

Welcome to the City of Natchez and Adams County, Mississippi

A GUIDE TO THE SERVICES OFFERED BY THE CITY OF NATCHEZ AND ADAMS COUNTY. MISSISSIPPI

June 2024

THE HONORABLE DAN M. GIBSON, MAYOR
124 SOUTH PEARL STREET, NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI 39120

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History, Harmony, and a Place to Call Home



City Hall is located at 124 S Pearl Street. Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed on all federal holidays.

Founded in 1716. Natchez is the oldest city on the Mississippi River, and we also have the brightest future! Here, preservation and progress go hand in hand. As a result, Natchez is a walkable, vibrant, and beautiful city. Internationally known as a premier cultural tourism destination, we

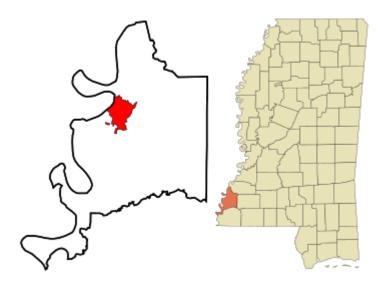
welcome approximately 700,000 visitors a year to our town of 13,200 residents. (World Population Review, 2024)

Affordable, livable, and attractive to those with an entrepreneurial spirit, Natchez is a great place to live. We enjoy our reputation as a friendly, welcoming town that offers inclusion and community.

Built on a bluff approximately two hundred feet above the Mississippi, Natchez offers the greatest view of the greatest river in North America. Every day in Natchez ends with an extravagant, blazing sunset that melts beyond the great river into the vast western sky. This spectacular natural setting has drawn people from ancient times to today to this place we are privileged to call home.

This guide will be useful for newcomers plus current residents who need information regarding the services offered by the City of Natchez and Adams County. Although the information will be updated regularly, the websites provided within this document are the best resources for the most up-to-date information.

Location of Natchez in Adams County



Motto: "On the Mighty Mississippi"

Nicknames:

- The Bluff City
- The City on the River
- Antebellum Capital of the World
- Historic Natchez on the Mississippi

Adams County Population (World Population Review, 2024)

• 28, 975

NATCHEZ HISTORY

A BRIEF HISTORY OF NATCHEZ

Natchez is known internationally as a quaint, Southern town with a rich culture and heritage shaped by people of French, African, Spanish, and British descent. Its namesake, however, derives from its first inhabitants, the Natchez Indians.

Natchez was established as a French fort site overlooking the Mississippi River on August 3, 1716. Shortly after, French settlers joined the Natchez Indians on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. The French brought people from western Africa as enslaved people. These members of the Bambara ethnic group — whose name means "those who accept no master" — were the first Africans in what would become the State of Mississippi. Known for their abilities to cultivate the earth, the Bambarans contributed greatly to the economic growth of the region and the nation.

As the settlement grew, French, English, and Spanish residents began constructing homes and buildings, in the styles with which they were familiar, leaving several distinct architectural influences and creating the unique backdrop to the city our residents and visitors enjoy today.

Natchez became part of the United States with the establishment of the Mississippi Territory in 1798 and served as the first capital for the new State of Mississippi in 1817.

Planters, who settled in the area because of the mild climate and rich soil, made their fortunes in cotton. A place resplendent with natural beauty, Natchez is perched over 200 feet above the Mississippi River, with 30-mile views along the river both north and south. Today, the city is a thriving location for Mississippi tourism.

Because Natchez did not hold a strategic position during the Civil War, it was spared much of the damage other cities suffered and remains home to more than 600 examples of historical architecture — more than any other city in the South. These historic homes, churches, and other heritage sites make Natchez a treasure trove for history buffs.

Natchez is also the namesake for the <u>Natchez Trace</u>, the centuries-old, 444-mile path from Natchez to Nashville, long used by American Indians before becoming a U.S. thoroughfare. Today the Natchez Trace Parkway provides

beautiful picnic areas, the rare Emerald Mound ceremonial mound, and the historic Mount Locust Inn, all just a few minutes' drive from downtown Natchez. But Natchez is more than history. It offers easy elegance and casual charm, with true hospitality, historic homes, lush gardens, moss-covered oaks, and delicious down-home fare. In addition, it boasts great small-city attractions such as historic sites and museums, shopping, nightlife, and gaming. The downtown area is safe and walkable, and there's a rich cultural scene.

Tourism information and the history of Natchez and its surrounding areas can be found at *Visit Natchez*. *Visit Natchez* is located at The Depot which sits on our Bluff Park in Historic Downtown Natchez at 200 North Broadway Street and at 500 Main Street in the heart of downtown Natchez. If you're planning a convention or corporate retreat and need a site that combines excellent pricing with a state-of-the-art convention center, spacious meeting venues, and services, we will personally show you how Natchez can accommodate your meeting needs. For more information about Natchez, call Visit Natchez at (601) 492-3000.



The charming city on the Mississippi River was established in the early 1700s, making it one of the oldest European settlements in the area. Because of its location, Natchez attracted a great deal of wealthy farmers during the 19th Century and, in turn, resulted in a plethora of mansions being constructed. Today, many of these historical Natchez homes can be toured, guaranteeing a trip straight to the past.



One of 13 National Historic Landmarks in Natchez, Melrose is one of the best preserved and most significant historic sites in the entire South. The Greek Revival estate was constructed circa 1845 for Pennsylvania native and Natchez attorney John T. McMurran. The home is operated by the Natchez National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, and the grounds of Melrose are open to tour daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at no charge.

CITY OF NATCHEZ SERVICES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI



THE HONORABLE DAN M. GIBSON, 44TH MAYOR OF NATCHEZ MAYOR@NATCHEZ.MS.US P. 601.445.7555 | F. 601.442.2536 CITY HALL, 124 S. PEARL STREET

MAYOR

The City of Natchez operates under the leadership of a mayor and a six-member board of elected officials, the Board of Aldermen, who serve as the legislative representatives of the City of Natchez as well as of their respective wards. Natchez is the only municipality in Adams County.

Dan M. Gibson was first elected Mayor of Natchez in July 2020. When Mayor Gibson ran for office again in July 2024, he was unopposed, making him the first mayor of Natchez to be unopposed in over one hundred years. Mayor Gibson works tirelessly every day for all citizens of Natchez. He is committed to building a better city where Unity is celebrated and with it, Community and Opportunity. "We Can" has become Dan's motto, and he strongly believes

that "Natchez Deserves Better." As a result of his positive leadership, the City of Natchez is flourishing.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Board meetings are open to the public, and the public is welcomed and encouraged to attend the meetings. Upon completing a written request, the public may address the Board of Aldermen, Mayor, City Clerk, and/or City Attorney. Request forms are available in the mayor's office. The public can inform, ask questions, make comments, and/or appeal previous decisions of the city board or any commission.

Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 115 South Pearl Street, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. respectively.

Board members are elected for a four-year term and take office on the first secular day of July following the election.

Members of the Board of Aldermen

- Valencia Hall, Ward 1, (601) 870-7123
- Billie Joe Frazier, Ward 2, (601) 446-2533
- Sarah Carter Smith, Ward 3, (601) 334-1537
- Felicia Bridgewater Irving, Ward 4, (601) 446-2443
- Benjamin Davis, Ward 5, (601) 446-2422
- Curtis Maroney, Ward 6, (601) 445-7500

For information about the ward in which you reside, contact the City Clerk's office, (601)445-7507 or visit www.natchez.ms.us.

THE CITY OF NATCHEZ MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN







WARD 1 Valencia Hall



WARD 2 Billie Joe Frazier



WARD 3 Sarah Carter Smith



WARD 4 Felicia R. Bridgewater-Irving



WARD 5 Benjamin Davis



WARD 6 Curtis Moroney

CITY ATTORNEY

The city attorney is the legal adviser to the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, department heads, and city employees. The City Attorney's Office provides legal representation for any legal actions taken against the City of Natchez for various reasons and represents the City in legal actions filed on behalf of the city or against the city. In addition, he attends all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Aldermen as well as departmental meetings when needed.

City Attorney, Jack Lazarus, <u>ilazarus@natchez.ms.us</u>, (601) 445-8899

CITY CLERK

The City Clerk's Office supervises all accounting throughout the city and ensures that individual departments and offices are practicing the most recently accepted accounting practices.

Other responsibilities include serving as custodian of the city seal and official records and supervising the human resources department.

City Clerk, Megan McKenzie, mmckenzie@natchez.ms.us, 601-445-7504

CODE ENFORCEMENT

This office responds to citizen complaints about nuisances and code violations. The most prevalent code violations are the maintenance of residences, buildings, and private property and improper storage of vehicles on the right-of-way and private lots. This division also handles complaints about potential zoning violations and light and noise nuisance complaints. Complaints can be reported online to Jackie Ezell, Administrative Assistant, jezel@natchez.ms.us.

Code Enforcement Officers, Diawardrick Grover and Johnny Baldwin 233 D'Evereaux Drive, (601) 445-7550.

For additional information, visit http://www.natchez.ms.us/142/Code- Enforcement-Section

MUNICIPAL COURT

The Natchez Municipal Court, located in Natchez, Mississippi is a government institution where legal disputes are resolved under the law. In Natchez Criminal Courts, the government brings a case against a defendant who is accused of breaking the law. In Natchez Civil Courts, the Court settles disputes between citizens that they are unable to resolve on their own.

Judge Christina Ferrell Daugherty, 233 D'Evereaux Drive, (601) 445-7524 Nikita Banks, Municipal Court Pro tem

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security WIN Job Center is located at 107 Col. John Pitchford Parkway, Natchez. Call (601) 442-0243 for additional information.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works ensures the safety and welfare of our community through the maintenance of city streets, stormwater drainage, various public properties, and public health issues. Individuals contacting the Department of Public Works are asked to identify themselves and state the nature of their call. Work orders are completed in the order in which they are received, with emergency work orders being completed first.

Justin Dollar, Supervisor, 233 ½ D'Evereaux Drive, (601) 445-6652

CITY OF NATCHEZ LICENSES AND VOTING LAWS

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

DRIVER LICENSES

Visit https://www.driverservicebureau.dps.ms.gov/ to find information regarding how to obtain your Mississippi Driver's License or ID card, handbooks, renewals, change of address, commercial licenses, office locations, etc.

Driver licenses may be purchased for an eight-year period for \$47 and are issued by the MS Highway Patrol after the applicant has successfully passed a computer-based test on signs and rules plus a driving test. New residents must secure a driver's license within 60 days.

The following documents are required to obtain a Regular Operator License, Class R & D (17 years of age and older):

- A completed, signed Application form.
- A social security card or official government document displaying full nine
 (9) digits.
- A state-issued, certified Birth Certificate. Must be original long form or a certified copy (No Photocopies Accepted), and have a raised seal issued by the Bureau of Vital Statistics or State Board of Health.
- If at least 17 years of age, you must pass the written test. This may be waived if you are over 17 and have held an out-of-state license for at least six (6) months.
- Applicants less than 18 years of age must present an education attendance form obtained from their school or County Superintendent of Education's Office verifying that the applicant is enrolled in school or has an acceptable alternative. (GED)

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), 724 US Hwy. 61 N, Natchez, MS 39120 (601)442-4879

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Marriage licenses are issued by the county circuit clerk in the Adams County Courthouse located at 115 S. Wall Street. For additional information call (601) 446-6326.

MISSISSIPPI VOTING LAWS

To be eligible to vote in Mississippi, one must . . .

- be a citizen of the United States;
- be a resident of Mississippi and the county, city, or town for 30 days before the election;
- be at least 18 years old (or will be 18 by the date of the next General Election);
- not be declared mentally incompetent by a court; and
- not be convicted of a disenfranchising crime as defined by Section 241 of the Mississippi Constitution or by Attorney General Opinion, unless pardoned, rights of citizenship restored by the Governor or suffrage rights restored by the Legislature.

A qualified voter should register with the Adams County Circuit Clerk either in person or by mail.

- Registration forms are available at https://www.sos.ms.gov/countyeleinfo/PDF/Voter_Registration2.pdf
- A registered voter must present a valid photo ID at the polling station.
- For additional information call (601) 445-7905.

CITY OF NATCHEZ TAXES AND VEHICLE TAGS

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

PERSONAL TAXES

Natchez and Adams County

The tax structure in Natchez and Adams County is based upon the tax rates and assessment practices approved by the state legislature. State, county, and municipal ad valorem taxes, which are based on the percentage of property, must be paid by the last day of February each year. State income tax returns are due April 15 of each year. Forms are available from the Mississippi Department of Revenue in Jackson, MS. Website: www.dor.ms.gov

Where to Pay Taxes

Municipal taxes, ad valorem taxes, and county taxes are paid to the Adams County Tax Collector in the county courthouse. State income, sales, and withholding tax is payable to the Mississippi Department of Revenue. For additional information, contact the Clinton, MS office located at 500 Clinton Center Drive, or call (601) 923-7700. To file online, go to www.dor.ms.gov.

Terrance Bailey, Tax Collector, (601) 442-8601

BOAT TAGS

Adams County Tax Collector, Adams County Courthouse, 115 S Wall Street (601) 442-8601

Forms to register all motorboats may be obtained at the Adams County Tax Collector's Office in the county courthouse. The fee depends on the size of the boat.

CAR TAGS

Adams County Tax Collector, Adams County Courthouse, 115 S Wall Street, (601) 442-8601

New MS residents have 30 days from the date they move into the state to purchase their automobile license. The payment is made to the tax collector.

CITY OF NATCHEZ OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS

The Office of Inspections administers the currently adopted city building codes and provides daily inspections of new construction, renovation, restoration, alteration, and electrical connection or reconnection requests. http://www.natchez.ms.us/143/Office-of-Inspections, (601) 445-7512

The City of Natchez partners with Entergy Mississippi to ensure all electrical service meters are in safe working order, before new or transfer of service. To schedule an electrical inspection, please call (601) 445-7518 or visit us on the second floor of Natchez City Hall, 124 S. Pearl Street. If you need to request a new account, please make sure you have contacted Entergy, (800) 368-3749.

Website: https://www.entergy.com

Jody Rutter, Building Inspector, <u>irutter@natchez.ms.us</u>, (601) 446-2305

Jerry Rouse, Electrical Inspector, (601) 807-1120

Bo Stevens, Plumbing Inspector, (601) 807-2729

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS – CITY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS

Types of Electrical Inspections

- New Account Resident or business owner
 - For a commercial account, the owner must have a privilege license or business license or be in the process of completing one.
- Transfer of Service People with an existing account who are moving into a new home/apartment may transfer service.
- Inspection Only Realtors or people selling their homes should call for an "Inspection Only."

- The city inspector does not need the account holder's name or account number for these inspections. The inspector will inspect the property and the new owner/tenant must call Entergy with the account information.
- Emergency disconnect/reconnect
 - Common during permitted construction projects and during instances where a city or state-licensed electrical Inspector must repair the meter.
 - If the person has paid for a contractor's electrical permit from the city,
 the city does not charge for emergency disconnects/reconnects.

Inspection Fee - \$45

- The \$45 fee is for the City's electrical inspector to visit the property and inspect the electrical meter that provides and regulates service to the residence/business. Entergy and the City of Natchez have a partnership in which Entergy entrusts the City to ensure the electrical meter is safe and in working order.
- The City may waive this fee due to storm damage, especially when the Mayor/Governor calls a state of emergency. This is subject to the Building Official's approval.

Inspection Process

- The customer calls Entergy to set up an account. Entergy charges a
 deposit in addition to the \$45 connection fee required by the City. These
 fees are separate, One is for Entergy to set up the account and the other
 is the City's connection fee.
- After receiving the deposit, Entergy sets up the account. The customer then must call the inspection office (601) 445-7512 to schedule an electrical inspection. The City requires the following documents:
 - o Account holders name, address, and telephone number
 - \$45 inspection fee, payable in-person or over the phone
 - Nine (9) digit Entergy account number, which begins after the few initial zeros
 - E-911 numbers on the house and or mailbox
- After all information is received, the address is given to the electrical inspector.

- The inspector will call the Planning Department when the inspection is complete.
 - All repairs and/or corrections must be completed before submittal to Entergy.
 - o After the repairs or corrections are made, the inspector will reinspect.

Submittal to Entergy

- Once approved, the permit can be submitted through the Entergy portal.
- It takes two to three business days to process.

CITY OF NATCHEZ OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

PLANNING AND ZONING

The Planning and Zoning Department specializes in urban planning and historic preservation. The following are the other functions of the department:

- Administers <u>contractor permits</u> and <u>electrical inspections</u> through the Office of Inspections
- Acts as regulatory administrator for the <u>Natchez Development</u>
 <u>Code</u>, <u>Preservation Ordinance</u>, <u>Sign Ordinance</u>, <u>Privilege (Business)</u>

 <u>Licenses</u>, and commercial/industrial <u>site plan review applications</u>.
- Manages development applications for exterior work within the <u>Historic</u> District.
- Receives and processes applications requiring public hearings before the Preservation Commission, Planning Commission, and sometimes the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Visit https://www.natchez.ms.us/141/City-Planning for city regulations, plans, and design guidelines.

Frankie Legaux, Director of Planning & Zoning, <u>flegaux@natchez.ms.us</u> James Johnston, Community Development Director, <u>jjohnston@natchez.ms.us</u>

Permits

- The need to obtain a permit depends on the work type. For instance, nonstructural work such as painting or laying flooring or carpet would not require a permit.
- Building permits are required for any structural work such as new constructions, additions, repairs to porches, siding, and roofing work.
- Electrical permits are required for any new wiring, installations or service upgrades and repairs.
- Mechanical permits are required for any new installations or repairs to HVAC systems.

- Plumbing permits are required for any new additions or repairs to water and/or gas lines.
- In addition, inspections must be conducted during and after completion of work.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission (PC) regulates developments within the city limits and enforces the Zoning Map, Future Land Use Map, City of Natchez Development Code, and the Comprehensive Plan. The City of Natchez is divided among 17 zoning districts. A property's zoning depends on its land use characteristics and its location. Zoning districts separate residential, business, industrial, institutional, and agricultural areas and are based on how intense or dense the land use is.

Composition

The Planning Commission is composed of nine members, all with experience including but not limited to land development, real estate, short- and long-term planning, construction, law, and government administration.

Meetings

The Planning Commission meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 115. S. Pearl Street. Meeting schedules and application deadlines are available in the Department of Planning. Per Mississippi State Law, cases for Municipal Planning Commissions must be advertised 15 business days in advance.

PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The mission of the Natchez Preservation Commission (NPC) is to preserve, promote, and develop the city's historical resources; to advise the city on the designation of preservation districts, landmarks, and landmark sites; and to perform such other functions as may be provided by law. Property owners must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness before any permanent exterior work is done within the authority of the NPC.

Composition

The NPC is composed of nine (9) members. All commission members have a demonstrated knowledge of or interest, competence, or expertise in historic preservation. Using the large inventory of architectural resources in Natchez and the Historic Natchez Design Guidelines the NPC ensures that any proposed

exterior work does not negatively detract from the architectural integrity of the building or surrounding neighborhood.

Jurisdiction

- Local Historic Districts
- National Register Properties
- Mississippi Landmarks
- National Landmarks
- Properties within 300' radius of MS or National Landmarks

All applications are available online at https://www.natchez.ms.us/141/City-Planning. The NPC reviews all applications per the Preservation Ordinance and the Historic Natchez Design Guidelines. Both documents can be found at the link above.

Applications

The more visuals, drawings, pictures, and historic photographs, the better. To-scale drawings with details about materials, dimensions, and orientation must accompany applications to the NPC.

Pre-application meetings with the Planning Department are highly encouraged to ensure that the NPC easily interprets the application. Depending on the application type, the Historic Natchez Design Guidelines are a vital resource filled with recommendations regarding the improvement of historical resources within a preservation context.

Meetings

The NPC meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:15 pm in the Council Chambers, 115 S. Pearl Street. Meeting schedules and the deadline dates for those meetings can be found in the Department of Planning, 124 S. Pearl Street, (601) 445-7518.

If the NPC approves an application, the applicant must apply for a permit through the Inspections Department for an additional cost.

Historic and Central Business District Tax Abatement Information

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Natchez Tax Abatement Ordinance for Historic Districts, Central Business District, and Landmark Properties

Pursuant to Mississippi Code § 17-21-5, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen revised the existing tax abatement ordinance to promote private investment through residential and commercial growth and revitalization within the City of Natchez. This policy will allow an exemption of municipal ad valorem taxes (excluding school district taxes) for a period for residential and commercial developments including new structures and improvement to existing structures located within the Historic Districts, Central Business District, or a Landmark property. The exemption is limited to the increase in the amount of City ad valorem taxes caused by the new construction or renovation of structures.

Tax Abatement Facts

- Tax exemptions are applicable only to the **increase** in assessed City ad valorem taxes resulting from the higher value with improved property.
- The **maximum** tax abatement period is **seven (7) years**, for projects costing \$75,000 or greater.
- The minimum investment tier is \$5,000 for a three (3) year abatement.
 - The property **must** be located within the following Historic Districts (see map):
 - o On-Top-of-the-Hill

o Under-The-Hill

Clifton Heights

Holy Family

Downriver Residential

Cemetery Bluff

- Upriver Residential
- This exemption applies to new construction or the renovation of an existing residential or commercial building.
- The application requires the submittal of supplemental materials including, but not limited to:

- o Invoices or quotes estimating the total cost of the project.
- o Current property appraisal and property deed showing ownership.
- o Information regarding job creation, community impact, etc.

City Approval

- Tax Abatement Application with all supporting documents will be submitted to the City Planning Department for review to ensure compliance.
- All projects involving exterior renovations must receive a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Natchez Preservation Commission.
- All projects will receive final approval from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.
- All projects must receive appropriate contractors' permits from the City Inspections Department.

MISSISSIPPI CODE § 17-21-5 FOR A 7-YEAR MAX ABATEMENT PERIOD, WITHIN CENTRAL BUSINESS, HISTORIC DISTRICT, OR ON A LANDMARK SITE

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen shall represent the appraised value of a property, minus the value of the land, as shown on the records of the Adams County Tax Assessor.

- a. An investment of \$5,000 to \$14,999 for new construction or building improvements shall be eligible for tax abatement for up to a three
 (3) year term.
- b. An investment of \$15,000 to \$29,999 in new construction or building improvements shall be eligible for tax abatement for up to a four (4) year term.
- c. An investment of \$30,000 to \$49,999 for new construction or building improvements shall be eligible for tax abatement for up to a five (5) year term.
- d. An investment of \$50,000 to \$74,999 for new construction or building improvements shall be eligible for tax abatement for up to a six (6) year term.

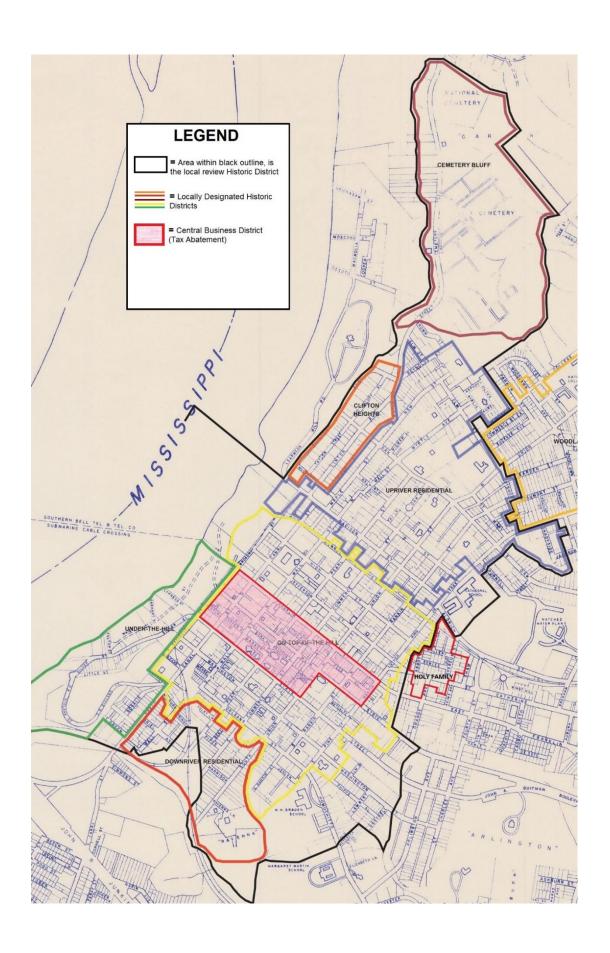
- e. An investment of \$75,000 or more for new construction or building improvements shall be eligible for tax abatement for up to a seven (7) year term.
- f. Verification as to the amount of investment and other relevant criteria, including the receipt of documents reflecting expenditures and purpose shall be submitted to the City Clerk prior to the commencement of any tax exemption.

BUILDING VALUE

The term "building value" in this formula shall represent the appraised (true) value of a commercial building, minus the value of the building as shown on the records of the Adams County Tax Assessor before construction, renovation, or repair. The purpose here is to determine the valuation attributable to the new building, renovation, or improvement which will be subject to the exemption allowed by this Policy.

TRANSFERABILITY

The exemption granted hereunder shall be transferrable to a subsequent owner of the property for which the exemption was granted, provided the subsequent owner continues to make commercial use of the property for which the exemption was originally granted, and complies with all City ordinances.



UTILITY CONNECTIONS

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Entergy provides electric power for most residents within the city limits of Natchez and in some parts of Adams County. Southwest Mississippi Electric Power Association provides electricity for others in rural parts of the county. Atmos Energy provides natural gas for homes and businesses throughout the county. Water is provided through two main services: Natchez Water Works within the city limits and Adams County Water Association outside the city limits. Telephone, Internet, and television services are provided by AT&T, Cable One, Cspire, and Bluff City Satellites as well as a variety of other long-distance providers in the area.

Electric Power

Entergy, 247 D'Evereaux Drive, (800) 368-3749

Website: https://www.entergy.com

Natural Gas

Atmos Energy, 8 Andrews Drive, (888) 286-6700

Website: <u>www.atmosenergy.com</u>

Telephone, Internet, Television

AT&T, (800) 331-0500

Website: www.att.com

Sparklight, 412 US Hwy 61 North, (601) 442-5418
 Cable TV, Internet, and Telephone

Website: www.sparkllight.com

Cspire, 371 John R. Junkin Drive, (855) 277-4735

Website: www.cspire.com

Bluff City Satellites and Electronics

Address: 362 US Hwy 61 North

Phone: (601) 445-0540

T-Mobile

Address: 340 John R Junkin Dr, Natchez, MS 39120

Phone: (601) 897-2576

NATCHEZ WATER WORKS

Natchez Water Works (residents/businesses inside the city limits) 150 North Shields Lane, (601) 445-5521 Website: www.natchezwaterworks.com

The Natchez Water Works operates all water works and sewage works of the City of Natchez. Natchez Water Works requires a \$50 deposit for any new residential service. The basic charge for the first 300 cubic feet of water on a residential ¾ inch meter is \$10 for water and \$10 for sewer. Each additional 100 cubic feet is billed at the rate of \$2.46 for water and \$2.46 for sewer. In addition to the monthly water and sewer charge, there is a monthly garbage fee of \$30.44 for the City of Natchez.

New Service Request

For new service, the applicant is required to complete the <u>NEW SERVICE</u> <u>APPLICATION</u> (Also available in the office) and submit it to the main office located at 150 North Shields Lane with the following documents:

- Two (2) Forms of Identification
 The person requesting the service must come into the office with 2 forms of identification 1 of which must be a state-issued photo identification.
- E-911 Number (Call (601) 445-2266 to obtain the E-911 number.)
- Rental or Lease Agreement (If Applicable)
- Purchase Agreement (If Applicable)
- Deposit

(NOTE: Natchez Water Works cannot guarantee same-day service.)

Tony Moon, Superintendent Jeff Gamberi, Assistant Superintendent Dianne Guillory, Office Manager (601)445-5521

EMERGENCY SERVICES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Robert Arrington and three battalion chiefs head the City of Natchez Fire Department. The department actively responds to over 300 calls annually for emergencies within 465 square miles, employs 54 people, and includes four stations within the city limits of Natchez.

- Fire Station #1, 800 Main Street, (601) 442-3684
- Fire Station #2, 467 John R. Junkin Drive, (601) 445-4431
- Fire Station #3, 4 Vaughn Drive, (601) 442-7621
- Fire Station #4, 132 Wood Ave., (601) 445-5081

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Cal Green heads the Natchez Police Department. It is located at 233 D'Evereaux Drive, (601) 445-5565. The City of Natchez Police Department's mission is to prevent crime and maintain order while affording dignity and respect to all individuals; to protect lives and property while safeguarding constitutional guarantees, deliver police services in the most efficient, fairest, responsive, and ethical manner possible; to impartially enforce all laws and ordinances, while enhancing the quality of life for all citizens through new and innovative approaches to problem-solving and crime prevention while being sensitive to the priorities and needs of the people; and to promote professionalism and pride among employees of the City of Natchez Police Department. For additional information, visit http://www.natchez.ms.us/144/Police.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Management is charged with the development and maintenance of a Comprehensive Emergency Management Program in coordination and planning with local, state, federal, and private agencies to protect life and property from natural and human-caused hazardous events. The program seeks to mitigate the effects of an occurrence, respond during emergencies, and provide necessary assistance, and to establish a recovery system to return the

community to its normal state of affairs as soon as possible. This agency is also charged with establishing, maintaining, and operating the Emergency Operations Center from which officials can conduct operations during emergency/disaster conditions.

Contact Information

Director: Robert Bradford, rbradford@adamscountyms.gov

Executive Assistant: Bri Cooks Fire Coordinator: Darryl W. Smith

201 South Wall Street, (601) 442-7021

ANIMAL SERVICES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

ANIMAL SERVICES

The Animal Control Officer is responsible for the enforcement of the State and Municipal Codes regulating the keeping of animals within the city of Natchez.

Contacting Animal Control

The Animal Control Officer, Nash Sanders, can be contacted at (601) 442-3930 during business hours (8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.) Monday through Friday. To enable the ACO to effectively address the problem, calls will be addressed in the order they are received with emergency calls handled first.

In case of an emergency after business hours or on the weekend, please report the problem to the Natchez Police Department at (601) 445-5565. Emergency cases are cases such as injured animals, bite cases or aggressive animals.

Pick-up of Animals

Any animals picked up by the Animal Control Officer will be transported to the Natchez- Adams County Humane Society. The Humane Society is located at 475 Liberty Road and can be contacted by calling (601) 442-4001.

NATCHEZ-ADAMS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

The Natchez-Adams County Humane Society (NACHS) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that provides compassionate care to more than 1,000 homeless animals each year. Our goal is to save as many lives as possible through local adoption, transport, and support of spay & neuter efforts. We are a frugal organization that strives to get the maximum benefit for the animals with every dollar we spend. Our Annual Budget for Expenditures is \$309,250 with only 16% of our annual budget provided by local governmental entities. We must raise the remaining 80% of our annual budget and are highly dependent on and thankful for our local donors to continue providing these especially important services. We are a No-Kill humane society!

https://nachs.org/ 475 Liberty Rd, Natchez, Mississippi

Open Monday – Friday, 08:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday Call for an appointment! (601) 442-4001

Frequently Needed Items Food

Purina dry cat, dog, kitten and puppy food or any brand of canned cat, dog, kitten, and puppy food.

For puppies and dogs:

- Dog chews
- Toys
- Small fleece blankets, the type that usually sell for \$2.50 \$4.00 at Local Discount Stores
- Leashes and collars
- Medium and Large pet carriers
- Used and freshly laundered towels and bedding

For kittens and cats:

- Clay cat litter (the cheap kind)
- Toys
- Small fleece blankets, the type that usually sell for \$2.50 \$4.00 at Local Discount Stores
- Small pet carriers
- Small cat beds that can be easily laundered
- Used and freshly laundered towels and bedding

For the Shelter

Your support and contributions will enable us to meet our goals and improve conditions.

Cleaning Supplies

- Brooms, mops, and buckets
- Clorox regular scent
- Large garbage bags
- Old, clean towels, bedsheets, and spreads
- Paper towels
- Pine-sol
- Rubber gloves
- Unscented baby wipes

Paws for a Cause Thrift Shop

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT NACHS

All donations of goods for sale by the thrift shop are appreciated. Drop off anytime during business hours or call for an appointment to drop off items at your convenience. Pickups can also be arranged.

Located at 228 and 230 Highway 61 South, (601) 660-5268

Open Wednesday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday - Tuesday



RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE & RECYCLING

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI



Arrow Disposal Service, Inc. (ADSI) is the residential solid waste and recycling contractor for the City of Natchez. Curbside recycling is available for all Natchez residents and for businesses as well.

Garbage Collection. Place GARBAGE in your GREEN ADSI container prior to 6AM on your scheduled collection day. Your service day and the rules for collection

are located on the lid of your container. All garbage must be bagged and contained inside your ADSI supplied carts. To purchase an additional cart/s or find answers to questions, call (601) 442-0333 or 1 (866) 440-3983 or visit www.arrowdisposal.net.

Recycling Collection. Place all RECYCLING in your BLUE ADSI container prior to 6 a.m. on Wednesday of each week. Recycle carts contaminated with garbage, glass, plastic bags, plastics, or other prohibited items will NOT be collected.

Residents may also use a centrally located recycling compactor (behind the Convention Center at 211 Main Street) that accepts recyclable materials.



White Goods and Landscape Debris. In addition to garbage collection and recycling, ADSI also collects twice monthly "white goods," which include old appliances, furniture, and the like, as well as a twice-monthly collection of landscape debris.

RECYCLING ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Aluminum cans

Brown paper bags

Cardboard

Catalogs, magazines, and phone books

Chipboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc.)

Colored paper

Computer paper

Envelopes

Glass bottles and jars

Newspapers and junk mail

Plastic bottles and jugs

Tin and steel cans

White ledger paper

RECYCLING NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Aluminum foil

Auto glass or ceramics

Batteries

Film canisters

Light bulbs

Painted wood

Paper towels

Plastic grocery bags (Please return to your supermarket)

Plastic wrap

Porcelain

Styrofoam

Treated wood

Empty aerosol cans

City of Natchez – (601) 445-7518 Arrow Disposal Service – (866) 440-3983

RECREATION

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI



Ryan Porter is the Parks and Recreation Director, 601-445-4927. The City of Natchez Parks and Recreations Department, 57 Duncan Park Road, provides meaningful leisure opportunities that promote healthy lifestyles, positive selfimages, and self-esteem.

Visit http://www.natchez.ms.us/facilities# for a listing of parks and recreational facilities.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Festivals & Events

There's plenty to do in the Natchez area and living in the Miss-Lou doesn't leave much time for lazy Saturday afternoons, naps, and TV. From January to December the local events calendar is packed. Even on the slow weekends you are bound to find a crafts festival, hunting extravaganza or downtown parade. The bigger events are too good to miss.

Natchez Convention Center

The Natchez Convention Center serves as the home-base for your event, boasts 32,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting/exhibit space, and is supported by the adjacent Civic Center, a 1,000-seat auditorium, and the 119-room host hotel, Natchez Grand Hotel. 211 Main Street, (601) 442-5880 or (888) 475-9144 https://www.natchezconventioncenter.org/

Natchez Festival of Music

Come for the Music. Stay for the Experience. • The Natchez Music Festival provides positive performing opportunities for outstanding up-and-coming young artists. Visit https://www.natchezfestivalofmusic.com/

Natchez Pilgrimage Tours

Explore some of the most interesting public and private historic properties in Mississippi on our exclusive Natchez Historic Architecture and Garden Tours. Learn about the history of Natchez's Townhomes, Suburban Villas, and Plantations. Explore lush gardens, hear the fascinating stories of Natchez's diverse history, learn about antiques and memorabilia, and so much more. We offer fall and spring tours, year-round tours, and special events and programs.

Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, 211 Main St, Suite B, (601) 653-0919

https://natchezpilgrimage.com/grand-fall-pilgrimage/



STANTON HALL CIRCA 1857. A Palatial Greek Revival antebellum mansion, this house is furnished with period antiques and original Stanton Family pieces and has delicately arched millwork in halls and parlors. Stanton was a wealthy planter and cotton merchant. The house is noted for its scale, outstanding marble mantles, and large pier mirrors that give the double parlors infinite appeal. For a brief time, the house was home to Stanton College for young ladies and the name was then changed to Stanton Hall.

TOWERS CIRCA 1798 • 1826 • 1858 • 2018 As the headquarters for the Union Army during the Civil War, The Towers boasts collections and furnishings usually not seen outside of museums, and the original towers are newly restored.



 $\begin{array}{ll} \underline{\text{LONGWOOD CIRCA 1860} - 1861} & \text{Longwood} \\ \text{Mansion is the largest octagonal house in America with} \\ \text{the original furnishings and tools still intact.} \\ \text{Construction was halted by the Civil War and never} \\ \text{fully completed. Tour Longwood and learn about the} \\ \text{fascinating...} \end{array}$



Angels on the Bluff

Annual Angels on the Bluff Tour

Enjoy an informative and entertaining tour of selected gravesites as local citizens and/or descendants reveal the history, romance, tragedy, and mystery surrounding the people buried at the sites.



Because parking is very limited around the cemetery, free shuttle transportation from the Natchez Civic Center (215 Franklin St.) to the cemetery is provided. Guides will lead groups from gravesite to gravesite.

For tickets and additional information contact The Natchez City Cemetery, 601-445-5051

COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND SERVICES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

NATCHEZ-ADAMS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The mission of the Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce is to provide an independent, representative voice for business and to create a positive business environment. The Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce serves as your spokesperson in local, state, and national affairs, your business recruiter and promoter, and your goodwill ambassador. The Chamber is the central organization in which businesspeople join hands to promote projects and goals that benefit you, your family, your business, and your community. Your membership decal identifies you as a leading local business and establishes credibility with customers inside and outside the community.

Directions for joining are on the website: http://www.natchezchamber.com/ 211 Main Street, 601-445-4611, open weekdays 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Lyn Fortenberry Jenkins President, CEO Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce



VISIT NATCHEZ

Visit Natchez at The Depot

Visit Natchez at The Depot which is situated on our Bluff Park in Historic Downtown Natchez at 200 North Broadway Street.

Offerings include free brochures, Visitor Guides, maps, and other resource materials.

Visit Natchez at The Depot is open Tuesday through

Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays.



Visit Natchez sits in the heart of Historic Downtown Natchez at 500 Main Street, Suite One.

Offerings include free brochures, Visitor Guides, maps, and other resource materials as well as a staff that offers visitors planning details.

Visit Natchez is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on all major US Holidays. (601) 492-3000.



The staff at Visit Natchez works hard to help supply visitors with all the essential needs for a great visit to Natchez.

Interim Director and Director of Sales Lynsey Gilbert Lynsey@visitnatchez.org

Administrative Assistant and Receptionist Jawana Lowe info@visitnatchez.org

Marketing Manager Jessica Cauthen jessica@visitnatchez.org

Cultural Heritage Tourism Manager Dr. Roscoe Barnes III roscoe@visitnatchez.org

Community and Programs Manager Mallory Meng malloy@visitnatchez.org

Website: https://www.visitnatchez.org/ Email: info@visitnatchez.org

NATCHEZ, INC., ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Natchez, Inc., a public-private partnership established June 1, 2010, is a dynamic organization in the economic

development of Natchez and Adams County. Primary responsibilities include the recruitment, retention, and expansion of businesses in the Natchez and Adams County areas. Our basic objective is to strengthen the region through economic and community development initiatives with an emphasis on creating new jobs. Our commitment is clear: We exist to serve the mutual needs of businesses in Natchez and Adams County.

Our fundamental areas of assistance include:

- General Economic Facts and Demographic Information
- Workforce Training and Education
- Locating Available Sites and Buildings
- Small Business and Entrepreneurial Development
- State and Local Benefits and Incentives

Website: info@natchezinc.com (601) 445.0288

100 South Pearl Street, the corner of Pearl Street and Main Street



Chandler Russ



Aimee Guido



Catherine Parker



Tuwanna Williams

Chandler Russ Executive Director cruss@natchezinc.com

Aimee Guido Project Manager aguido@natchezinc.com Catherine Parker Communications Manager cparker@natchezinc.com

Tuwanna Williams Workforce Development Director twilliams@natchezinc.com

OPENING A BUSINESS IN NATCHEZ

OVERVIEW

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

We congratulate you on your interest in opening a new business in the Natchez area. As with all communities, new businesses must meet certain local and state regulations at the outset.

LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

Step 1 - Zoning

The City Planner ensures that each business is in a location that meets the City of Natchez' zoning requirements. Zoning information can be obtained on the second floor of City Hall at no charge. Zoning applications may require a public hearing and a fee.

Additional regulations apply to businesses located in the Natchez Historic District. Contact the Planning & Zoning Department for zoning restrictions. (601) 445-7518

Step 2 - Building Permit

The building inspector grants permits for construction, remodeling, or demolition of a property. A building permit can be obtained in the Planning Office. The fee is \$45 for construction costs of \$5,000 or less. Permits for construction costing over \$5,000 are an additional \$5 for every \$1,000 in cost. Discounts may apply for larger construction permits. If the total estimated cost (labor and materials) of the permitted job is over \$50,000 the contractor must show proof of a state license.

Additional regulations apply to businesses locating in the Natchez Historical District. Contact the Inspection Department, (601) 445-7512, when considering construction or remodeling.

Step 3 - Certificate of Occupancy

Every business must have a Certificate of Occupancy. The building inspector and fire marshal ensure that a property meets the structural requirements of the City of Natchez. A Certificate of Occupancy can be obtained at the Planning Office in City Hall for a fee of \$150.

Step 4 - Technical License

Businesses engaged in activities such as construction, electrical, plumbing, and air conditioning are required to have a technical license. An initial exam is required and costs \$150. Examinations are given once a quarter. License renewals are \$100 for each license and take place every January. Information about technical licenses can be obtained from the Inspection Department in the basement of City Hall.

Step 5 - Privilege License

Every person or entity that engages in any kind of business in Natchez or Adams County is required to have a privilege license. The privilege license must be renewed annually. The cost of the license is \$20 and up, depending on the number of employees for the assessed value of inventory. Privilege licenses for businesses located within the city limits can be obtained from the Planning Department on the second floor of City Hall.

Depending on the type of business, the following items may be required: Health Department permit, Beer/Liquor License, Pawn Shop Number, MS Sales Tax Number, and Federal I.D. Number. All offices open Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Businesses Outside the City Limits

For businesses located outside the city limits, the license can be obtained from the Tax Collector's Office located on the first floor of the Adams County Court House. Open weekdays 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

OPENING A BUSINESS IN NATCHEZ PROCEDURES

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

New Business in Existing Building

- 1. Active business license? For what type of business?
- 2. Planning Department for use and zoning.
 - a. If permitted, but by **special exception**, needs public hearing? → If so, first needs approval by the Planning Commission.
- 3. Planning Department approval of privilege license.
- 4. Certificate of Occupancy (COO) on file? Building Official Inspects building with Fire Chief.
- 5. Building Official approves privilege license and then the business owner pays \$150 to Inspections for a Certificate of Occupancy, if not previously certified.
 - a. Example: Retail >> Retail, new COO not required if on file.
 - b. Example: Retail → Restaurant, new COO required.
- 6. Business license fee assessed at City Clerk's office, all applicable state offices contacted (IRS for Tax ID number, Health Department, Beer, and Liquor permit, etc.)

Existing Business, New Location

- 1. Planning Department for correct use and zoning.
 - a. If permitted, but by **special exception**, needs a public hearing? → If so, first needs approval by the Planning Commission.
- 2. Planning Department approval of privilege license.
- 3. Certificate of Occupancy on file? Building Official Inspects building with Fire Chief.
- 4. The Building Official approves the privilege license and then the business owner pays \$150 to Inspections for a Certificate of Occupancy, if not previously certified.
- 5. Business license fee assessed (if applicable) at the City Clerk's office, all applicable state offices contacted (IRS for Tax ID number, Health Department, Beer, and Liquor permit, etc.

New Commercial Building to be Constructed on Vacant Lot

- 1. Planning Department for correct use and zoning.
 - a. If permitted, but by **special exception**, needs public hearing? → If so, first needs approval by the Planning Commission.
 - b. "Numerical" variances required? (parking spaces, setbacks, etc.)
- 2. Submission of commercial construction plans, stamped by Professional Engineer (P.E.) and other application/fees for Site Plan Review Committee meeting.
- 3. Approval by SPRC and building permits issued, Planning Department sign off on privilege license.
- 4. Building Official and Fire Chief inspect building → Inspection sign off on privilege license.
- 5. Building Official signs off on Certificate of Occupancy. (\$150 to Inspection Dept.)
- Business license fee assessed at City Clerk's office, all applicable state
 offices contacted (IRS for Tax ID number, Health Department, Beer, and
 Liquor permit, etc.)
- 7. If all state offices give OK, then business is allowed to operate.

Expired Business Licenses

- 1. Business licenses must be renewed once a year, or face penalties.
- For "grandfathered" or nonconforming businesses, there is a public hearing requirement if the non-conforming business expands or is reestablished.

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI HISTORY

Adams County was created on April 2, 1799, from part of Pickering Territorial County. The county was organized eighteen years before Mississippi became a state. Four Mississippi governors have come from Adams County: <u>David Holmes</u>, <u>George Poindexter</u>, <u>John A. Quitman</u>, and <u>Gerard Brandon</u>.

Adams County is rich in history and traditions. It is in the brown loam soil area of the Southwest part of the state along the lower Mississippi River, bordering the state of Louisiana. Named for President John Adams, it was the first county in Mississippi to organize in the Mississippi Territory in 1798. The first capital of the state was in Adams County in 1817.



The Adams County Courthouse at 201 South Wall Street in Natchez was built in 1821 and enlarged in 1925.

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI HISTORIC SITES AND LANDMARKS

The <u>National Register of Historic Places</u> in the United States is a register including <u>buildings</u>, <u>sites</u>, <u>structures</u>, <u>districts</u>, and <u>objects</u>. The Register automatically includes all <u>National Historic Landmarks</u> as well as all historic areas administered by the U.S. <u>National Park Service</u>. Since its introduction in 1966, more than 90,000 separate listings have been added to the register.

There are more than 1,400 sites distributed among all of Mississippi's 82 counties.

There are 120 properties and districts listed on the National Register in Adams County including 13 <u>National Historic Landmarks</u>. Another two properties were once listed but have been removed.



First Presbyterian Church of Natchez is a historic church located at 117 S. Pearl Street in Natchez, Mississippi. It was built in 1830 in Greek Revival and Federal style architectural features. Became part of NRHP in 1978.



William Johnson House
210 State Street
Natchez, Mississippi 39120

Known as the "barber" of Natchez, William Johnson was born into slavery in 1809, was emancipated at the age of 11, kept an extensive diary starting in 1835 and was shot and killed over a land dispute in 1851.

Visit the William Johnson House located at 210 State Street to learn about the life of a free man of color and his family by exploring:

- Interactive Exhibits
- William Johnson's Furnished Living Quarters

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI GOVERNMENT

Adams County government strives to provide and maintain the fundamental services that assure the needs of its citizens and allow them to obtain and continue the highest quality of life.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors is the governing body of the county. One Supervisor is elected from each of the five districts in the county to serve a four-year term. The Board is responsible for adopting an annual budget, establishing the annual property tax rate, setting policies, goals and objectives to direct the county's growth and development, and carrying out other responsibilities as set forth by Mississippi state statutes. The Board appoints the County Administrator to manage the daily operations of the county. (601) 442-2431

District 1 Supervisor	Wes Middleton	(601)597-3546
District 2 Supervisor	Kevin Wilson	(601)431-0251
District 3 Supervisor	Angela Hutchins	(601)442-2431
District 4 Supervisor	James Ricky Gray	(601)807-1923
District 5 Supervisor	Warren Gaines	(601)446-2058
BOS Secretary/Inventory Clerk	Corvet McNeal	(601)442-2431

Board Meetings

The Board meets at 9:00 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. Meetings are held in the Board Room of the County Administration and Board of Supervisors Office, 314 State Street.

Matters must be placed on the docket by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday prior to a meeting. Any backup information must be supplied by that time.

To Appear Before the Board

If you wish to appear before the Board of Supervisors to discuss an important matter pertaining to the county, you must notify the Board Office no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the Monday meeting. Any backup information and/or exhibits pertaining to the matter you wish to discuss must be delivered to the Board Office by the same deadline. If you have been scheduled to appear before the Board, or if you have a matter to be

discussed and you would like to have it dismissed from the agenda, please contact the Board Office prior to the beginning of the meeting.

BOARD ATTORNEY

Scott F. Slover has served as the attorney for the Board of Supervisors of Adams County, Mississippi since his appointment on January 3, 2012.

Slover & Associates, PLLC, 300 Franklin Street, (601) -442-0075, sfslover@gmail.com

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

The Board of Supervisors of each MS county must appoint a county administrator knowledgeable in work projection, budget planning, accounting, purchasing, cost control, and personnel management. The county administrator, under the policies determined by the Board of Supervisors and subject to the Board's general supervision and control, shall administer all county affairs falling under the control of the Board and carry out the general policies of the Board in conformity with the estimates of the expenditures fixed in the annual budget as adopted by the Board.

Stephanie Washington, County Administrator, 314 State Street, (601) 445-7934

CHANCERY CLERK

The Chancery Clerk serves as clerk of the Chancery Court and occupies the most unique and diverse office in all of Mississippi government. The duties and functions of the Chancery Clerk are governed by an elaborate assortment of statutes and court rules, following procedures established either by the State Department of Audit or the Department of Finance and Administration.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Records the official minutes of the Board of Supervisors' Meetings
- Prepares the claims docket and payrolls for all departments of the County, and, after Board approval, writes and signs checks for payments.
- Handles the recording and storage of several types of documents and maintains various indexes that aid people in researching these records.
 - The primary records are deeds and mortgages relating to real property, but the Clerk also records construction and condominium liens, federal tax liens, Lis Pendens (notices of pending lawsuits) and military discharges. The Clerk oversees the storage and authorized disposal of older land rolls, tax receipts and many other County records after their active use lifespan.

 Handles a multitude of tasks such as matters of estates, guardianships, conservatorships, divorces, child custody, adoption, property disputes and other matters of equity.

Brandi Lewis, Chancery Clerk, 115 S Wall Street, (601) 446-6684

CIRCUIT CLERK

Duties and Responsibilities

- Serves as Clerk of the County and Circuit Courts
- Receives and files all lawsuits, indictments, motions, and other related papers in all Civil and Criminal Cases filed in the Circuit or County Courts
- Issues all process including summons and subpoenas
- Draws jurors and qualifies juries
- Keeps a record of all judgments and executions
- Issues marriage licenses and keeps records of marriages
- Records medical and other professional licenses
- Registers citizens to vote and has other duties in handling elections

Circuit Clerk Forms

- Marriage License Information
- Mississippi Mail-In Voter Registration Application
- U.S. Passport Application
- U.S. Passport Renewal Application

Circuit Clerk: Eva Givens, 115 S. Wall Street, (601) 446-6326

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI COURT INFORMATION

ADAMS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

The Circuit Court has original jurisdiction over all civil and criminal matters not vested exclusively in another court. Juries hear most Circuit Court cases.

Adams County Courthouse, 115 South Wall Street, PO Box 1224, (601)446-6326

6th District Circuit Court Judges: Judge Debra W. Blackwell, (601) 442-8363 Judge Carmen Drake, (601) 445-7933 Court Administrator: Dutchess Prater

ADAMS COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

Cases heard in the Chancery Court include domestic/family matters, divorce, child custody, property division, adoptions, alimony, estates of descendants, land issues (titles, contracts), emancipation (declaring a minor to be 21 for work purposes), property title confirmation, property disputes (over \$50,000), insurance settlements to minors, and commitments of mentally disabled.

Chancery Court Judges: Judge George Ward and Judge Vincent Davis Adams County Courthouse, 115 South Wall Street, (601) 446-6684; (601) 442-7454

COUNTY COURT OF ADAMS COUNTY

Adams County is one of 19 counties in Mississippi with a County Court. The legislature creates County Courts to reduce the workloads of the Circuit and Chancery Courts.

Adams County has one County Court Judge. The Court has exclusive authority over matters involving eminent domain, unlawful entry and detainer, youth courts, and partition of private property.

The County Court shares jurisdiction with the Justice Court in all matters, civil and criminal. The County Court also shares authority with the Circuit and Chancery Courts in all matters of law and equity up to \$200,000. The County Court Judge also hears non-capital felony criminal cases transferred by the Circuit Court.

Judge Walt Brown, Adams County Courthouse, 115 South Wall Street (601) 445-7948; Sherry Simmons, Court Administrator

ADULT DRUG COURT

Drug Courts in Mississippi are special courts that seek to rehabilitate drug-using offenders through drug treatment and intense supervision with drug testing and frequent court appearances. Drug courts offer the incentive of a chance to remain out of jail, and the sanction of a jail sentence if participants fail to remain drug-free and in compliance with all program requirements. Participants are required to work.

Joe Belling, ARC Coordinator (Intervention Court) Rick Varino, HARP Coordinator (Intervention Court)

Main Phone: (601) 304-7892

JUSTICE COURT

The Adams County Justice Court is one of 82 justice courts in Mississippi. The Justice Court resides over a myriad of matters. Traffic tickets issued by the State Highway Patrol, Adams County Sheriff's Department, Wildlife & Fisheries, Mississippi Department of Transportation and Public Service are resolved in the Justice Court.

The Court also hears matters of civil and felony cases. There is a filing fee for filing a small claim. The claim cannot exceed \$3,500.00. Felony cases are heard in Justice Court as initial appearances and preliminary hearings. The Judges also perform wedding ceremonies.

Justice Court Forms

- Arraignments Justice Court
- Certificate of Initial Appearance
- Suggestion for Garnishment
- Request for Hearing Justice Court
- Declaration
- Affidavit or Eviction
- Affidavit in Replevin

Justice Court Judges, Judge Audrey Minor and Judge Danny Barber Verna Johnson, Justice Court Clerk, 114 South Wall Street, (601) 442-0199

JUVENILE COURTS

Youth Court

Cases heard in the Youth Court include matters involving delinquent children, children in need of supervision, and neglected and/or abused children.

Judge Walt Brown, Youth Court Judge, (601) 304-7849 Sondra Satcher, Court Administrator, (601) 304-7849

Youth Drug Court

The youth drug court program is a service that provides addiction treatment to offenders and includes random drug testing and individual and family counseling. To graduate, students must remain drug-free for a period of at least one year and exhibit good behavior.

Main Phone: (601) 304-7862

Juvenile Detention Center. The mission of the Adams County Juvenile Detention Center is to protect the community from those youth placed in our custody in a safe, secure, and humane environment. The Adams County Juvenile Detention Center is committed to creating and maintaining alternatives to detention through community supervision programs that promote education, healthy lifestyles, and positive choices for youth and their families.

320 State Street, (601) 304-7886

Director: Henry Upshaw (601) 304-7890 Administrative Assistant (601) 304-7889

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TAXES

TAXES

Tax Assessor

This official is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Assessor's role is to maintain the personal, real and ad valorem tax rolls of the county. The Assessor must discover all taxable property in the County and appraise its value. The assessed value is 35% of that appraised value.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Required to annually locate, class, and assess all taxable property within the County
- Responsible for setting fair, uniform, and accurate values for each parcel of real and personal property
- Charged by the Board of Supervisors to maintain current ownership maps of the county
- Work daily with local and national agencies to promote the economic well-being of the County and its citizens
- Lists and places a value on all real estate within the county and on private property (which includes such things as machinery, office equipment, and related items)
- Keeps maps, records, and other documents to help establish the value of such property
- Presents these tax rolls to the Board of Supervisors for approval
- Helps homeowners file for homestead exemption, which allows some
 of the homeowner's property to be exempt from property (ad valorem)
 taxes

Tax Assessor: Larry Hughes, (601) 442-6732

Tax Collector

The office of the Tax Collector is established by Article 5, Section 135 of the Mississippi Constitution. This position is elected for a four-year term by the county at large.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Collects taxes on real property, personal property, manufactured homes, automobiles, motorcycles, motor homes, trailers, and airplanes.
 - Statute allows the payment of real property taxes in installments if the first payment is at least one-half of the taxes due and is made by February 1 following the tax year for which payment is collected. Installment payments are subject to 1% per month interest on the unpaid balance for the second and third payments.
- Collects use tax on items brought to the State of Mississippi by residents for first use, storage or consumption
- Collects sales tax is collected on casual sales of motor vehicles between individuals.
- Advertises and holds a tax sale once a year for any unpaid taxes on real estate or any special assessments.
- Keeps accurate records at all times, since this office is involved in the collection of taxes that help fund a variety of government services.

Tax Collector Forms

- Disabled Parking Application
- Power of Attorney to Transfer Motor Vehicle
- Fast Track Application for Replacement Certificate of Title
- Application for Replacement Certificate of Title

Tax Collector: Terrance Bailey, (601) 442-8601

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI SERVICES

CIVIL DEFENSE - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Emergency Management is charged with the development and maintenance of a Comprehensive Emergency Management Program in coordination and planning with local, state, federal and private agencies to protect life and property from natural and manufactured hazardous events. The program seeks to mitigate the effects of an occurrence, respond during emergencies, provide necessary assistance, and establish a recovery system to return the community to its normal situation as soon as possible. This agency is also charged with establishing, maintaining, and operating the Emergency Operations Center from which officials can conduct operations during emergency/disaster conditions.

Robert Bradford, Director, rbradford@adamscountyms.gov Bri Cooks, Executive Assistant; Darryl W. Smith, Fire Coordinator, 201 South Wall Street, (601) 442-7021

E-911 House Numbering

Every state supported road must have house numbers that comply with the E-911 standard. Should you need assistance or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact our business office. Do not wait until you have an emergency.

Alice Jones, Coordinator, (601) 442-7021

ADAMS COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

In addition to providing research-based information, educational programs, and technology transfer focused on issues and needs of the people of Mississippi, the Adams County Extension office sponsors organizations such as Master Gardeners, Mississippi Homemaker Volunteers, Master Clothing Volunteers, Master Naturalists, and Master Health Volunteers as well as several others.

Jason Gerrard Jones, Extension Agent III 75A Carthage Point Road, (601) 445-8201

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

150 East Franklin Street, Natchez, MS (601) 442-1481, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., M-F

• Child Support Enforcement

150 E Franklin Street , 1-(877) 882-4916, https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/child-support/

• Report Abuse or Neglect

Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services (800)-222-8000

Adams County Food Stamp Office

150 E Franklin Street, (601) 442-5461

Adults and Seniors

Vulnerable Person Abuse Hotline, 1-(844) 437-6282

• Economic Assistance

 SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/help/snap/ 800-445-3050

ROAD DEPARTMENT

The Adams County Road Department is responsible for maintaining all roads and bridges within the county. The Road Department performs other functions as directed by the Board of Supervisors.

Robbie Dollar Road Manager, 140 E Franklin Street, (601) 445-7935

ADAMS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Our communities are the fabric that connects us throughout Adams County. Ensuring our safety, developing our youth, and increasing our quality of life can only be achieved through our commitment to reach these common goals together.

As Sheriff of Adams County, I am determined to reduce crime, fear, and disorder while restoring the values that have upheld our great county. I believe we can affect positive change throughout Adams County by implementing the three "C's" of commitment. They are consideration, cooperation, and collaboration.

We at the Adams County Sheriff's Office are fully committed to this initiative and intend to work with our citizens to identify and seek long-term solutions to problems relating to crime, fear of crime, neighborhood decay, and poor quality of life. The only way we can connect our communities is to connect. Let's stand together, grow together, and rise together. Travis Patten

Travis Patten, Sheriff, <u>www.adamscosheriff.org</u> 306 State Street, (601) 442-2752 (24 hours); Emergency, dial 911.

Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



VETERANS' SERVICES

The Veterans' Services Department is headed by Sonjagela Johnson, 307 Market Street. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. Please call (601) 304-7800 for an appointment.

sjohnson@adamscountyms.gov

ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI UTILITY CONNECTIONS

WATER

Adams County Water Association (residents/businesses outside the city limits) 700 US Hwy 61 N, Washington, MS (601) 446-6616

Website: www.adamscountywater.com

Lobby Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

All residential rates will be \$8.25 per thousand after the minimum has been met.

To Apply for Service

 Before applying for service, determine whether there is an existing meter at the service location or if you need a meter installed. If a new meter is installed, a \$400.00 non-refundable installation fee will be collected for a 3/4-inch meter.

The following information is required before service can be activated:

- 911 Invoice number
- Adams County Civil Defense, 201 S. Wall St., Natchez, MS, or phone 601-445-2266.
- Signed Water Users Agreement. (Download form)
 http://www.adamscountywater.com/images/pdf/Water-User-Agreement.pdf
- Pay \$125.00 non-refundable user fee.
 NCWA accepts cash, checks, money orders, VISA, MasterCard, and Discover.

ELECTRICITY

Southwest Mississippi EPA (county residents and business owners) 18671 Highway 61, Lorman, MS 39096, (800) 267-8564 Website: https://southwestelectric.coop

Adams County Requirements

- E-911 Address and Invoice Number, call 601-445-2266
- Mobile Home Registration, call 601-442-6732
- Travel Trailer Tag Number and Expiration Date
- Sewage Receipt Number, call 1-855-220-0192, option 3, or visit website (new service only)
- If within city limits, the city requires a permit. Call 601-445-7518.

Fees and Charges

Southwest Electric works hard to keep the cost of electric service low for its members. The following list outlines the initial fees for connecting service, and fees that may be encountered after service is connected. This list does not include all fees and charges required by Southwest Electric but will provide an overview of financial commitment to Southwest Electric.

\$5 Membership Fee – Individuals desiring electric service are required to become a Member of Southwest Electric. The membership fee is refundable upon termination of service. The payment of this fee and submission of membership information allows the Member all rights and privileges of membership including electric service, subscription to "Today in Mississippi" monthly publication, free in-home energy audits and more. The fee will be refunded once the Member no longer receives electric service from Southwest Electric.

Deposit Options

- 1. An Equifax soft credit check can be run. If your credit is excellent, you will pay a \$0 deposit, if your credit is good the deposit will be \$250, if your credit is poor the deposit will be \$400.
- 2. If you choose not to use the Equifax credit check program the deposit will be \$400.
- 3. Participate in our \$0 deposit EZ-Pay prepay program.

- **\$55 Additional Meter Deposit** If you have an existing residential meter with Southwest Electric and wish to connect an additional meter for a pump house, non-commercial shop, barn or camp, an additional deposit may be required. If you have had an existing excellent Equifax credit check within the last 12 months or excellent credit history with Southwest Electric, the deposit will be \$0.
- **\$45 Activation Fee –** When a new account is established, a non-refundable connection charge is assessed to offset the cost of setting up the account and connecting the meter.
- **\$45 Reconnection Fee -** A reconnection fee is assessed when electric service has been disconnected for nonpayment and reconnection is requested. Note: additional deposit may also be required if Member's service is disconnected, and the bill must be paid in full before reconnection of service.
- **\$15 Return Check or Card Fee -** This fee is required for any check/card returned to Southwest Electric by the bank.

Mississippi State Legislators

Mississippi House of Representatives

Robert L. Johnson III

District 94 - Adams, Franklin, Jefferson Democrat



Contact Information:

Capitol: Room 102-C P.O. Box 1018 Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 359-3252

P. O. Box 1678 Natchez, MS 39121 (601)445-5690 (H) (601)442-9371 (W)

Home:

Email:

rjohnson@house.ms.gov

Angela Cockerham

District 96 - Adams, Amite, Pike, Wilkinson Independent



Contact Information:

Capitol: Room 201 P.O. Box 1018 Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 359-1541 Home:
P. O. Box 613
Magnolia, MS 39652
(601)783-4979 (H)
(601)783-6600 (W)

Email:

acockerham@house.ms.gov

Sam C. Mims, V

District 97 - Adams, Amite, Franklin, Pike Republican



Contact Information:

Capitol: Room 201-MS P.O. Box 1018 Jackson, MS 39215 (601) 359-3340

Home: 605 Lakeshore Drive McComb, MS 39648 (601) 684-0281 (H)

Email:

smims@house.ms.gov

Mississippi State Senate

Albert Butler

District 37 - Adams, Claiborne, Copiah, Franklin, Hinds, Jefferson Democrat



Contact Information:

Capitol: Room: 405 P. O. Box 1018 Jackson, MS 39215 (601)359-2224 Home:

(601) 334-6729 (601) 415-1182

Email:

abutler@senate.ms.gov

Gary Brumfield

District 38 - Adams, Amite, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson Democrat



Contact Information:

Capitol: Room 409 P.O. Box 1018 Jackson MS 39215 (601) 359-3537

Work:

(601) 359-0265

Email:

gbrumfield@senate.ms.gov

Elections

Elected officials themselves, and the members of the Election Commission, are responsible for carefully revising the registration books and the poll books of the many voting precincts; erasing from those books the names of all persons erroneously listed, deceased, moved, or have become disqualified as electors from any cause; and registering the names of all persons who have duly applied to be registered and have been illegally denied registration. They are also responsible for printing the ballots for general elections and making reports of the results to the Secretary of State.

Click Here to Find Your Polling Place

Contact Adams County Courthouse

Main Number: (601) 445-7905

Federal Legislators

Senators: Each state in the United States elects two senators, regardless of the state's population. Senators serve six-year terms with staggered elections. Americans in the United States's six territories do not have senators.

Mississippi Senators



Senior Senator Roger Wicker Republican Since Dec 31, 2007 Next Election in 2025 (202) 224-6253

Website: https://www.wicker.senate.gov/



Junior Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith Republican Since Apr 9, 2018 Next Election in 2028 (202) 224-5054

Website: https://www.hydesmith.senate.gov/

Representatives. The United States is divided into 435 congressional districts, each with a population of about 710,000 individuals. Each district elects a representative to the U.S. House of Representatives for a two-year term. Representatives are also called congressmen/congresswomen.



Mississippi Representative

Bennie G. Thompson

Democrat, 2nd Congressional District

Serving his 15th term in the United States House of Representatives

Since April 20, 1993

Next election in November 2024

(202) 225-5876

Website: https://benniethompson.house.gov/

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ground Transportation

Downtown Karla Brown

406 Franklin Street 907.540.0001

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

321 D'Evereux Drive 601.442.4600

Rock n' Roll Taxi Service

601.446.3200

Natchez Bus Terminal & Charter Services

127 Wood Avenue 800.981.7743; 601.445.5291

Fares & Schedules

800.231.2222

Natchez Transit Authority

127 Wood Avenue 601.445.7568

6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. pick up and drop off anywhere within the city limits for visitors. Call to schedule.

Southern Carriage Tours

S Canal St & State St, Natchez, MS 39120 10:00 a.m. until Dark 601. 807.9086

Wynn Transportation (Taxi Service)

Call 601.334.2183 or Text 601.334.4828

Cruise Transportation (Taxi Service)

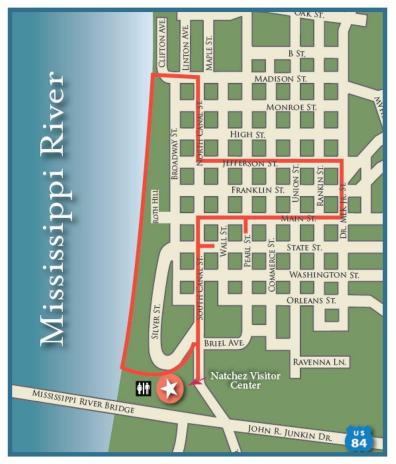
137 Lewis Dr, Natchez, MS 39120 443.500.9955

City Sightseeing Tours, Hop On Hop off

111 North Broadway Street Natchez Mississippi, 39120 601.445.8413

Upon your arrival in Natchez, be sure to stop by *Visit Natchez at The Depot*, 200 N. Broadway Street or *Visit Natchez*, 500 Main Street, to pick up your map with locations of all the downtown shops, restaurants, and attractions.

City of Natchez



DOWNTOWN GO CUP DISTRICT

- · Containers cannot be taken outside of the Go Cup District.
- Containers MUST be provided by the business. Cups are not transferable between participating establishments.
- · Please, only one container per patron when leaving.
- Please use the appropriate receptacle when you dispose of your cup.
- Use of an approved open container is NOT allowed when operating a motorized or non-motorized vehicle either inside or outside of the Go Cup District.
- Use of an approved Go Cup does not allow anyone to impede traffic on a public street or sidewalk, or within a private/public parking lot.

Please keep Natchez Beautiful







The Natchez Trace Parkway leads visitors 444 miles through three states and 10,000 years of North American history. This scenic parkway links Natchez with Nashville and crosses some of the most beautiful terrain in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. National Scenic Byways Program declared the Parkway a National Scenic Byway and an All-American Road. The Natchez Trace Parkway has been chosen as one of America's 10 best biking roads. Open year-round, it provides motorists, hikers, and bikers with the opportunity for an unhurried trip through time.





The Turning Angel Natchez City Cemetery

This monument is referred to as 'The Turning Angel' because at night when cars drive by on Cemetery Road their headlights shine upon the monument and to some it appears to turn as their car passes by.



Southern Carriage Tours

Horse-drawn carriages ranging in size from six to ten passengers depart the corner of Canal and State Streets daily, from 10:00 am until dark, on a first-come basis. These tours last approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour through the historic district and the narration points out buildings and areas of historic significance.

Arrangements can be made for weddings or specialty afterhour tours. Tickets may be purchased at Visit Natchez or from the carriage drivers.

CITY AND COUNTY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Adams County Administrator	601-445-7934
Adams County Board of Supervisors	601-442-2431
Adams County Chancery Clerk	601-446-6684
Adams County Circuit Clerk	601-446-6326
Adams County Court House	601-446-6326
Adams County Tax Assessor	601-442-6732
Adams County Tax Collector	601-442-8601
Adams County Water Association	601-446-6616
Air Evac Lifeteam 99	601-304-1175
AMR Ambulance	601-442-4259
Animal Services	
Arrow Disposal Services, Inc. (ADSI)Garbage and Recycling	866-440-3983
ATMOS Energy (Natural Gas)	601-442-4831
Board of Aldermen	601-445-7500
Chamber of Commerce	601-445-4611
City Clerk	
City of Natchez Personnel Department	601-442-5963
City Planning & Community Development	601-445-7518
Civil Defense	601-442-7021
Code Enforcement	601-445-7518
Department of Motor Vehicles	601-442-4879
Entergy (City Electricity)	800-968-8243
Fire Department	601-442-3684
Mayor	601-445-7555
Merit Health, Natchez	601-443-2100
Metro Ambulance	601-442-4259
Natchez City Cemetery	
Natchez Convention Center	
Natchez Festival of Music	601-807-4442
Natchez Pilgrimage Tours	601-653-0919
Natchez Senior Center	
Natchez Water Works Department	
Natchez, Inc., Economic Development	
Natchez-Adams County Humane Society	
Office of Inspections	
Parks & Recreation Department	
Police Department	
Public Works	
Sheriff's Office	
Southwest Mississippi EPA (County Electricity)	
Tourism Department	
Traffic Department	
Transit Department	
Visit Natchez	601-492-3000