

april 2010

# gwinnettcounty connection

a monthly publication of gwinnettcounty government

Memorial Day  
Ceremony  
see page 2  
for details

## FEATURE

### Take 10 Census Challenge

The Census is underway and the US Census Bureau is asking everyone to take 10 minutes to complete and mail back their 2010 census forms. In 2000, Gwinnett County had a 77 percent response rate; take the "Take 10 Challenge" and beat the 2000 Census response rate! We can't move forward until you mail it back!

If 100 percent of all households in America mailed back their forms, taxpayers would save \$1.5 billion dollars.

**Need help completing your form? Visit [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov) to find the nearest Questionnaire Assistance Center.**

United States®  
**Census  
2010**

## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Managing household hazardous waste

Household hazardous wastes are products that contain hazardous substances that homeowners use and that can be dangerous to the environment if disposed of improperly. Examples include paints, solvents, batteries, automobile fluids, herbicides, and pesticides. Proper disposal of these wastes helps safeguard the health of our local rivers, lakes, streams, and groundwater.

Here are a few tips for handling your household hazardous wastes: Do not pour leftover products down the drain or into ditches, stormdrains or gutters, or dump, bury, or burn the products. Do not give the leftover products to someone who can use them before throwing them away and avoid buying hazardous products in the future. Consider using safer alternatives such as less toxic cleaning products.

To learn how to recycle, reduce, and discard hazardous wastes around your home, attend the [Spring Cleaning – Household Hazardous Waste Management Workshop](#). Please see the ad below to register.

For more information about household wastes and other types of nonpoint source pollution, contact Gwinnett County Stormwater Management at 678.376.6826 or [www.gwinnettstormwater.com](http://www.gwinnettstormwater.com). If you know or see individuals dumping hazardous substances into storm drains or streams, please call 678.376.7000.



## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Internet crimes unit combats online predators

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Unit is a proactive initiative that consists of detectives from the Police Department's Special Victims and Electronic and Financial Crimes Units. The detectives are specially trained and equipped to combat predators who stalk children online.

Predators contact teenagers and children over the Internet to entice them to engage in sexual acts and sexual tourism (traveling with the intent to engage in sexual conduct). Predators use the Internet to produce, manufacture, and distribute pornography, and encourage children to exchange pornography.

Physical contact between the child and the predator does not need to occur for a child to become a victim or for a crime to be committed.

Parents and guardians must also be aware of the inherent dangers of the Internet and remain ever vigilant of their children's online activities.

For more information about protecting your children from Internet crimes, visit the FBI's Crimes Against Children web page, <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/cac/crimesmain.htm>.

## Department of Water Resources Stormwater Management Division

### Spring Cleaning – Household Hazardous Waste Management Workshop

May 20, 2010 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium  
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Presenters: Robert Brannen, Cooperative Extension Service  
Bobby Brooks, Stormwater Management

For more information or to register for the workshop, contact the Stormwater Management Division at [dwrswreg@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:dwrswreg@gwinnettcountry.com) and include your name, address, and telephone number or call 678.376.7126. You could qualify for a stormwater utility fee credit if you attend.

## CHECK IT OUT

Check out these titles to learn how we can take of our pets as they improve the quality of our lives. These books and others are available at the Gwinnett County Public Library, [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org).

*On the Road With Your Pet*, by Mobil Travel Guide

*The Canine Conspiracy: [DVD] The Cat Connection*, by British Broadcasting Corporation

*Tell Me Where it Hurts: A Day of Humor, Healing, and Hope in My Life as an Animal Surgeon*, by Nick Trout

*Dog Years: A Memoir*, by Mark Doty

*The Lost Pet Chronicles: Adventures of a K-9 Cop Turned Pet Detective*, by Kat Albrecht

## SPLOST

### Duncan Creek Park gets artificial turf field

Gwinnett commissioners awarded a construction contract for \$835,000 to install an artificial turf multi-purpose field at Duncan Creek Park in northeast Gwinnett County. The project includes renovating the existing multi-purpose field and warm-up area with the installation of artificial turf, including permanent striping for football and soccer, with corners for lacrosse.

"With our current budget concerns, initiating this pilot program to convert two multi-purpose fields to artificial turf makes good economic sense," said District 4 Commissioner **Kevin Kenerly**. "This will allow Gwinnett County time to evaluate the cost and playability of the new fields and consider extending the program to other parks."

The general contractor for the Duncan Creek Park project is East Tennessee Turf and Landscape and the turf supplier/installer is Deluxe Athletics of Marietta. Construction will begin in April with completion by mid-July. The multi-purpose field will also be installed in Cemetery Field in Norcross. Funds from the project will come from the 2005 SPLOST.



### County offices closed for Memorial Day

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of the county, will be closed May 31 for the Memorial Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours on June 1.

A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center.

## EVENTS

Sign up for these and other great activities at [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com).

### Gwinnett Team Challenge Sand Volleyball

May 3 – 4 • 6:00pm  
Bogan Park  
2723 North Bogan Road, Buford

### Senior Club Annual Fun Day

May 7 • 11:00am – 2:00pm  
George Pierce Park  
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee

### All Aboard to Vines Gardens

May 8 • 10:00am – 4:00pm  
Vines Gardens  
3500 Oak Grove Road, Loganville

### National Scrapbooking Day

May 8 • 10:00am – 5:00pm  
George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center  
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee

### Pioneer Day

May 15 • 10:00am – 2:00pm  
McDaniel Farm Park  
3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

### Free Spring Fling and Yard Sale

May 15 • 9:00am – 2:00pm  
Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center  
4651 Britt Road, Norcross

### Gwinnett Team Challenge Disc Golf

May 15 • 9:00am  
Alexander Park  
800 Old Snellville Highway, Lawrenceville

### Line Dance-a-Thon

May 15 • 6:00pm – midnight  
Shorty Howell Park Activity Building  
2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth

### New trash plan includes expanded recycling

A new solid waste management plan is being rolled out for residents in unincorporated Gwinnett County. Service will begin on July 1, 2010, and will include greater recycling opportunities. For information, visit [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com) or call the Solid Waste Call Center at 770.822.7141.

## AROUND GWINNETT

### Memorial Day Ceremony honors Gwinnett's military heroes

The public is invited to Gwinnett County's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 31, 2010, at 1:00pm at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. This event is held each year to honor the county's past and present military heroes and public service personnel.



Members of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and honor guard units from the Gwinnett County Corrections, Fire and Emergency Services, Police and Sheriff's Departments, and the Lawrenceville Police Department will take part in this event.

The Fallen Heroes Memorial, located on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, honors all Gwinnett residents who died in the line of duty in military or public service.

For more information about the Fallen Heroes Memorial, visit [www.gwinnettfallenheroes.com](http://www.gwinnettfallenheroes.com).

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Reminder: Final 2009 tax bills due May 15

Payment is due on May 15 for the final 2009 property tax bills. Supplemental tax bills were sent to Gwinnett County property owners that reflect the increase in the County millage rate adopted by the Board of Commissioners last December. The final 2009 County millage rate of 13.25 is an increase of 2.28 mills over the temporary millage rate that was used to calculate tax bills mailed last September. Property owners are encouraged to read the important information included on the tax bill to help them understand this billing. Keep in mind that payment for this bill is due May 15 but previously unpaid balances may be due sooner.

If you have questions about your final bill, please contact the Gwinnett Tax Commissioner's Office at [tax@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:tax@gwinnettcountry.com) or 770.822.8800.

### Gwinnett County tag office May holiday hours

The Memorial Day holiday is Monday, May 31, 2010. Tag office work schedules are different during holiday weeks and the day following a holiday is typically very busy. To view the complete tag office 2010 holiday schedule, please visit the Tax Commissioner's website or call 770.822.8818.

Be first in line – every time; renew your vehicle online at [www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com).

### gwinnettcountry connection

send questions or comments to [shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcountry.com)

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