.

- The **tennis courts** are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Proper attire and courtesy are expected. You can even play pickle ball here.
- The **campground** is available for your friends to rent and park their RV's for a minimal rental. There are bathrooms, water and electricity on the premises, but no sewer hook-ups. It is open during normal Welcome Station hours but closed during the winter months.
- The **lakes**: There are four lakes on Walnut Mountain. Lake Leslie, also called Lake Dakwa, is off Skyview Road and Valley View Road. Lake Anne (Lake Yanu) is behind the condos near the clubhouse. Lake Mary (Lake Atagahi) is on Mountain Oak Road, and Lake McClure is through Gate 1 off North Lake or South Lake Drive. There is also a trail to a lovely waterfall below the dam at Lake McClure.
- **Storage lot**: If you own an RV, pontoon boat or trailer, there is an area on Walnut Mountain to park these items behind the dumpsters. Because this area is very small, there is usually a waiting list to rent a space. These items are not allowed in your driveways or on your property. There are several nice storage facilities in Ellijay where these can be parked. If you own a trailer for your profession, it is not allowed to be parked at your home.
- The **bulletin board** on the end of the bench, next to the mail kiosk, is for Walnut Mountain residents' postings and for activities and non-mountain community functions. The bulletin board in the mail kiosk is for official Walnut Mountain information only.
- The **Library** is located across from the mail kiosk and Welcome Station. Inside are shelves of books for your enjoyment. If you take a book, leave a book and we will always have plenty for everyone
- The **Call Box**, at your gate, is your way of opening the gate for a guest, salesman, repairman or deliveryman (after hours). The Welcome Station should be advised in advance of all incoming persons during normal hours. You should have received your 3-digit numerical code for entry from the Office Manager, or if you forget, just scroll through the names and find yours. Give this number out to the folks you are expecting and if they arrive (after hours) all they must do is enter your number, which will ring your phone. Before you

hang up, you must punch the number 9, which will open the gate. Make sure the office has your correct land or cell phone number for this to work. (If it's ETC, UPS, FEDEX, Amicalola, or one of the many gas providers in the area, they get in by checking in with the Welcome Station.) Emergency vehicles have a code which they can use for entry.

- Your **pets** are welcome here on the mountain if they are under your control or on a leash. There are several excellent vets in the area, and there is an emergency vet facility in Blue Ridge, Cohutta Animal Clinic, that is open nights and on weekends. Their number is 706-946-7387. They are located near Wendy's off 515.



- **Speed Limit** – The speed limit on the mountain is 20 mph. Vehicles traveling up-hill have the right-of-way. Vehicles going down should yield, pull over and stop if necessary.

- The **Fire Station** you see upon entering was paid for by the homeowners of Walnut Mountain. No city, county or association funds were used. It is a working but unmanned station and when it was opened, everyone's homeowner's insurance was reduced. Should we have a fire, the call goes out to all fire stations and all fire personnel respond.



- The **concrete slab** you see on your left as you enter Walnut Mountain used to be, at various times, a sales office, a restaurant, a clubhouse, and a church. Time took its toll and the building became unusable and not worth renovating, so it was torn down.

MAIL and E-MAILS

- The **mail** is usually delivered by 1:00pm Mon-Sat. If you get a pink slip for a non-deliverable package or letter, it may be picked up at the main post office at 801 Industrial Blvd. the following day. A key will be left if the package fits in one of the larger boxes at the mail kiosk. There is another post office in the Ingles shopping center. If you need a UPS store, there is one located at 96 Craig Street, near the Chamber of Commerce.

- Please make sure to give your **e-mail address** to the office. This is necessary so you can be advised of road closures, water outages, weather conditions, or other community updates and activities.

COMMITTEES

There are several committees on the Mountain that you might be interested in joining, as well as some clubs. The heads of those are always looking for new members. Call the office to find out how to contact the chairman. The committees include the following:

- **Event Coordination** plans all the parties and functions that the Mountain sponsors, such as: bunco, bingo, game night, music jams, luaus, football parties, etc.
- **Beautification** fixes up the public gardens and areas around the Mountain. They are also responsible for clearing out, creating and doing the signage for the trails on the Mountain. There is a map of the trails in the office.
- **Environmental Services** looks at safety concerns and acts to overcome problematic situations that may endanger anyone on the Mountain. We are a Firewise Community and as such, puts fire danger at the top of the safety list. There is a fire alert sign across from the Welcome Station. No open fires are allowed on Walnut Mountain.
- **Communications** puts out a quarterly newsletter, and keeps the Mountain web site: <http://www.walnutmtnga.com> up to date. Here you can find forms and information on management, maintenance, a calendar and a lot of great pictures from around the Mountain.
- **Architectural Control Committee.** Do you want to re-stain your home, add a deck, build a garage, add a water feature, have a tree trimmed or cut to create a view? These are all doable, but you must get approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The ACC is here to preserve the mountain character of the Walnut Mountain community. The style of the home, the color, these things must be controlled to some degree so Walnut Mountain does not appear to be a mishmash of styles that don't blend into our forest preserve. Some

gated communities only allow you to choose from 5-8 colors. We have a color samples with many choices that are just examples of what you can do. If you need to have a view cut into your lot, that is allowed if it leaves the majority of trees on your lot.

- **Governance Committee** - Revises the Rules and Regulations as needed and insures that there is no conflict with other documents.

- **The Garden and Social Club** - These great folks decorate the Mountain for the holidays and enjoy a pot luck dinner every second Thursday of the month at the clubhouse. It's a great place to meet your neighbors. There will be a sign hanging at the mail kiosk every month with the phone number of the host for the monthly dinner. Everyone is welcome. Call the host to rsvp. Speaking of gardens, not too far from here is Gibbs Gardens, famous for their daffodils and Japanese gardens. You can find them on the web.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- Your **electricity** is handled by Amicalola Electric. You call them if your power goes out. Their number is 706-276-0359.
- Your **internet** connection, cable services and telephone land lines are handled by ETC. Their number is 800-660-6826. The other TV services are Dish and Direct.
- The **Chamber of Commerce** has a great deal of information on Ellijay and the surrounding area. Located next door to the Waffle House you can stop by and pick up the many brochures available.

- The closest **hospitals** are: A stand alone Emergency Room operated by Piedmont Hospital is located on Main Street, (down from the Dairy Queen), Piedmont Mountainside in Jasper, Fannin Regional in Blue Ridge and Northside Hospital in Canton. Behind the Walmart are offices and imaging centers for both Piedmont and Northside.

- There is a **helicopter landing site** in the clubhouse parking lot. This is for emergencies for our homeowners and residents on



Turniptown Road. If the situation is life threatening, you will probably be taken to Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, which is a trauma 1 hospital and closer than Grady in Atlanta, and there are Trauma 2 hospitals in Dalton and Marietta.

- **Shopping** areas, besides the adorable Ellijay and Blue Ridge downtowns, are: North Georgia Premium Outlets in Dawsonville; Riverstone in Canton at Exit 20 off 575; Canton Marketplace at Exit 19; Outlet Shoppes of Atlanta, in Woodstock at Exit 9 off 575 and countless others in all directions.
- The local **newspaper** is the *Times-Courier*, which comes out on Wednesday and is delivered to your mail box the same day. The cost is currently \$30 a year, a great bargain and a source for all things local. Their office is next door to the Cantaberry Restaurant on River Street in downtown Ellijay, and their phone number is 706-635-4313.



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