

# MEAG POWER **Current** COMMUNITIES

## DOERUN, GEORGIA

George Saunders  
Mayor

City of Doerun  
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# DOERUN

## Business Today and Tomorrow

Today, the business of Doerun revolves around farming which is also the prime job creator for all of Colquitt County. The area farmers are savvy business owners, using technology, sophisticated equipment and sound business principles to run their operations. Doerun is working to expand this solid base and the hard-working mindset of its population. The city is less than an hour from the Cordele Inland Port and Intermodal Center with direct rail connection to the Port of Savannah. Albany State University, Albany Technical College and Moultrie Technical College are all less than 20 miles away. Plus, Doerun, a Certified Work-Ready Community, has among the lowest costs of doing business and some of the most generous tax credits, as well as delivered energy that is more than 75% emissions-free. All of this means Doerun has a lot of what business and industry are looking for—a good location, a solid workforce and desirable clean electricity. That makes tomorrow look promising.

*Room to Breathe  
and Grow*





# FAST FACTS DOERUN



**POPULATION:** 831

**COLQUITT COUNTY:** 46,275

**UTILITIES:** Electricity, gas, water/sewer

**TRANSPORTATION:** State routes 133 and 270 serve as prime transportation corridors. The city is 13 miles from Moultrie, the county seat of Colquitt County and 45 minutes from the I-75 corridor. Tallahassee International Airport in Florida is just 1½ hours away.

**NOTABLE EMPLOYERS:**

- Davis Family Farms – Cotton and peanut producer
- Demott Peanut Company – Peanut buying point/operators
- Doerun Gin Company – Cotton processor
- Mobley Gin Company – Cotton processor

*Colquitt County is the number one agricultural community in Georgia, with over \$545 million in agricultural revenue.*

- Doerun is named for the abundance of deer in the surrounding habitats.
- The county is known for its agricultural diversity, producing over 100 different crops.
- Cotton commands the largest acreage in Georgia and has the largest across-the-board economic impact in our state. You could make 516 million pairs of jeans from Georgia's annual cotton production. Doerun has several cotton processing facilities that call it home.
- Peanuts and peanut butter are a staple food in American homes; in fact, 94 percent of U.S. households have one or more jars of peanut butter in their pantries. Doerun has two peanut buying points for local farmers' yields.

# Gathering and GROWING

The May Day festival has been a constant on the Doerun community calendar for 37 years. May 1st is a celebration of the coming of Spring and the waxing of the sun. It is a centuries-old holiday that fits readily into the ways people farm.

Each May, five to seven thousand people are drawn to Doerun's Peachtree Park to note this holiday and eat barbeque, hear music, share stories and purchase arts and crafts. The Doerun Booster Association, the May Day festival organizer, prides itself on a bigger and better event with each celebration.

The city's 10-acre park is in the process of becoming even more pivotal to life in Doerun. Visioning is underway for park improvements, including a walking track, water feature and plenty of green space for picnics and weddings.

The small but resourceful city staff describes other initiatives in town that are designed to bring people together, such as the Doerun Community Center. This inviting building with an ample front porch, prominently located on Broad Street, has been a prime facility for parties and family reunions, as well as a community nerve center since 1998. "We are building a new, smaller community center that is going to be very popular," explains Kevin Branch, electrical superintendent and chief "architect" of the facility. "This facility will serve a smaller, different type of event," he adds. Completion is several months away.

And while there are places to gather in Doerun, there are also places to grow. Industrial and commercial sites are plentiful and come with generous Tier 1 Job Tax Credits. There is also an abundance and diversity of natural resources,

including farmland, water, forests, clays and fish and game.

Downtown there are two new restaurants, Café On Broad and Big G's Grill. Moreover, local residents, Sam and Becky Null, created excitement when they moved their embroidery and business promotion company, Heritage Embroidery & Design, to an empty 5,600-square-foot storefront downtown. The company provides customized promotional items for corporate customers in Georgia and as far away as Alaska and California.

"It is a great boost for downtown to have an enterprise thriving here. Success is contagious. I hope more retailers choose downtown Doerun and new commercial businesses look to Doerun as the perfect place for a new location," says Mayor George Saunders.



Heritage Embroidery & Design brings new business to downtown





Doerun's agriculture provides the basis for some of America's favorite things—blue jeans and peanut butter.

# More About HOMETOWN DOERUN

- Georgia produces half of all the nation's peanuts, and over 95 percent of peanut farms are small family-owned businesses of 180 acres or less, similar to those in Doerun.
- Doerun was founded by the Rev. William W. Williams and is still home to many of his descendants.
- May Day events get started on a Friday evening with live entertainment and a Doerun BBQ Cook-Off of rib-eye steak and Brunswick stew.
- The Colquitt Saddle Club is an organization dedicated to helping young people sharpen their riding skills maneuvering their horses through barrel and cone trials.
- Doerun's quality of life includes lots of Southern hospitality, affordable housing, low property taxes and access to multiple outdoor activities, including access to the Gulf of Mexico recreation.
- Doerun high schoolers enjoy all the latest advancements at the county's new \$45 million school.

