



THE BRANCH ADVISOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI | SPRING 2025

*Shaping
the Future
of Our
City*





CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH
 9200 PIGEON ROOST ROAD
 OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654
 662.892.9200
 WWW.OBMS.US

MAYOR

KENNETH R. (KEN) ADAMS
 662.892.9201

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

TODD ONDRA
 662.892.9202

CITY CLERK

TENA STEWART
 662.892.9211

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

JASON MAY
 662.892.9217

POLICE CHIEF

BILL COX
 662.892.9400

FIRE CHIEF

JOHNNY EASON
 662.892.9551

PARKS DIRECTOR

GREG BOOKER
 662.893.5219

PUBLIC WORKS

GAS & WATER
 JUSTIN ROSE
 662.893.5208

PUBLIC WORKS
STREETS & SANITATION

MICHAEL RIKARD
 662.893.5208

SENIOR CENTER

NORMA SHAW
 662.890.7236

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

AT LARGE: GEORGE COLLINS
 901.486.3594

WARD 1: GIL EARHART
 662.892.9218

WARD 2: PAT HAMILTON
 662.895.5765

WARD 3: JOY HENDERSON
 901.413.8361

WARD 4: DAVID WALLACE
 901.619.6992

WARD 5: JAN ALDRIDGE
 901.268.4119

WARD 6: DALE DICKERSON
 662.895.2543

THE BRANCH
ADVISOR

is published bi-annually by the City of Olive Branch, Office of Communications, 9200 Pigeon Roost Rd., Olive Branch, MS 38654. You can contact us at info@obms.us.

Pardon Our Dust!

The City of Olive Branch is breaking ground on numerous projects across the municipality.



Groundbreaking for new Public Works Facility

In November of 2024, a groundbreaking was held on the future site of the City's new Public Works Facility. This facility will be located near the Police Department headquarters on Highway 178. The new building, to be completed in early 2026, will also be across the highway from its current location. The new facility will be 24,000 square feet in size; giving a new training space and storage.

Groundbreaking for new Animal Shelter



Groundbreaking for the City's new Animal Shelter occurred on Friday, February 14th. This new facility is over 6,000 square feet and will expand our shelter to 65 dog kennels and a new cat holding area which will allow the City an opportunity to provide more efficient animal services and sheltering. This new facility will provide the caring staff of the

Olive Branch Animal Shelter the required resources to meet the needs of our community. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2025.

Approval to proceed on Sewer/Water Improvements

The City of Olive Branch is continuing to improve Water & Sewer services for the Northeast and Southern areas of Olive Branch. On January 27th, water and sewer installation began in the area near Pleasant Hill Road and College, impacting the subdivisions of Spring Valley, Pine Crest, and Pleasant Hill Estates. This project will be concluded in the Spring of 2026. In early February, water and sewer installation will occur in the area North of Goodman Road to Polk Lane Cove, and along Polk Lane East; impacting the subdivisions of Pleasant Grove and Davis Estates. This project is scheduled to be concluded by the Spring of 2026. Both of these projects were funded thanks to the Mississippi Municipality & County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant the City sought and was selected to receive.

Designs Approved for Fire Station #6

Station 6 will be located on Center Hill Road and will add much needed Fire and Ambulance protection to the eastern part of the City. The new station will be over 14,000 square feet, with 4 apparatus bays, a built-in generator and tornado shelter for personnel, as well as an SCBA (Airpack) repair room and maintenance shop; making it quicker and more cost efficient for firefighters to repair equipment in-house.

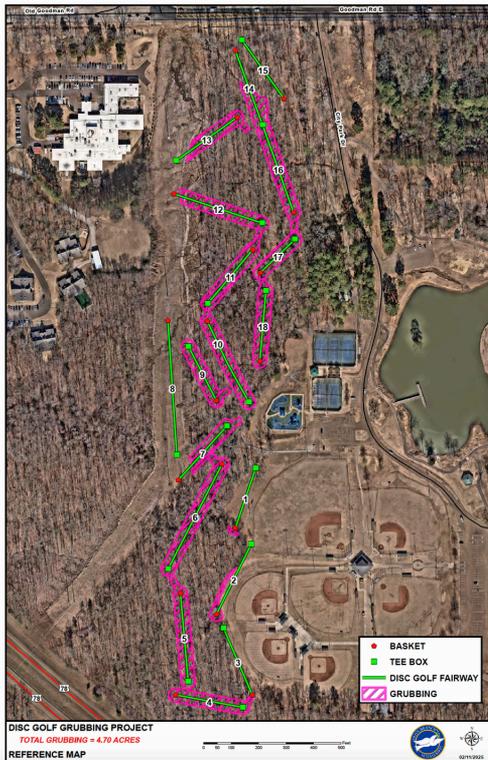
Roadway Improvement Projects for 2025

In 2023, Mayor Ken Adams and the Board of Aldermen approved a 5-year project to improve all public City-managed roadways. This project continues this Spring. The City's Engineering Department has granted a Notice to Proceed on the following road projects for 2025. The list below does not include streets that will have pothole repair or additional paving.

Bethel Road (MS 178 to College Rd)	Jeff Browning Blvd
Camp Creek Blvd (Road Configuration Change & Repaving)	Malone Road (Church Road to Robinson Crossing)
Craft Goodman Frontage (Craft to Goodman)	Pleasant Hill Road (College Road to City Limits)
Crumpler (Stateline Road to Stateline Road)	Stateline Road (Polk Lane to Forest Hill Irene)
Dunn Lane (Craft Road to HWY 305)	Stateline Road (Malone Road to Pleasant Hill Road)
Forest Hill Irene (Kirk Road to MS-TN Stateline)	Stateline Road (MS 178- Crumpler)

Olive Branch Airport Adds Third Aircraft Hangar

Thanks to a grant from the State of Mississippi, the Olive Branch Airport will be constructing a 12,000 sq. ft. City-owned corporate aircraft hanger as part of the airport expansion project. This new hangar will begin construction this Spring and will allow the City's Airport to house new corporate tenants.



DISC GOLF TRAIL IN CITY PARK

People for Parks Funds Park Updates

In 2022, Olive Branch residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of implementing a one-percent tax on hotel stays within City Limits that would help fund future park improvements. The City is happy to share that those improvements will begin construction this fiscal year.

George M. Harrison Soccer Complex Expansion

The City's Soccer Complex is expanding in 2025 to include four new soccer fields, a brand new concessions/restroom facility, and a multi-use walking trail that will connect to Ross Road. Additionally, an expanded parking area will add additional spots to those using our Soccer Complex. Olive Branch Parks and Recreation welcomes over 1,600 participants during its Spring and Fall Soccer Seasons.

Homer Skelton and the Homer Skelton Charitable Foundation Pickleball Complex added to City Park

Close to Olive Bark Dog Park, the Homer Skelton and Homer Skelton Charitable Foundation Pickleball Complex will begin construction this year inside City Park. This facility will feature six courts along with restroom amenities.

New Frisbee Disc Golf Course

In addition to these new amenities, the City Park will add an 18-hole disc golf course along the existing Nature Trail.

Notice to Proceed

A Notice to Proceed is a formal, written authorization issued by the City of Olive Branch to the contractor, signaling the start of the project work as defined in the contract. In addition to what you read inside this newsletter, there are even more things happening across our City. To help answer resident questions, the City has started listing all of its "Notice to Proceed" on the City website. To view an inclusive list, please visit www.obms.us/1365/Notice-to-Proceed.



The Branch eNewsletter

Want to stay in the loop with events happening in the City of Olive Branch? Sign up for our eNewsletter. This reoccurring newsletter is designed to help citizens stay informed and highlight upcoming events happening within the City. You can sign up via the Notify Me feature on our City website at www.obms.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

APR 05 WHEELS & WINGS FEST (CITY PARK)

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY **APR 19**



APR 26 COMMUNITY SHRED & DRUG TAKE BACK DAY (POLICE DEPARTMENT)

OBPD SUMMER CAMPS **JUNE**
CAMP BUILD / CAMP SHAPE

JUNE 7 FARMERS MARKET OPENS (CITY HALL)

LIGHT THE WAY MUSIC FESTIVAL & CITY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION **JULY 4**

SEPT 27 TOUCH-A-TRUCK & SENIOR CENTER FALL CRAFT FAIR

SCAN THE QR CODE ON YOUR SMART DEVICE TO SEE THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH EVENT CALENDAR OR VISIT [WWW.OBMS.US/CALENDAR](http://www.obms.us/CALENDAR)



Olive Branch Police Department June 2025

SUMMER CAMPS

annual month-long day camp programs



Learn more at www.obms.us/obpdsummercamps

children & pre-teens
CAMP B.U.I.L.D.

high school students
CAMP S.H.A.P.E.

City News

Senior Center Adds Mahjong

The Olive Branch Senior Center has lots of activities for residents aged 50 years young and up. They have recently added Mahjong to their event calendar. This class will be held every Thursday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm.



The Olive Branch Senior Center is located at 8800 College Street. It is free to all DeSoto County Residents.

Farmers Market Applications Now Open

The City of Olive Branch Farmers Market is an Associate Member of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture's Genuine MS Program. The market is primarily a producers' market, with a limited number of artisan crafts. The 2025 Farmers Market Application for Vendors is now available online at www.obms.us/farmersmarket or in the lobby of City Hall. We ask that all interested vendors attend a general food safety course hosted by the DeSoto County 4-H Extension Office. This class will be hosted at the Olive Branch Senior Center on Thursday, April 3rd at 4:30 pm. For questions, please call 662.892.9200. Applications are due back to City Hall by April 25, 2025.

Updates to Online Utility/Court Payments

The City of Olive Branch has launched a new online Payment Portal to allow more options to pay online at www.obms.us/payments. If you previously used the "PayIt" app or website to make your utility payment and court citation, you will need to create a new account on this online portal.

If you previously used automatic bank drafts (ACH payments) as a utility customer, you will not need to make any changes for your utility bill. Learn more at www.obms.us/payments. For questions about your account, please call the Utility Billing Office at 662.892.9305.

Community Clean Up Day Set

It takes all of us to keep Olive Branch beautiful! We're working proactively with DeSoto County Government and its litter initiative for *Keep DeSoto Beautiful*. Our Public Works, Parks & Recreation, and Code Enforcement Departments are all involved in picking up litter throughout the City and have logged over two hundred hours picking up litter so far this year. The City of Olive Branch provides citizens with complimentary orange litter pick up bags, gloves, and other supplies. These clean up kits are available for **free** to residents and groups who pledge to clean up a section of road, intersections, or parts of neighborhoods any time of the year, but especially for our scheduled Community Clean Up Day. This year, our Community Clean Up Day is Saturday, April 19th. If you are a business, school group, or an HOA/Neighborhood interested in organizing a clean up on this day, please fill out the form found at www.obms.us/cleanupday. All completed forms will be issued a clean up kit. Businesses and other entities that commit to cleaning up their respected areas will also receive a complimentary decal designating them as a community partner in our efforts to combat litter. For more information, please send an email to info@obms.us.

Cleanup kits include:

- Bags to collect trash
- Collection gloves
- Devices to pick up litter (trash grabbers)
- High Visibility Safety Vests



2024 Hall of Fame Inductee: George Collins



George Collins is a lifelong resident of Olive Branch and is, and always been, very involved in the community. He has served as a past board member for the Olive Branch Chamber of Commerce. He is an active member of Queen of Peace Catholic Church, the Olive Branch Lions Club, Olive Branch Sportsman Club, and a Community Board member of Bancorpsouth. One of George's most impressive contributions to the City of Olive Branch is through his many years of service as an Alderman. He was first elected in 1989 and has served ever since. At the time of this writing, George is the longest serving Alderman in the State of Mississippi. The decisions that he and other Olive Branch Aldermen have made together over the years have helped shape Olive Branch into the thriving City it is today!



Being inducted into the Olive Branch Hall of Fame is the highest honor that the City can bestow upon one of its citizens. The voting body of the Hall of Fame selected George Collins in 2024.



The nomination period is now open for the 2025 Olive Branch Hall of Fame. The general public is asked to participate in the nominating process by completing the form at the bottom of this page. You may enter anyone you think that is worthy of the honor, by mailing or hand-delivering the form below to City Hall by Friday, July 27, 2025. Please have this nomination marked with: "Attention Hall of Fame". Anyone receiving at least one vote from last year's nominees has been carried forward for 2025 and, as such, does not need to be nominated again this year. The 2024 nominees carried forward are:

- Phil Lachaussee*
- Forest Langston*
- Harold Nichols*
- Ken Reid*
- Gartha Wallace*

Members of the Olive Branch Hall of Fame

- Bill G. Allen*
- Gilbert Leon Allen*
- Marthola Smith Allen*
- Helen D. Allison*
- Jimmy Neal Andrews*
- Billy W. Baldwin*
- Vicky Jo Baldwin*
- Judy Holloway Berryhill*
- Drue D. Birmingham, Jr.*
- Billie B. Blocker*
- Milton S. Blocker*
- Perry L. Bowlan*
- Lemoyne Brigance*
- Bill Britton*
- Frank J. Brown, Jr.*
- Sarah J. Camp*
- Walter S. Carter*
- Bela J. Chain*
- Ruby Black Chain*
- George Collins*
- Bill E. Cruthirds, Sr.*
- Scottye C. Davidson*
- James Paul "Jim" Davis*
- Wendell Davis*
- James A. Doddridge, Sr.*
- Thomas (Tommy) D. Doddridge*
- Pat Dorr*
- Dr. Greg Evans*
- Stephen Flinn*
- Dr. D.C. Funderburk*
- Oscar Floyd Geeslin*
- Willie James George*
- G.P. Gillespie*
- E. Forrest Hamilton*
- A. Maury Haraway*
- Dr. Elton L. Harris*
- George M. Harrison*
- Joyce H. Haslip*
- M.C. Herrington*
- Wayne D. Hollowell*
- Jan R. Johnson*
- Dr. Julian F. Jones*
- Bill W. Kerr*
- Martha Pearl Langston*
- Ray Magee*
- Robert H. Marr*
- William Malone Maxwell*
- Jack McCauley*
- D.M. Nichols*
- Erlend R. Nichols*
- G.B. Payne*
- Janice Payne*
- H. Gene Phillips*
- Scott "Scotty" B. Phillips*
- Leslie Pool*
- Sam P. Rikard*
- Don Sappington*
- Dr. P.J. Scott*
- Kenneth W. Sessom*
- Jason Shifflett*
- Homer D. Skelton*
- Lush-Pun-Tubby*
- Benjamin F. Wesson*
- Dr. William T. Wilkins*
- G.E. (Mr. Eddie) Williams*
- Lawrence "Dan" Williams*
- James E. Woods*
- Walton T. Woods*
- Maurice E. Woodson*
- Alma C. Young*

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HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS FORM

Please cut along the dotted line and either drop off at City Hall or mail to: City Hall, ATTN: Hall of Fame, 9200 Pigeon Roost Road, Olive Branch, MS 38654. All nominations must be dropped off at City Hall or postmarked by 07/25/2025.

I would like to recommend the following person to the Hall of Fame Nominating Board for ballot nomination for the 2025 Olive Branch Hall of Fame Inductee Election:

Name of person being nominated	Date of Birth	Date of Death (If Deceased)
_____	_____	_____

Your Name	Your Phone Number
_____	_____

Why should this person be considered for the Hall of Fame?

Learn more about members of the Hall of Fame by visiting the first floor lobby of City Hall.

City of Olive Branch MUNICIPAL ELECTION GUIDE



Visit the City Clerk's Office

✓ You can do the following things:

- Register to Vote
- Vote Absentee
- Find Election information
- Get Your Questions Answered

VOTER REGISTRATION

You can register to vote in person for the General Municipal Election until Saturday, May 3, 2025.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 am-5 pm

Location: City Hall in Olive Branch at the City Clerk's Office located at 9200 Pigeon Roost Road.

ABSENTEE IN-PERSON VOTING

In-Person Absentee **Primary** voting began February 18th.

Vote in-person absentee at the City Clerk's Office Monday-Friday, 8 am till 5 pm

-OR-

Saturday, March 29, 8 am till Noon (**LAST DAY to vote Absentee**)

The City Clerk's office is located at 9200 Pigeon Roost Road.

*unless a runoff election is needed.

ELECTION DAY

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Polls are open 7 am - 7 pm

- Show a Photo ID with your current address
 - Driver's License, Military ID, University ID, etc.
 - You may also secure a MS Voter Registration ID Card at the Circuit Court Clerk's office

FIND YOUR POLL LOCATION

Find your polling place by scanning the QR Code or

by visiting: <https://www.obms.us/1354/2025-Municipal-Elections>

Ward 1: Compel Church, 7790 Davidson Road

Ward 2: St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 5960 Pleasant Hill Road

Ward 3: Redeemer Church, 5050 Katherine Drive

Ward 4: Olive Branch Municipal Court, 6900 Highland Street

Ward 5: Great Commission Church, 7070 Reliance Lane

Ward 6: Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8161 Germantown Road

Scan Here



AREA DIRECTORY WHO TO CALL

AIRPORTS

OLIVE BRANCH 662.895.2978
MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL 901.922.8000

BIRTH & DEATH CERTIFICATES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 601.206.8200

CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH

AMBULANCE (OBFD) 662.895.4111
ANIMAL CONTROL / ANIMAL SHELTER EMERGENCY 662.895.4582
BUILDING PERMITS 662.892.9331
BUSINESS LICENSE 662.892.9238
CITY COURT CLERK 662.892.9500
CITY ENGINEER 662.892.9351
CITY HALL 662.892.9200
FIRE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH 662.895.4111
FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 1 662.895.9611
FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 2 662.895.9612
FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 3 662.895.9613
FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 4 662.893.9614
FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 5 662.893.9615
GARBAGE/RECYCLE COLLECTION 662.892.9306
HUMAN RESOURCES 662.892.9258
MAYOR'S OFFICE 662.892.9201
PARKS & RECREATION 662.893.5219
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT 662.892.9334
POLICE DEPARTMENT 662.892.9400
POLICE DISPATCH 662.895.4111
PUBLIC WORKS 662.893.5208
SENIOR CENTER 662.890.7182
STREET LIGHTS 662.892.9220
RUBBISH COLLECTION (NOT GARBAGE) 662.893.5208
UTILITIES 662.892.9305
WATER & SEWER -EMERGENCIES AFTER HOURS 662.895.4111

DESOTO COUNTY

AUTOMOBILE TAGS 662.469.8032
CRIMESTOPPERS 662.429.8477
BOARD OF EDUCATION/SCHOOLS 662.429.5271
HANDICAP DECALS 662.489.9032
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION 662.469.8029
JUSTICE COURT 662.469.8026
MARRIAGE LICENSE 662.469.8007
PROPERTY TAX ASSESSOR 662.469.8029
PROPERTY TAX COLLECTOR 662.469.8032
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 662.469.8500
VOTER REGISTRATION 662.469.8350
Olive Branch Arts Council 662.404.2787
Chamber of Commerce 662.895.2600
Library (B.J. Chain) 662.895.5900
Post Office 662.895.5966

DRIVERS LICENSE

OLIVE BRANCH 662.890.7211
NESBIT 662.429.1353

DESOTO COUNTY TOURISM

662.393.8770

ELECTRICAL SERVICE

NORTHCENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 800.325.8925
EMERGENCIES (NIGHTS/WEEKEND/HOLIDAY) 866.438.2642
ENTERGY 800.368.3749

GOLF COURSES

CHEROKEE VALLEY 662.893.4444
OLIVE BRANCH COUNTRY CLUB 662.895.6525
TIMBER TRUSS 662.895.3530
WEDGEWOOD 662.895.7490

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINIC

HERNANDO 662.429.9814
OLIVE BRANCH 662.895.3090

LITERACY COUNCIL

662.429.2354

METHODIST HOSPITAL OLIVE BRANCH

662.932.9000

MISSISSIPPI DEPT OF REVENUE

601.545.1261

NATURAL GAS SERVICE

OLIVE BRANCH 662.893.5209
EMERGENCIES AFTER HOURS 662.895.4111
LOCATE UNDERGROUND LINES 800.227.6477
BILLING 662.892.9305
GAS LEAKS 662.893.5208
ATMOS CUSTOMER SERVICE 888.286.6700
ATMOS NATURAL GAS EMERGENCY 866.322.8667

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

662.342.1570

POISON CONTROL

800.222.1222

SOCIAL SERVICES

OLIVE BRANCH EMERGENCY FOOD MINISTRY 662.895.2913
PALMER HOME FOR CHILDREN (HERNANDO) 662.449.2400
SACRED HEART SOUTHERN MISSION 662.893.0255
THRIFT SHOP / FOOD PANTRY 662.895.2913
MID-STATE OPPORTUNITIES 662.895.4153
NORTH DELTA PLANNING COMMISSION 662.561.4100
TRINITY HEALTH CENTER (HORN LAKE) 662.222.1007
HOUSE OF GRACE (WOMEN'S SHELTER) CRISIS LINE 662.342.1432
ELLA BEBE ANGELS (SUPPORT FOR WOMEN) 662.804.6612

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

HERNANDO 866.739.4771
CALL BACK LINE 866.592.2675

WIN JOB CENTER

662.342.4002

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

888.844.3577

CITY MEETING SCHEDULES

All city meetings are open to the public and are held at the Courthouse located at 6900 Highland Street

MEETING	DAY	TIME
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN*	FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:00 P.M.
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION*	SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:00 P.M.
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT	SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH	6:00 P.M.

*Meetings are live streamed and archived via the City's YouTube Page.



Community Resources



Do you or someone you know need help in our community? There are lots of free resources across the City of Olive Branch and DeSoto County. Scan the QR Code to view the list. If you would like your business or non-profit's community resources listed, please email info@obms.us.

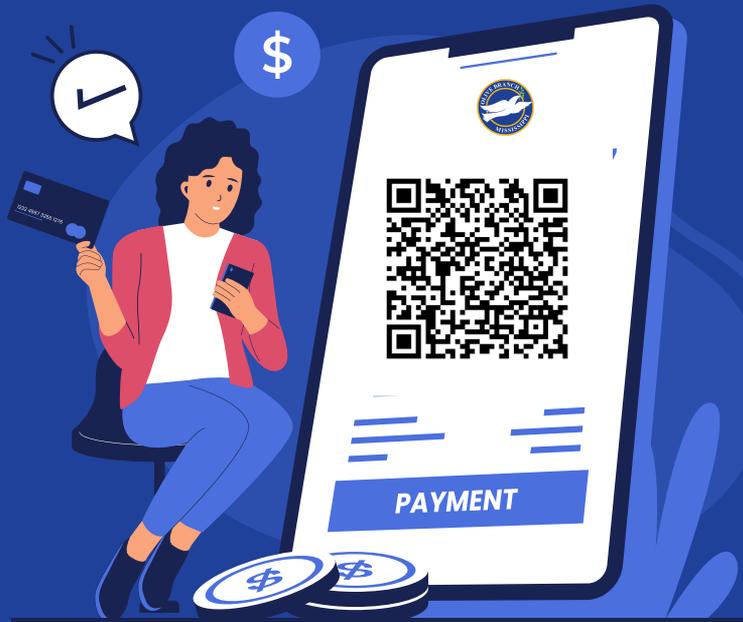


CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH

9200 PIGEON ROOST ROAD
OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654
662.892.9200 WWW.OBMS.US



MYOLIVEBRANCH MAKE ONLINE PAYMENTS



Pay your utilities and court citations online with our **NEW** payment portal!

Enroll in AutoPay for water bills
Make partial payments on citations
Receive reminders of upcoming due dates and more!

Get started today by visiting:
www.obms.us/payments