# Americus Dountoun Dollars Program:

## #ShopSmall #ShopLocal #ShopDowntown

#### What are Downtown Dollars?

Basically they are gift certificates that can be used at any participating Downtown Americus business. They are the size of a check, have security features to discourage counterfeiting, and are tracked and issued by Americus Main Street. They come in either a \$5 or \$10 amount; and are same as cash when used at a Downtown Participating Business. There is an expiration date on the front of them which is 6 months from the date they have been issued. The program was created to encourage spending in stores in Downtown Americus.





### How does someone purchase them?

Downtown Dollars are currently only available for purchase at the Americus Main Street office located inside of City Hall; however they will soon be available for purchase at SB&T Bank (Synovus). They can purchase them with cash, check, or credit card (credit card only at Americus Main Street office). If you buy \$500 or more at one time, there is a 10% discount. Downtown Dollars can also be won at various events, through window display contests, social media interactions, and more.

## How are Downtown Dollars accepted?

When a patron presents the downtown dollar, it should be treated same as cash. This means that change will be given if the purchase is less than the amount printed on the check. Therefore, if someone presents a Downtown Dollar to a cashier/business, the business will take and keep them. This is different from a gift card which deducts money from the card and the business gives it back to the patron. If a patron gives a business a \$10 Downtown Dollar for a purchase of \$8.25, the business should give them \$1.75 and keep the \$10 Downtown Dollar. There is a set of numbers across the bottom in magnetic ink, so that they can be read at a bank like a check. Downtown Dollars are only worth the amount printed on the front of them; nothing more or less.

#### How to redeem Downtown Dollars?

You need to sign the back of them first (or stamp "For Deposit Only") and then include them in your check deposit at the bank. They cannot be accepted currently at an ATM deposit, so you will either need to deposit them inside a bank or at a drive-through teller. Only businesses authorized by Americus Main Street may redeem them or exchange them for cash. Individuals may not exchange Downtown Dollars.

If you have any questions, please contact Qaijuan Willis at 229-924-4411 ext. 247 or email qwillis@americusga.gov.