

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DECATUR!

# KIDS ACTIVITY BOOK

• Puzzles!

• Word Search!

• Maze!

• More!

Find  
a 200 on  
every  
page!

celebrating

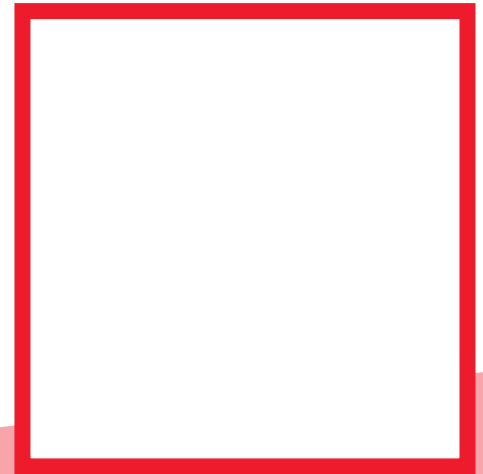
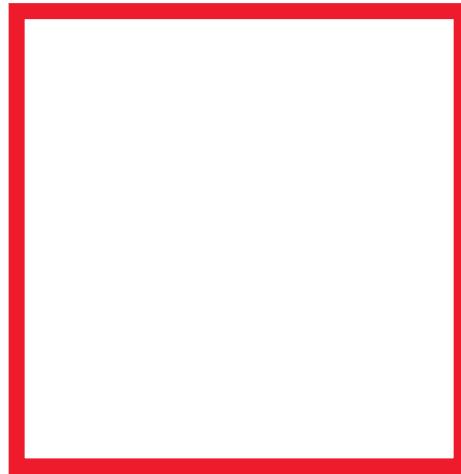


City of Decatur®

• BICENTENNIAL | 1823-2023 •

# City Logo Lookout

The city logo, launched in 1984, shows "A city of homes, schools and places of worship." It has nine colors, used throughout this booklet. It's on official city buildings, departments, programs and activities. Where do you see the Decatur logo around town? **Draw them here!**



## Thank-You **DYC**



**Front row (L to R):** Elia Mathew-Lewis, DHS 9th • McLaine Drake, DHS 10th • Qaden Daise, DHS 10th • Samuel Varkey, DHS 12th (secretary) • Lee Rachel Carlomagno, DHS 12th • Bahiyih Grant, Paideia 12th

**Back row (L to R):** Henry Cayce, Paideia 10th • Robert Nobles, DHS 10th • Frank Banich, DHS 12th • Miles Moorfield, DHS 12th (co-chair) • Greta Tell, DHS 11th • Flora Burdette, DHS 11th

**Not pictured:** Zak Abdulahi, DHS 12th • Penelope Goebel, DHS 11th • William Stone, Paideia 12th (co-chair) • Connor Willingham, DHS 10th

**HINTS:** city vehicles, City Hall, recycling bins, Decatur Visitors Center, bikes, cars, signs.

### About this Booklet

This activity book, designed for school-age children, is filled with information about city services. We hope you learn about our city and have fun at the same time. For additional copies or to make suggestions for next year's Kids Activity Book, please contact [decaturfocus@decaturga.com](mailto:decaturfocus@decaturga.com) or call 404-371-8386.

Georgia Cities Week is April 23-29. Each city designs its own programs to highlight city services and activities. Decatur celebrates with this special Kids Activity Book.

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Design and illustrations by [Lampe-Farley.com](http://Lampe-Farley.com)



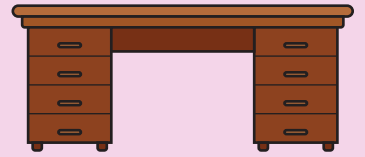
# Quiz: City Departments

Circle the pictures that go with each city department

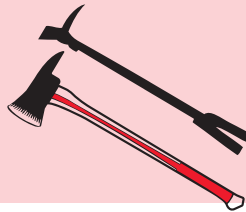
## Sanitation



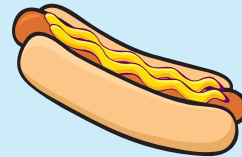
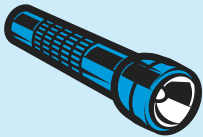
## Finance



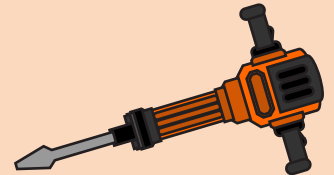
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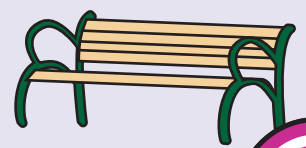
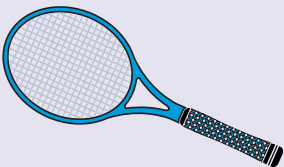
## Police



## Public Works



## Parks and Recreation



# Be a Zero Waste Hero

**1. REDUCE, 2. RE-USE, 3. RECYCLE.** These are the three steps to being a “zero waste” household and/ or community. The best place to start is at home. How much progress can you make in four weeks? **Write the numbers in the boxes.**

## How many trash bags does your family use each week?

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Note:

Many households in Decatur use Pay-As-You-Throw garbage bags. Does your family use green (8-gallon), yellow (15-gallon), or blue (33-gallon) bags?

## How many items did you re-use?

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Examples:

Jelly jars, to-go containers, grocery bags, bread bags, rubber bands, large yogurt containers, juice bottles, newspapers

## How many items does your family recycle each week?

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Examples:

Glass jars and bottles, yogurt containers, cereal boxes, newspapers, aluminum cans, milk jugs, cardboard boxes

### ZERO WASTE TIPS!

Ways your family can reduce waste:

- **Reusable water bottles** instead of plastic bottles
- **Cloth napkins** instead of paper napkins
- **Reusable shopping bags** instead of plastic bags

### COOL FACT

Using recycled aluminum only takes 5% of the energy needed to make new aluminum. Nearly 75% of all aluminum ever made is still in use today – that reduces carbon emissions and saves money.

2 0 0 . . . . .





# Watersense Word Search

How can we manage excess stormwater and prevent flooding when it rains too much? What are some ways to manage water during a drought? Check out these tips and **find each of the words highlighted in blue.**

X R K B Z P M I H P H V S D F Y A A W W M O V S X  
 Y F Z P U X E B U W I Q V F I Y M U L C H Z N R K  
 Z Z H J X I X R C P I G B I E V Y Z O K U F M D Y  
 O R D H A J C H M S T N R E G W I K G G A R T Q D  
 Z D I Z C R D T T E C S F S M I V D J G P Y L P R  
 A L S F B O R O M V A S F R F N A F E F R O H W O  
 M L P D Q Z N F W S I B G B A M M C F Q E T K Y U  
 J E E X U M K T Q N H Z L W C S G L B F V G B P G  
 J U C J K T A X I R S D C E C C T P N K E M Z J H  
 V L I L S R R N B N W P J J H U L R V V N A Q C T  
 E N E M S W G K A N E X O X G R Q N U D T S E E Y  
 T R S E T S U Y L G Z N K U C B Q J K C O W A A J  
 T F U A O S T L E H E R T J T S S Z Y M T F F U L  
 X Q M S R S T D V U T M O A A S L D G N A U Y U S  
 M I T T M K E H I W N N E V L N S W S C F J R N P  
 K G Q E W H R H Z O A C V N T B B A R R E L Q E F  
 B E S R A X S I H S N T O M T K T G K H J U F L L  
 J N I N T W L D D C V W E N S V D U A Q M S M N O  
 Q R R Z E Q T M X Q K X F R S P D J G R D V D C O  
 H U A Q R B Z J U F N E O R K E Y H H L D T M X D  
 D V A E P U C Y C L E R M K C H R B Q T D E W W I  
 R I Y L M Y B B E L I I S I D Y Q V M G O X N Z N  
 A X F M I Q R W R A P S G L D W H M E M K V Q F G  
 I K B X D T S N O S E C M S Q W A T E R I N G Z J  
 N O G J V R Y A S A P A P I K Z X X A T J H V D Y  
 Z V E S S A U T I K P P Y P Y K G P X R N K B U G  
 A O O M U I B I O P V I X Q X K F D R I R F S J X  
 G O S Z S N P V N U K N U J C I W O X T H R F Q J  
 R U N O F F W E F Y C G L O Y W A F V W J E O M M  
 Z V S T O R M J K W Y B G Y K Y R Y R W O E E R T

**Curbs and gutters:** Keep these clear to divert stormwater into storm drains and prevent storm sewer system clogs.

**Downspouts:** Point them away from building foundations to **prevent erosion.**

**Drought:** When it doesn't rain enough, we have to **conserve** water.

**Eastern Continental Divide:** separates waters that flow to the Atlantic or to the Gulf of Mexico. In Decatur it runs along the railroad track, West Howard and West College Avenues.

**Garden mulch:** Spread fallen leaves, pine straw or wood chips to prevent erosion and keep soil from drying out.

**Green Infrastructure:** A water management approach that protects, restores, or mimics the natural water **cycle.**

**Permeable surface:** Helps stormwater soak into soil.\*

**Rain garden:** Plan and plant to absorb stormwater runoff.\*

**Storm drain:** Collects stormwater and directs it to storm sewers and creeks.

**Stormwater runoff:** Heavy rain that can cause **flooding** of our yards, streets, and parks when it falls on paved and solid surfaces that don't allow water to soak into the ground.

**Stormwater management:** Designing the city infrastructure to collect and direct stormwater runoff to prevent flooding and improve **water quality.**

**Rain barrel:** Collects water for outdoor uses such as watering plants.

**Watering:** Water garden plants in the morning when it's cooler outside.

**Xeriscaping:** Planting **native species** that require less water.

\*a type of green infrastructure

**Plant a tree:** Roots prevent soil erosion, shade lowers temperatures and conserves water. Find out how you can plant a Decatur Bicentennial tree, and/or a front yard tree sponsored by Trees Atlanta.



## COOL FACT

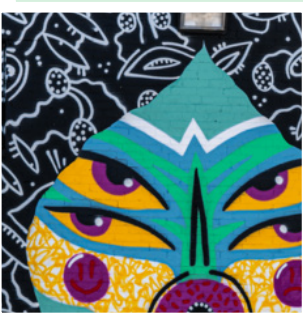
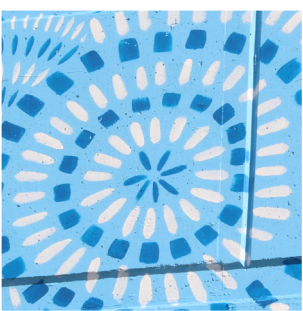
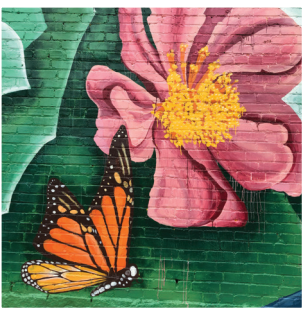
There's a vault under Ebster Field that can hold seven million gallons of water, the same as 10.5 Olympic-size swimming pools.



# Mural Matching Map

Did you know there are 28 big, beautiful murals around Decatur! Have you seen these four?

**Mark them on the map!** Have you seen other murals around town? Mark them on the map also!



# Go Birding at Legacy Park

Legacy Park is home to more than 100 species of birds. Why so many? Because they love the 22 acres of protected habitat: forest, pond, wetlands, and meadows. Here are just a few to look for next time you're at the park. **When you see one, check it off here!**



## COOL FACT

Legacy Park is home to Wild Nest Bird Rehab, dedicated to the care of native birds and educating the public about their conservation. Visit [wildnestbirdrehab.org](http://wildnestbirdrehab.org) to learn more.



Here are some more you might see:

- Red-Headed Woodpecker
- Robin
- Mockingbird
- Wren
- Crow
- Red-Tailed Hawk
- Barn Owl
- Indigo Bunting
- Baltimore Oriole
- Hooded Merganser (on the pond)
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Brown Thrasher (Our state bird)

Did you see a different species? What was it?

## GEAR UP!

These will come in handy: binoculars, notebook + pen, camera, bird guide or app (Merlin Bird ID). Or, just your own eyes and ears!

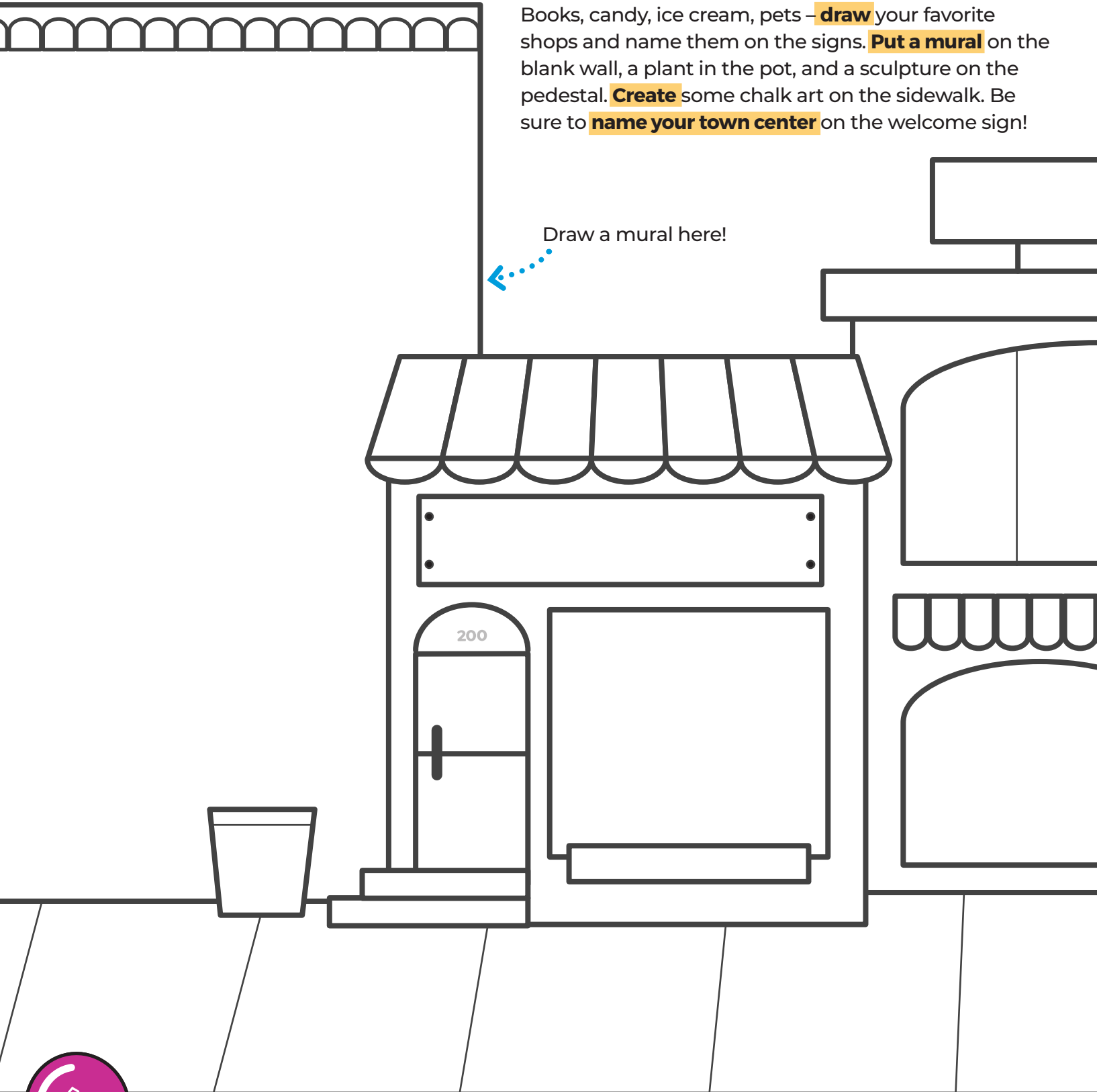




# Design Your Own Town Cent

Books, candy, ice cream, pets – **draw** your favorite shops and name them on the signs. **Put a mural** on the blank wall, a plant in the pot, and a sculpture on the pedestal. **Create** some chalk art on the sidewalk. Be sure to **name your town center** on the welcome sign!

Draw a mural here!



Draw some sidewalk chalk art



Bring your drawing to the Decatur Visitors Center at 113 Clairmont Ave. and get a special prize!

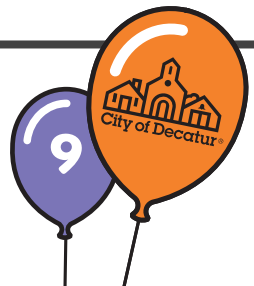
Give your town center a name!

WELCOME TO



The Decatur community is working together on a plan to make our downtown better. Scan the QR code to see the latest updates on the Decatur Town Center Plan 2.0!

KIDS ACTIVITY BOOK



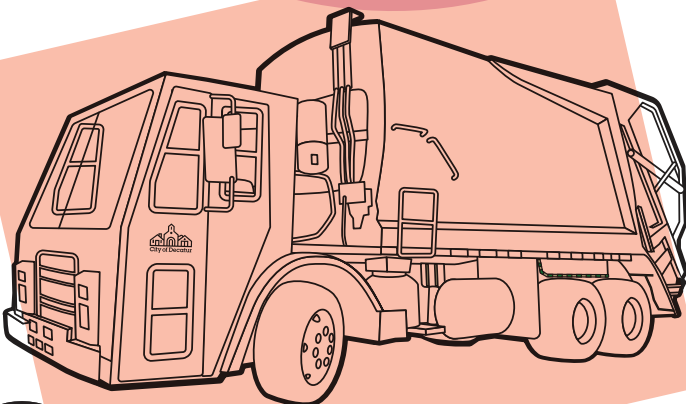
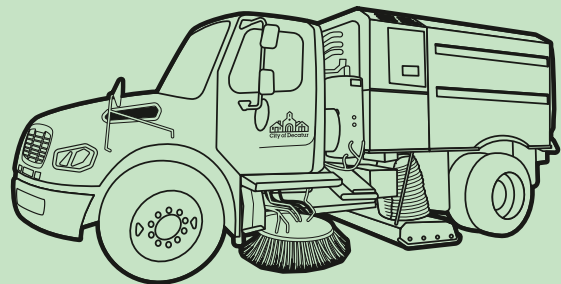
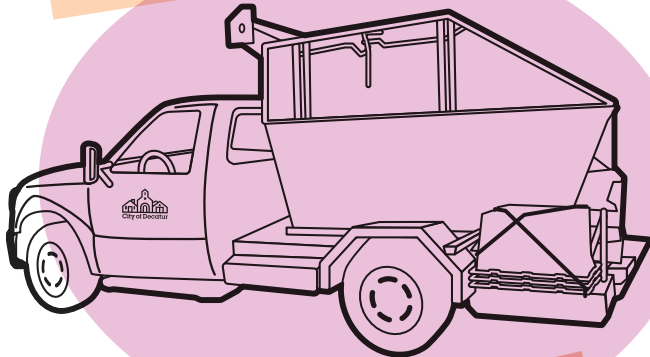
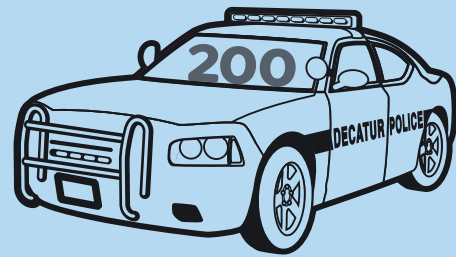
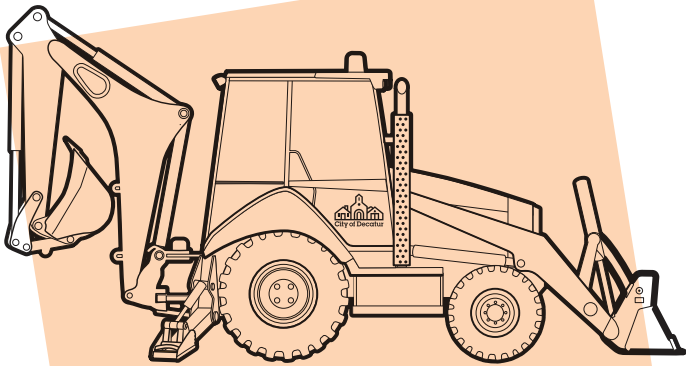


# Count-A-Truck

Here are just a few of the city vehicles you can see (and touch) at the city's Touch-a-Truck / Touch-a-Budget event each year. **Count the parts you see here.**

## HOW MANY?

- |                          |         |                          |                 |                          |            |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | tires   | <input type="checkbox"/> | doors           | <input type="checkbox"/> | scoops     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brushes | <input type="checkbox"/> | windows         | <input type="checkbox"/> | mirrors    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | lights  | <input type="checkbox"/> | flashing lights | <input type="checkbox"/> | city logos |

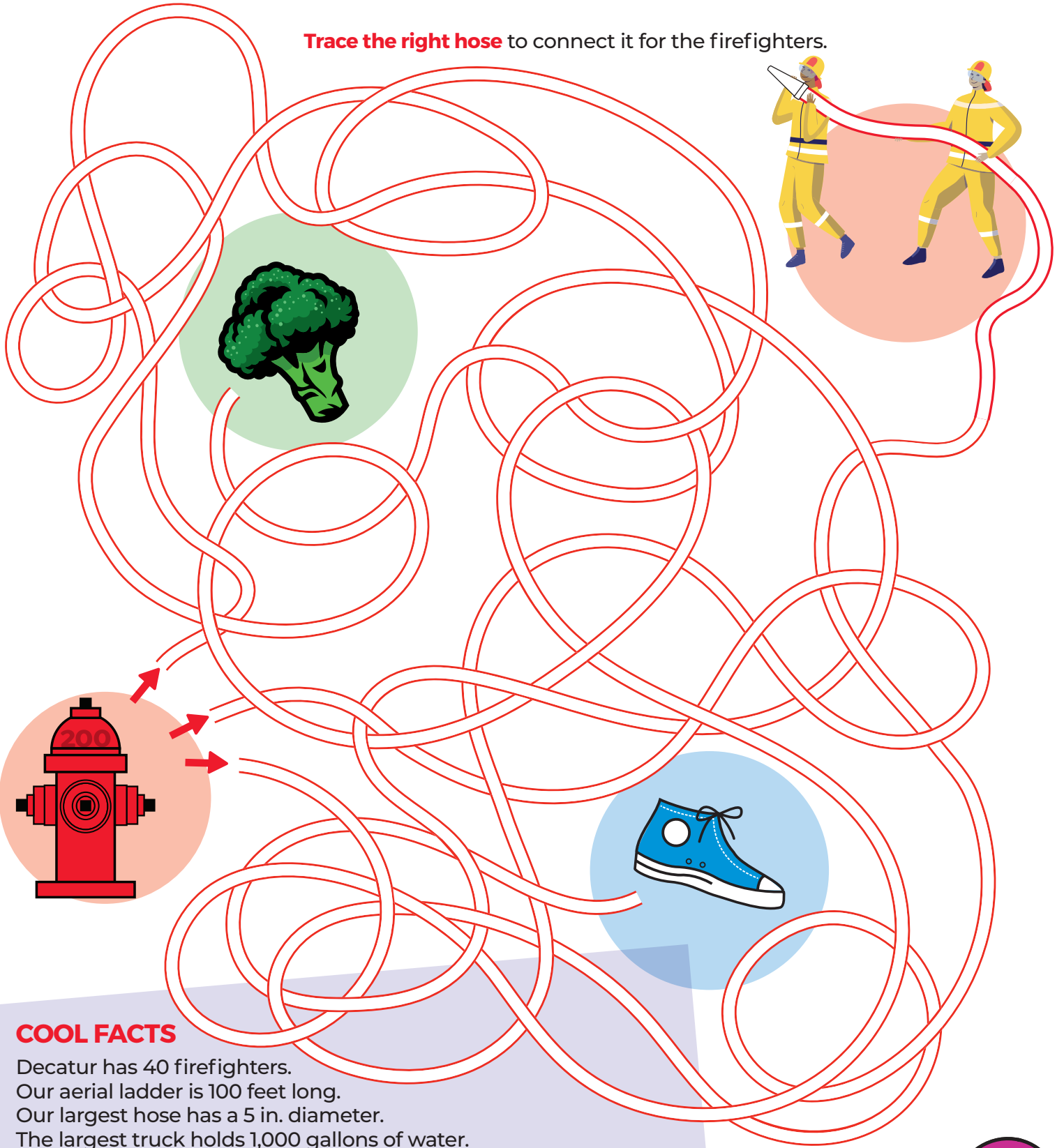


Have you been to Touch-A-Truck? The next one's in March!



# A-Mazing Firefighters

Trace the right hose to connect it for the firefighters.



## COOL FACTS

- Decatur has 40 firefighters.
- Our aerial ladder is 100 feet long.
- Our largest hose has a 5 in. diameter.
- The largest truck holds 1,000 gallons of water.
- Firefighters exercise for at least one hour every shift.
- Firefighter gear, including the air pack, weighs about 75 pounds.
- Fire hydrant colors tell how many gallons per minute each provides.



# Unscramble to Ramble

How many parks and greenspaces can you name in Decatur?

**Unscramble the letters** to see these six park names.

Can you find these parks (and others) on the map on page 13?



Y E A G L C

-----

T O S T C

-----

R O A K H T S U

-----

E A K L N G E L

-----

C O M K Y

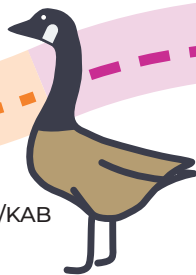
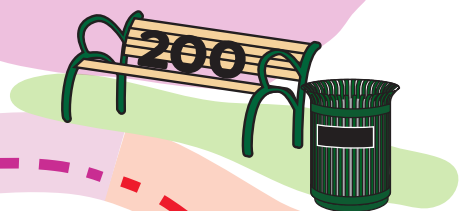
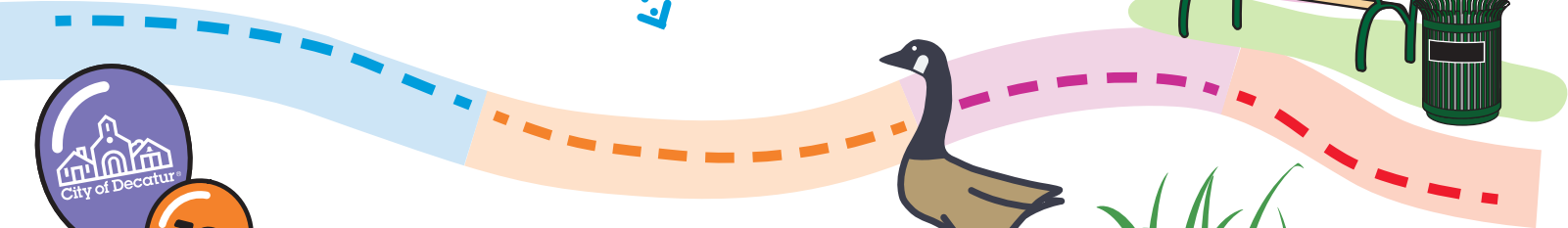
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A D R A I

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Can you name some others?

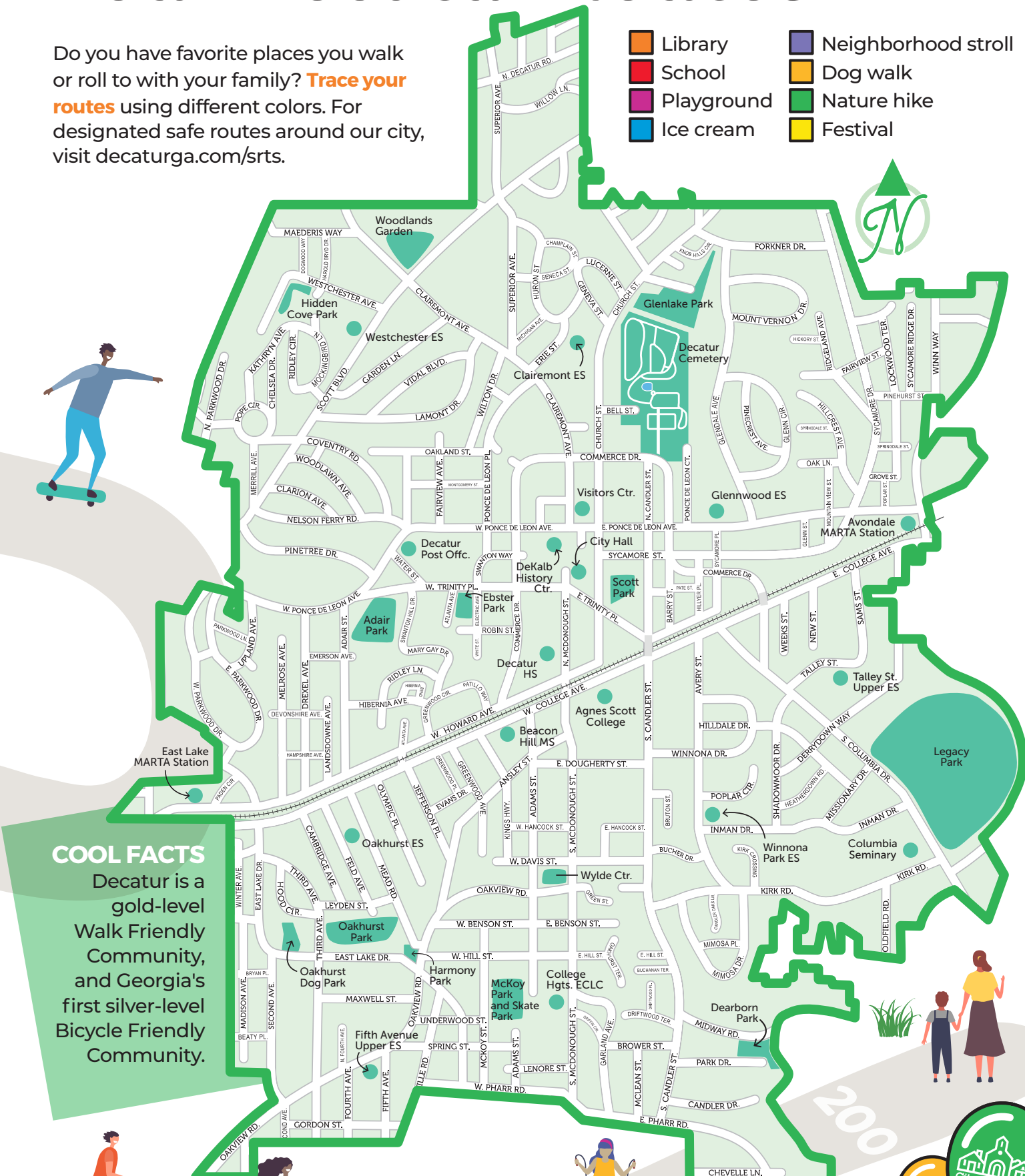
**Write them along the dashed line!** 



# Your Decatur Routes

Do you have favorite places you walk or roll to with your family? **Trace your routes** using different colors. For designated safe routes around our city, visit [decaturga.com/srts](http://decaturga.com/srts).

- Library
- School
- Playground
- Ice cream
- Neighborhood stroll
- Dog walk
- Nature hike
- Festival



## COOL FACTS

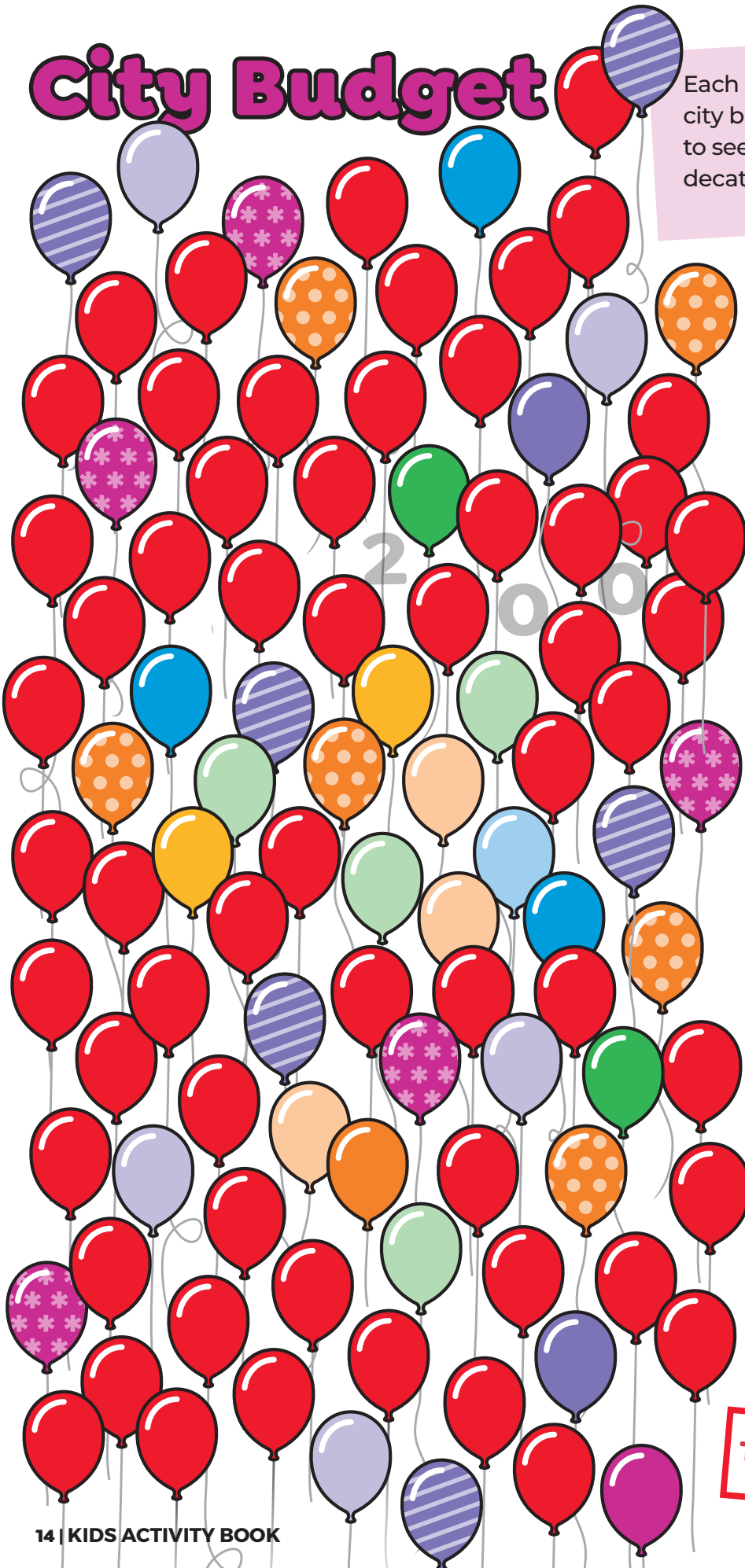
Decatur is a gold-level Walk Friendly Community, and Georgia's first silver-level Bicycle Friendly Community.





# City Budget

Each balloon represents a penny in a city budget dollar. **Count the balloons** to see how the city budget gets used. Visit [decaturga.com/budget](http://decaturga.com/budget) to find out more.



- City Schools of Decatur
- Downtown Development
- Bond Fund
- Solid Waste
- Storm Water
- Capital Improvements
- General Government
- Administrative Services
- Community & Economic Development
- Police Department
- Fire / Rescue
- Public Works
- Active Living
- Children & Youth Services

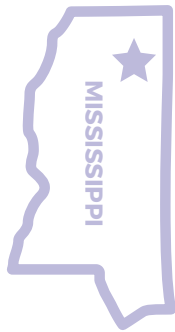
**Total:**

**HINT:**  
Does it tally up to 100?



# Meet and Match Your Commissioners

Get to know your city commissioners – **connect a birth place and memory** with each commissioner. **HINT:** Match by photo background color.



**Lesa Mayer, Commissioner, District 2**

**Birthplace:** Tupelo, Mississippi (same as Elvis).  
**Memorable birthday:** Walkman CD player! A close second is rollerblades for my 11th or 12th birthday.

**Kelly Walsh, Commissioner, District 1**

**Birthplace:** Sheridan, Wyoming  
**Memorable birthday:** Moved into college in Washington, DC by myself, met my new roommate, nobody knew it was my 18th birthday, so it was like a cool secret.

**Patti Garrett, Mayor, District 2**

**Birthplace:** Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
**Memorable birthday:** A weekend spent with my family enjoying a scavenger hunt, the Van Gogh exhibit, Atlanta United game, Placita Latina festival, and brunch at Scout in Oakhurst.

**George Dusenbury, Commissioner, District 1**

**Birthplace:** New York, NY  
**Memorable birthday:** My identical twin and I were born on Mothers Day, like a special gift to our mom. And the best birthday present ever is a lifelong best friend – my twin.

**Tony Powers, Mayor Pro Tem,  
Commissioner-at-Large**

**Birthplace:** Grady Baby! Atlanta, Georgia  
**Memorable birthday:** Turning 50, running and winning city commissioner seat, surprise dinner party with closest friends during the campaign.



# Happy Birthday, Decatur!

Connect the dots to see a giant birthday treat.

On the right? A few facts and statistics from Decatur's history.

## Decatur then and now

### Population

1823: <500  
2020: 24,928

### Schools

**Oldest school:**  
Agnes Scott College  
opens in 1889

**Newest school:**  
Talley Street Upper  
Elementary  
opens in 2019

### Transit

**1841:** First trolley line  
connects Decatur  
to Atlanta

**1979:** MARTA rail  
opens in downtown  
Decatur

## Decatur by the numbers

- 3 MARTA stations
- 3 state highways
- 4.2 square miles
- 6 miles from downtown Atlanta
- 21 places of worship
- 61 miles of sidewalks
- 200 years old
- 1,043 ft. elevation
- 8,100 households

