



City of Tupelo

Jason L. Shelton
Mayor

COUNCIL

Markel Whittington
Ward One

Lynn Bryan
Ward Two

Travis Beard
Ward Three

Nettie Y. Davis
Ward Four

Buddy Palmer
Ward Five

Mike Bryan
Ward Six


Willie Jennings
Ward Seven

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF TUPELO TO VERIFY THAT WE ARE THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE TUPELO, MS HOMETOWN MISSISSIPPI RETIREMENT (HMR) PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the City of Tupelo is fully aware and supportive of the guidelines and requirements for staffing that local HMR program; marketing and promotion needs; establishment of a task force to assist with recruitment efforts; budgetary requirements; attendance by the local manager at specified meetings; and other administrative duties for maintaining active certification, we the City of Tupelo do allocate annual funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 per year for the operation of the HMR program from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, we further understand that no more than 20% of the budget may be allocated for employee salaries, and travel and marketing expenditures shall be itemized within the budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we do hereby agree that Tupelo, MS be recertified and continue to be promoted as a Hometown Mississippi Retirement Community, adopted this day the 5th of November, 2020.


Jason L. Shelton, Mayor


Leigh Ann Mattox, CRC Manager



Witness

NOV 5, 2020

Date



Witness

11.5.2020

Date





Hometown Retirement Guide for Tupelo, Mississippi

RESOURCES

- Tupelo City Website- www.tupeloms.gov
- Community Development Foundation-www.cdfms.org
- Tupelo Convention and Visitors Bureau-www.tupelo.net

HOUSING

- The median price of a single family home is \$142,000
- \$86 per square foot, average size of 1,612 square feet
- The average price of a rental in Tupelo is \$800
- The cost of assisted living is \$2,720 per month single and \$3,404 month per couple. (Traceway Retirement Community)

UTILITIES

- Tupelo Water and Light Electric, water, and sewer service
- Tombigbee Electric Power Association
- Atmos Energy - Natural Gas
- Suburban Propane
- Heritage Propane
- Waste Management - Garbage pick-up



INTERNET AND CABLE SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Xfinity - Internet provider and cable service
- AT&T - Internet provider
- Cspire - Internet provider
- Dish Network
- Direct TV
- Tupelo Satellite
- MCGO Services

xfinity



TRANSPORTATION

Tupelo is located in Northeast Mississippi and is easily accessible on Interstate 22, US Highway 45, and the Natchez Trace Parkway. The city is just 90 minutes from Memphis, TN, two hours from Birmingham, AL, and under four hours from Nashville, TN.

Tupelo is also a quick 45-minute flight from Nashville, TN. Contour Airlines offers multiple daily flights from Nashville International Airport to Tupelo Regional Airport, often as low as \$29 one-way.



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

If you need a ride to find groceries, pick up prescriptions, visit doctors or to the mall to shop, Tupelo has several options for those who may need a ride.

- Tupelo Transit - The All-America City's public transportation system is an on-demand system that goes curb to curb so everyone can ride. \$2 one way, \$4 round trip. Make requests 48 hours in advance.
- Climb-up Transit
- Shepherd Center of Greater Tupelo
- Ms. Concierge
- A-1 Cabs
- Yellow Cabs



PUBLIC SAFETY

Statistics for the area show that we have one of the lower crime rates in the state. Tupelo has a 56% crime index. There is a great team of public safety and community partners working together to make sure you are protected and remain safe in your neighborhood and the additional areas in Tupelo.

- Driver's License Testing Center
- Lee County 911
- Lee County Sheriff Department
- Crime Stoppers
- Tupelo Police Department
- Tupelo Fire Department
- Tupelo Mayor and City Council
- United Way



HOTELS

Tupelo has 30+ hotels including the popular Hilton Garden Inn, located in the heart of Downtown. Construction has begun on a boutique hotel, Hotel Tupelo, which will open in 2021 and is located in Downtown Tupelo, also.

- Motel 6
- Americas Best Value Inn
- Baymont Inn
- Best Western Inn & Suites
- Candlewood Suites
- Clarion Inn
- Comfort Inn
- Comfort Suites
- Commodore Motel
- Courtyard by Marriott
- Days Inn
- Econolodge
- Economy Inn
- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- Gumtree Inn
- Hampton Inn & Suites
- Hilton Garden Inn





- Holiday Inn & Suites
- Holiday Inn Express
- La Quinta
- Super 7
- Quality Inn
- Red Roof Inn
- Rodeway Inn
- Scottish Inn
- Super 8 Motel
- Sure Stay Hotel Town House Motel
- Travelers Motel
- Wingate by Wyndham

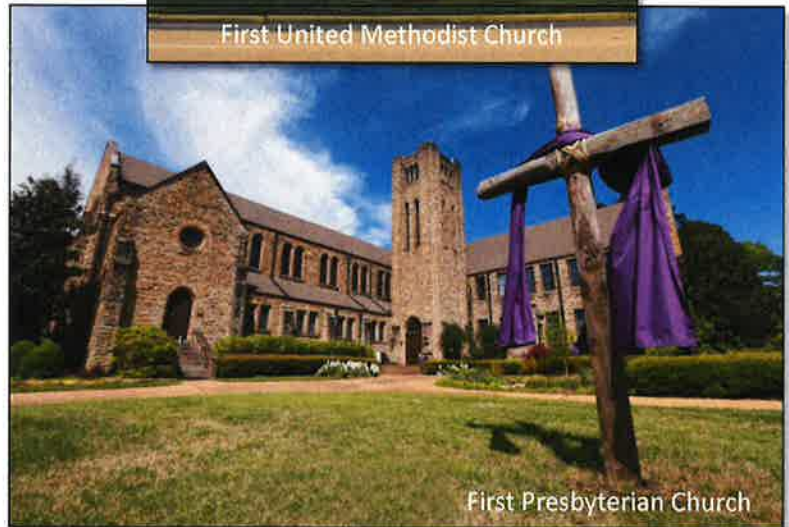
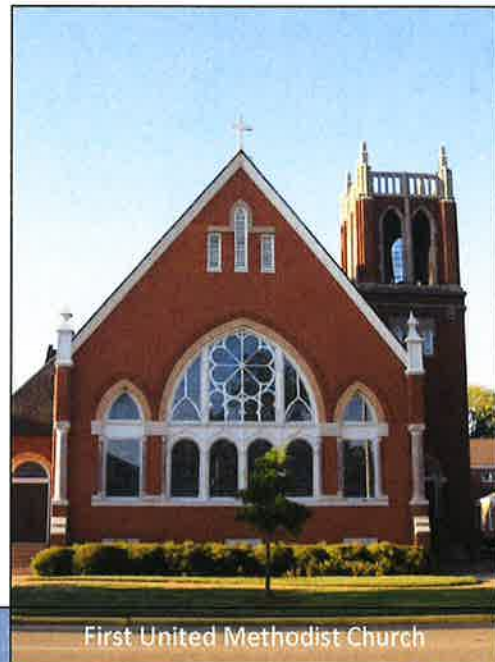




CHURCHES

Tupelo has a rich and varied worship community. Tupelo's churches provide not only places of worship, but are also involved in various mission work and needs in our community.

- Assembly of God
- Baptist
- Catholic
- Christian
- Church of Christ
- Church of God
- Church of the Nazarene
- Community
- Episcopal
- Evangelical
- Interdenominational
- Jehovah Witness
- Mosque
- Lutheran
- United Methodist
- Non-Denominational
- Orthodox
- Pentecostal
- Presbyterian (USA)
- Presbyterian (PCA)
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Synagogue





HEALTHCARE

North Mississippi Medical Center is the largest hospital in Mississippi and the largest rural hospital in the US. The Tupelo center and its other campuses and clinics serve 730,000 residents in a 24-county region that stretches throughout northern Mississippi and into parts of Alabama and Tennessee.

The Tupelo main campus has 750 beds, a staff of 350 doctors and 4,300 employees and includes a cancer center, heart institute, surgical services, diagnostic imaging, emergency department, behavioral health, and women's and children's services. NMHS provides acute, diagnostic, therapeutic and emergency services, with the sole trauma center (Level 2) in our service area.

The hospital has also earned several awards in recent years, American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline Gold (2015), Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award (2012, 2006), and American's top health systems by Modern Healthcare (2012) to name a few.

Find information on providers and areas of discipline here: www.nmhs.net



PHARMACY AND DRUGS

Tupelo has many pharmacies and drugs store to take care of the needs of you and your family.

- Walgreens (3 locations)
 - Wal-Mart (2 locations)
 - Kroger (2 locations)
 - CVS
-
- Thomas St. Apothecary-Compounding Pharmacy
 - Sunshine Health Foods
 - Whole Family Nutrition and Market
 - Sam's



DINING AND SHOPPING

Tupelo's culinary scene continues to entice visitors as well as citizens to imagine what you can eat here! With new restaurants opening throughout town, tantalize your taste buds with a visit to one of Tupelo's over 160 restaurants. Pizza vs. Tacos is the city's newest hotspot for Detroit-style pizza and elevated tacos on fresh ground corn tortillas. Patrons come for the scrumptious food and stay for the top shelf, hand squeezed margaritas and cocktails. Neon Pig Café home of the Smash Burger, is part old-school butcher shop, part sandwich grill, and all amazing food. The embodiment of farm-to-fork, the chefs at Neon Pig pride themselves on bringing old-fashioned goodness to their menu. Their new Lean and Clean menu offers yummy and healthy or try the hand cut French fries, seasoned or loaded.



The list of places where you can eat in Tupelo grows almost every day. Whether you are looking for a local dive bar like Stables Downtown Grill or starting the day with breakfast at Butterbean, Tupelo's local restaurants serve up some of the best food around on a daily basis. Visitors from all over the world come to Tupelo to see the Birthplace of the King of Rock 'N' Roll and the vast number of ethnic eateries available here to make that clear. Middle Eastern fare at Amsterdam Deli, authentic Tai food at Noodle House and U & Me Asian Grocery are just a few of the delicious dining options visitors can only find in Tupelo. Check out tupelo.net/eat to see the full list. Your tummy will thank you.



Tupelo is proud to offer a shopper's paradise with a diverse collection of one-of-a-kind retail shops, pottery shops, antique shops, unique bookstores, consignment boutiques, and a regional mall. Three of Tupelo's most distinct shopping areas are historic downtown Tupelo, Midtown District, and the area surrounding the Barnes



Crossing District. The Mall at Barnes Crossing is northeast Mississippi's premier shopping destination, serving an average of 12 million shoppers annually with a diverse lineup of anchor stores, retailers, dining venues and entertainment options including Belk, H&M, Ulta, Barnes and Noble, and Cinemark.

RECREATION

Tupelo Parks and Recreation is home to 22 parks and athletic facilities providing recreation opportunities to you and your family. There is so much to offer everyone from recreational sports to senior programs, to a state-of-the-art aquatic facility and a Veterans Park that is a crown jewel. Veterans Park is home to a replica Vietnam Veterans Memorial and a rare F-105 Thunderchief on static display.



Ballard Park (153 acres) – 3-acre lake, 1 gazebo, 2 pavilions, 1 state, 3 restroom facilities, skate park, disc golf course, 2 playgrounds, 2.75 mile walking trail, cross country trail. Life Trail Fitness system, 20 picnic tables, 2 sand volleyball courts, Tupelo City Museum, Parks and Recreation administrative office, 1 athletic Operations center.

Tupelo Bark Park (1 acre) - Large and small dog play area, covered entry way with benches, picnic table, watering station, 2.5-mile Music Bend Trail.

Rob Leake City Park (34 acres) - 17 Lighted tennis courts, 1 outdoor basketball court, 2 lighted athletic fields, pro shop, 2 pavilions, 1 restroom facility, 1 playground, .5-mile trail, 1 recreational meeting facility, Splash pad. We also have an active group of pickleball players.

Veterans Memorial Park (206 acres) - Tupelo Aquatic Center, 3 pavilions, 1 restroom facility, 1 playground, .5-mile trail, 3 Disc golf courses, 4 field softball complexes with support facilities, Splash pad, Veterans Memorial, F-105 static display, Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Tupelo Parks and Recreation hosts many sports tournaments and will host as many as 20 community events per year, and we are in the process of building a new Senior Recreation Center. Tupelo Parks and Recreation also hosts the largest one-day celebration on July 4th with upwards of 15,000 people rushing to Ballard to hear music, eat great food and watch fireworks.

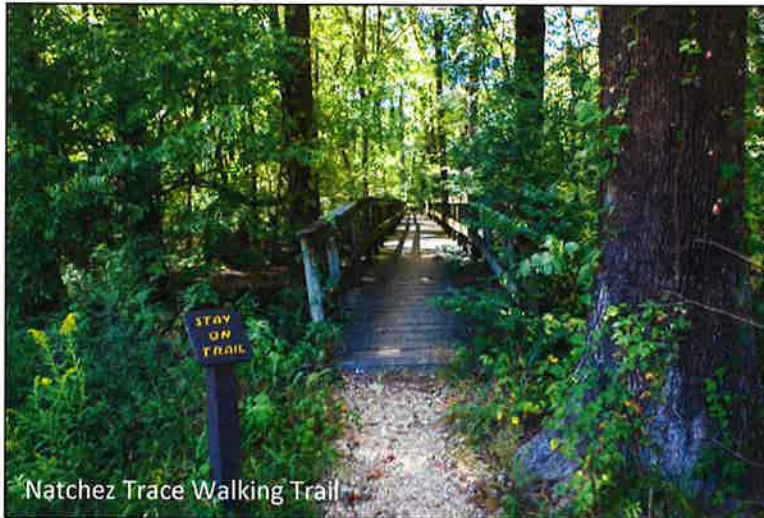


In addition to all of our wonderful parks, Tupelo is the headquarters to the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center. The Parkway is a 444-mile national scenic byway that runs from Natchez, Mississippi, to Nashville, Tennessee. The Parkway has been designated as one of America's National Scenic Byways by the Federal Highway Administration. The most scenic of these byways are also designated as All-American Roads. The Natchez Trace is one of only 31 All-American Roads. A

state-of-the-art visitor's center can be explored to hear all the wonderful stories of all the Boatmen as they floated their goods down the river and then walked or rode horses up the Trace to return home. The Trace can easily be traveled by car, truck, RV or motorcycle. Those looking for a more strenuous mode of transportation can pedal a



bicycle. Commercial traffic is prohibited. The maximum speed is 50-mph.



Tupelo has plenty of fishing, boating, camping, and hiking opportunities.

ATTRACTIONS

There are thousands of attractions to visit in Mississippi and many

reside here in Tupelo. We sit a stone's throw away from Memphis, Jackson or Birmingham, making Tupelo a great place to explore all the sites, sounds, and flavors the South has to offer. Find countless Tupelo attractions like the majestic Natchez Trace Parkway, discover family activities like the birthplace of Elvis Presley, Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo, the best Tupelo golf courses and more.

- Elvis Presley Birthplace & Museum
- Tupelo Visitors Center
- Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center



- Elvis' Tupelo Driving Tour Self-Guided Bicycle Tour
- Gumtree Museum of Art
- Healthworks! Kids Museum
- Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area Visitor Center
- Tupelo City Museum
- Private John Allen National Fish Hatchery
- Queen's Reward Meadery
- Tupelo Buffalo Park & Zoo
- Tupelo National Battlefield Site
- Tupelo Veterans Museum
- Vietnam Veterans Replica Wall Memorial
- Civil Rights & African-American Heritage Trail
- Civil War Trail
- Chickasaw Trail
- Tupelo Guitar Trail
- Off the Wall Mural Project



Elvis Presley Birthplace



Tupelo Visitors Center



Tupelo City Museum



Tupelo Buffalo Park & Zoo



Tupelo Veterans Replica Wall Memorial



Tupelo has a wonderful variety of performing arts including a full community symphony, an award-winning community theatre, and dance companies. If live music is what you want, there are several live music venues for unique sounds and swaying beats.

- Tupelo Community Theatre
- Tupelo Film Festival
- Off Broadway
- Link Centre
- North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra
- Lee County Library
- Tupelo Concert Association
- North Mississippi Dance Center
- Doniphan Dance Project
- Civic Ballet
- Tupelo Ballet
- Gumtree Museum
- Caron Gallery
- Tupelo City Museum
- Pied Piper Players
- West of Shake Rag
- Southern Lights Photography
- Tupelo Public School District Performing Arts Center



North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra



Doniphan Dance Project





LIVE MUSIC SCENE

- Amsterdam Deli
- BancorpSouth Arena
- Blue Canoe
- Downunder
- Fairpark Outdoor Amphitheater
- Forklift
- Link Centre
- Nautical Whimsey
- Romie's Grocery
- The Stables
- Steele's Dive
- Woody's
- Mugshots Grill and Bar



Fairpark Downtown
Down on Main Concert by @design_rheonna





BancorpSouth Arena



Fairpark Downtown



TUPELO FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Lots of fun is waiting for you in Tupelo! With events and festivals scheduled year-round, there are plenty of options for everyone!

Tupelo Elvis Festival

The Tupelo Elvis Festival is a musical celebration designed to honor Tupelo's native son and The King of Rock & Roll, Elvis Presley. Each year during the first week of June, Tupelo is rocking. This annual festival features amazing musicians, gospel groups and includes the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Contest, which the winner qualifies for the Memphis competition.



Cherry Blossom Festival

There's no need to travel to see beautiful cherry blossoms—you can see their beauty right here in Tupelo! The North Mississippi Cherry Blossom Festival is an event to bring the Japanese culture to Mississippi. As areas become more diverse, it is important to learn about and celebrate each other's backgrounds, cultures, and traditions. The event consists of stage demonstrations and performances, samples of sushi, a bonsai tree display, origami, brush writing, and a chance to dress up in yukata (casual kimono).

Communities Forward Festival

The Communities Forward Festival is a collaboration of Tupelo Police Department and Tupelo citizens for unity in the community. The festival's mission is to support a positive image of law enforcement officers, their role and responsibilities, and the development of a harmonious relationship between law enforcement and the citizens they serve and protect. It includes live entertainment, parade, basketball tournament, BBQ cookoff, vendor booths and children's activities.



Gumtree Art Festival

The Gumtree Festival is Mississippi's premier arts festival. Each spring, artists from all over the Southeast descend on downtown Tupelo for a weekend of music, performance, food, crafts, and visual arts. Gumtree Festival features some of the region's most decorated artists from more traditional paintings and ceramics to innovative mixed media and pop art. Visitors get up close and personal access to artists and their creations during the two-day celebration of Southern arts and culture in Tupelo's beautiful downtown.



Tupelo Blue Suede Cruise

Car enthusiasts from across the country visit Tupelo during the first weekend in May to showcase a variety of antique, classic and hot rod automobiles. Owners are asked to cruise to different and unique locations that show off the diversity and history that is Tupelo.

Dancing and Singing with the King

This annual event that celebrates the legacy and music of Elvis Presley™ while raising money for dance and vocal education scholarships.

- For Singers – experience a talent search similar to events that Elvis™ participated in as a child.
- For Dancers – experience a talent search and opportunity to demonstrate skill in both show dance and traditional competitions.

Downtown Tupelo Main Street Association Events

- Tupelo Elvis Festival
- Wine Downtown
- Down on Main Concert Series
 - (June, July, August)
- Ale Trail
- Chili Fest
- New Year's Eve Celebration





VOLUNTEERING

The Tupelo Spirit is all about helping others. The City of Tupelo has task forces in place which address and assist many needs in our community. The Mayors Community Outreach Task Force is a great way to get involved with these efforts. Contact Marcus Gary, Community Outreach Coordinator at marcus.gary@tupeloms.gov.

Tupelo has hundreds of non-profits which offer the opportunity to assist. Volunteer Northeast Mississippi is a wonderful way to get involved. This online hub lists all volunteer opportunities in our community and enables user to sign up: <https://volunteernems.galaxydigital.com/>

United Way of Northeast Mississippi is another organization which serves over 60 agencies in our community: www.unitedwaynems.org

Here are just a few of the organizations in Tupelo which would appreciate volunteers:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of North Mississippi
- Autism Center of North Mississippi
- Regional Rehabilitation Center
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Boy Scouts Yocona Area Council
- El Centro
- 4-H
- Girl Scouts-Heart of the South
- Helping Hands
- Antone Tannehill Good Samaritan Free Clinic
- Habitat for Humanity
- Meals on Wheels
- Parkgate Pregnancy Clinic
- Sanctuary Hospice House
- St. Luke United Methodist Food Pantry
- Saints Brew
- Salvation Army
- Shepherd's Center of Tupelo



Boys & Girls Club of North MS





EDUCATION

Every thriving city has great education opportunities. Tupelo has excellent public schools, and has the largest public high school in the state. Tupelo is also home to three facilities for higher education. Itawamba Community College - Tupelo Campus, University of Mississippi Advanced Education Center and Mississippi University for Women Division of Nursing - Tupelo Campus are all located in Tupelo.

Students in Tupelo and Lee County have access to a variety of higher education options that include Itawamba Community College, which has a special link with high schools in Lee County. High school graduates who attend ICC have their first four semesters paid through an initiative called the Lee County/Marchbanks Helping Hand Tuition Guarantee Program.

At the University of Mississippi-Tupelo, more than 120 courses are offered for undergraduate and graduate study, many designed to meet the needs of people with full-time jobs or family commitments. The Mississippi University for Women





(nicknamed "The W") features small class sizes and holds "Best Value" rankings from both *Consumer Reports* and *U.S. News & World Report*. Also, within an hour's drive of Tupelo are the University of Mississippi in Oxford and Mississippi State in Starkville.

The Tupelo Public School District and Lee County Schools each enroll more than 7,000 students. TPSD has 86 National Board Certification teachers, and students are equipped with the latest digital technology tools. Tupelo High School, the state's largest high school, offers 19 Advanced Placement courses and has 200 ACT Scholar students.

Tupelo High School Football Field





Advanced Education Center



Itawamba Community College - Tupelo



Joyner Elementary School



CLIMATE

Tupelo springtime comes with the blooming of our 100 Cherry Blossom trees to celebrate our culture mix of Japanese who live in our area. The white and pink delicate flowers are always a treat in the springtime. Summer does hit and will be quite warm and usually peaks July and August. Then in the fall you see the many colors as the leaves begin their yearly retreat. Be sure and take that drive down the Natchez Trace during this time. You may even see colors that you have never quite discovered before. Winters are relatively mild, but we have been known to get a small snow flurry or two. However, our snow does not stick around for very long at all. Better watch it while you can. We can have severe weather in the form of severe thunderstorms and tornados. However, the City has you covered in the event you need shelter.

In the event a tornado warning is issued you may go visit one of our 7 storm shelters. They range in capacity of 40 all the way to 1,100.

Average Temperatures

January High of 53, Low of 32

July High of 92, Low of 72

We average 56 inches of rain per year.

