

**Audubon Forest
Neighborhood
Association
(AFNA)
Newsletter**

March 2024 Issue



THE BIRDCALL

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audubonforest.org

AFNA MEMBERSHIP

Join
Us

AFNA meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Monday of each month at Hoosier United Methodist Church; 2545 Benjamin E. Mays Drive.

GET SOCIAL!

Connect with us on Instagram!



@audubonforest

We Welcome All Neighbors with Open Arms!

To join the Audubon Forest Neighborhood Association, simply pay your annual membership dues via PayPal. Annual membership dues are **\$50** dollars per household. See below for more information about our membership dues payment process.

Your dues help the association pay for our neighborhood website, virtual meeting communications such as Zoom, in-person meeting space, and any other neighborhood issues and events.

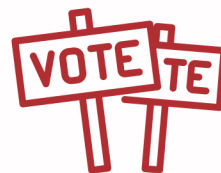
It's Annual Membership Dues Time!

AFNA membership dues are collected annually beginning in January. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to pay your annual household dues of **\$50** dollars. Dues are collected online via PayPal and by check.

If paying online via PayPal, it is asked that you pay the additional **\$3** dollar service charge to ensure the association receives \$50. *Please Note: Payment of the service fee is optional and NOT mandatory.*

Payment by check is accepted in-person at each AFNA monthly meeting.

For more information and to pay your dues, visit audubonforest.org.



IMPORTANT: Only members in good financial standing for the current calendar year are permitted to vote on any AFNA business.

2024 CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



We need your help! Please consider volunteering for one of the committees listed below:

Executive Committee:

- President
- Vice President*
- Secretary*
- Treasurer
- Chairpersons of Standing Committees

**Open Executive Committee Position*

Standing Committees:

- Communications
- Courtesy and Hospitality
- Community Safety*
- Economic Development*
- Membership*
- Social*
- History
- Zoning and Land Use*

**Open Committee Chair Position*



AFNA takes great pride in keeping Audubon Forest a great place to live.

Send an email to audubonforestna@gmail.com to share your ideas, questions and/or concerns.

All are welcome!

NOTE: Committee descriptions are currently being revised and will be published in updated AFNA bylaws in early 2024. To learn more about these positions, please email AFNA President, Stephanie Ferrington at audubonforestna@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU-I)

The City of Atlanta is divided by geographic area into 25 citizen advisory councils called Neighborhood Planning Units or NPUs. NPUs were developed in 1974 by Mayor Maynard H. Jackson to allow citizens to make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on zoning, land use and other matters related to city planning. Audubon Forest is located in NPU-I. NPU-I meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. You must register in order to attend.

- [Learn more about NPU-I at npui.info or click here >](https://npui.info)
- [Register for the next NPU-I Zoom meeting here >](#)

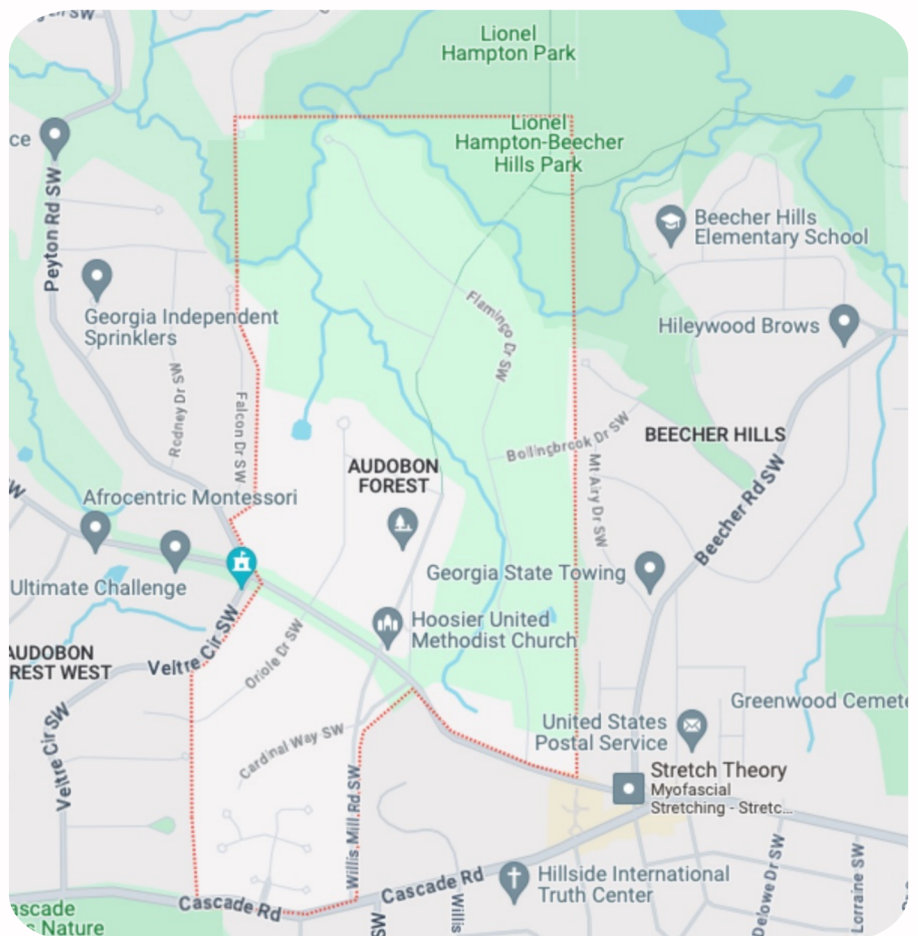
Street Captains

Our Street Captains are the pulse of the each street in our neighborhood. They have volunteered to receive and report issues related to trash dumping on their respective streets, new neighbors, unkept yards, and any other issues that need reporting. In essence, Street Captains are the eyes and ears for us all. This role is not taken lightly and is key to increasing our neighborhood's value.

Mario Wiley is the new AFNA Street Captain Committee Chair. If you would like to be a street captain, please email audubonforestna@gmail.com.

AFNA Boundaries

The streets comprising Audubon Forest are: Audubon Circle, Benjamin E. Mays Drive (Flamingo Drive to Peyton Road), Cardinal Way, Chickadee Court, Falcon Drive, Flamingo Drive, Jenny Wren Lane, Oriole Drive, Peyton Road (B.E.Mays Drive to Falcon Drive), and Willis Mill Road (north of B.E. Mays Drive.)



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Looking for Free Technology Classes for Seniors?

Click on the links below to check out these FREE online educational resources from AARP:

- [AARP Virtual Community Center](#)
- [Senior Planet Live Online Classes for Seniors](#)

Want to Learn About the City of Atlanta's Comprehensive Plan?

The City of Atlanta's Comprehensive Development Plan A (CDP) is Atlanta's official policy document guiding future physical growth and development. Atlanta adopted Plan A in October 2021, but will continue to evolve the plan every 5 years. Learn more about Plan A at atlantaforall.com.

[READ THE PLAN >](#)



It is crucial to use the appropriate emergency services to ensure that 911 lines remain available for urgent situations. Refer to this guide to determine whether your issue requires a call to 911 or it is more suitable for 311.

NON-EMERGENCY ISSUES

- Potholes on city streets
- Water leak or water main break
- Traffic signal repair/replacement
- Request new sidewalk
- Bulk collection request
- Code Enforcement issues
- Supportive Services
- Finding court information
- Tree inspections
- And more



Call 311 to submit service requests for improvements around the city that will enhance its safety, beauty and accessibility.

EMERGENCY ISSUES

- Active outdoor burning
- Drug activity in progress
- Request police to direct traffic
- Missing person reporting
- Welfare check on an Atlanta resident
- Receiving threatening calls
- Car accidents with serious injuries
- Situation of immediate danger
- And more



Call 911 for immediate assistance with life-threatening emergencies or if you witness ongoing illegal activity that requires urgent intervention.

If you're uncertain about which entity to call for your issue, reach out to 311 for assistance in determining the appropriate course of action.

ATL311
NON-EMERGENCY CITY SERVICES

Phone: **311** or **404.546.0311**

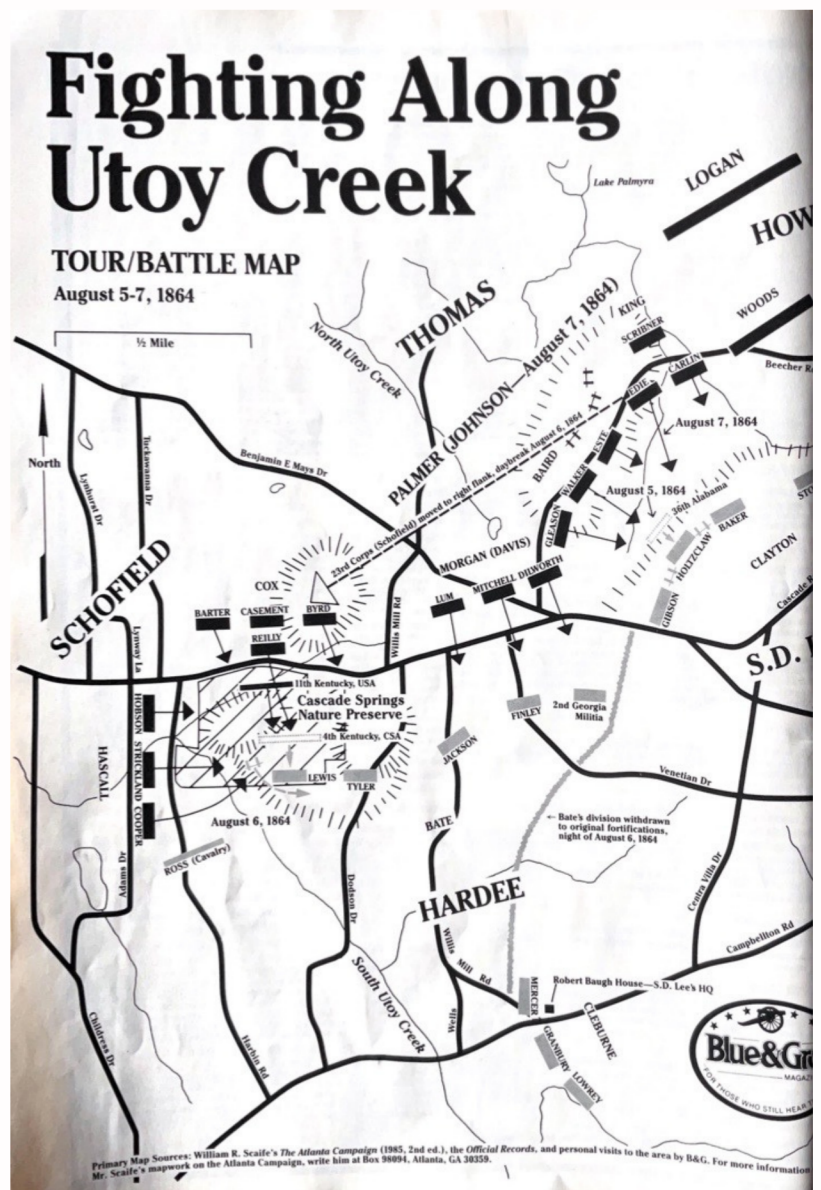
Website: atl311.com

Did You Know?

The Civil War Battle of Utoy Creek Was Fought in Audubon Forest?

THE BATTLE OF UTOY CREEK

The Audubon Forest Neighborhood in southwest Atlanta sits in the middle of the battle map for the Civil War Battle of Utoy Creek. Fought August 5 – 7, 1864, the Battle of Utoy Creek was one of the five battles that jointly comprised the Battles of Atlanta that occurred from July 10 to September 2, 1864 as part of the Atlanta Campaign led by Major General William Tecumseh Sherman. General Sherman had decided not to attack Atlanta directly; instead, he planned to make a circuit destroying all of the railroads bringing food and supplies on the Western & Atlantic, Atlanta & West Point, and Macon & Western railroads. Assigned to take over for General Joseph Johnston who had failed to stop the Union Army advancing on Atlanta, 33-year-old West Point graduate John Bell Hood was tasked with leading the Confederate Army of Tennessee and stopping the Union troops advancing on Atlanta. General Hood's plans for his first three battles (i.e. the Battle of Peachtree Creek; the Battle of Atlanta and the Battle of Ezra Creek) were largely unsuccessful.



AFNA HISTORY

He failed to cripple any part of the Union forces or to push the forces away from Atlanta, but he had managed to slow Sherman's drive on East Point thereby protecting a crucial railroad line south of the city that brought food and supplies to his army. On August 4th, Sherman decided to go forward with his plan to seize the Macon & Western Railroad at East Point. Unknown to Sherman, in the previous week following the July 28th Battle at Erza Church, Hood had directed his forces to fell trees in the heavy woods along Utoy Creek, and build abates - defensive obstacles made of felled or live trees with sharpened branches pointed toward the enemy and interwoven with bushes --- and dig trenches for rifle pits. When the Union forces tried to attack over the next three days, Hood's troops were able to push them back. Sherman sustained 845 casualties and losses over the three days of fighting while Hood had only 345 casualties and losses. Hood's troops also captured 200 prisoners and the Federal Colors (i.e., the Union's battle flags). The strong Confederate fortifications and the heavy losses forced General Sherman to change his plan to go to East Point. Instead, Sherman decided to increase his artillery fire and make Atlanta "a used-up community by the time we are done with it."



The Battle of Utoy Creek depicted by artist and former Audubon Forest resident, Marc Stewart.



Georgia State Perimeter College students map old civil war earthwork built by Union troops in what is now Lionel Hampton Nature Preserve. Photo Credit: news.gsu.edu.

AFNA HISTORY

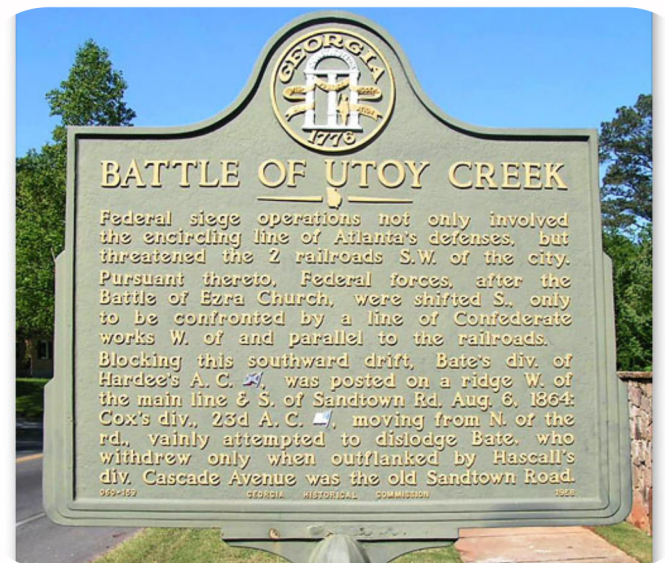
The major fighting occurred between Licksillet Road (now Benjamin E Mays Drive) on the north and Campbelltown Road on the south with fighting along Sandtown (now Cascade) Road, Willis Mill Road and in Adams Park. Markers regarding the Battle of Utoy Creek can be found in the Cascade Springs Nature Preserve; in Westview Cemetery; on the golf courses of John White and Adams Parks, on Cascade Road at Woodland Terrace; and in the yard of the house at 1166 Flamingo Drive along Benjamin E Mays Drive. Some of the trenches can still be seen in the woods in Audubon Forest along Utoy Creek. Earlier residents of Audubon Forest reported finding Civil War relics, such as cannon balls, bullets, and belt buckles in their yards and in the surrounding woods.



Historical marker located at 1166 Flamingo Drive. Photo Credit: Joanne Huntley



Relics found in Utoy Creek area. Photo Credit: Marc Stevens.



Historical marker located on Cascade Drive.

2023 AFNA HOLIDAY EVENT

The AFNA holiday party held on Saturday, December 2, 2023 was a success! Thank you to all who came out to celebrate with us, and to Hoosier United Methodist Church for the use of their Fellowship Hall.



Atlanta City Councilmember, Andrea L. Boone and AFNA President Stephanie Fearington honored AFNA long-time residents and volunteers with a Special Recognition Award for their commitment and service to the neighborhood. Front row L to R: Alice Maddox, Mabel Densler, Dr. James Densler, Richard Dent, Leonard Smith, Walter Huntley, Pastor Gary Dean and Gerri Heard. Back row L to R: Councilmember Andrea L. Boone, AFNA President Stephanie Fearington and former AFNA Social Committee Chair, Stacey Boyd.

AFNA President, Stephanie Fearington recognized AFNA volunteers with a Community Champion award. Front row: Stacey Boyd, Mario Wiley, Joanne Huntley, Creighton Fearington and Kisha Wiley. Back row L to R: Councilwoman Andrea L. Boone and Stephanie Fearington.



Thank you to the AFNA Social Committee volunteers for their assistance. We could not have done it without you!

- Kisha Wiley
- Mario Wiley
- Gerri Heard
- Eman Baraso Carter
- Leonard Smith
- Stephanie Fearington
- Creighton Fearington
- Brentson Buckner



2023 AFNA Holiday Party Photos



Photo Credits: Dr. James Densler, Kisha Wiley, Brentson Buckner