

gwinnett county connection

a monthly publication of **gwinnett**county government

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FEATURE

Save your stuff for America Recycles Day!

Come celebrate America Recycles Day with the Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division on **Saturday, November 17** from 9:00am to noon at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves. This free event will feature paper shredding, electronics recycling, and tire recycling (limit eight tires per vehicle, no dealer tires), kids' activities, and more!

Calling all volunteers!

Looking for some volunteer service hours? Volunteer with us during the America Recycles Day event. Volunteers will be assigned to serve from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Visit www.volunteergwinnett.net to sign up as a volunteer for this event.

America Recycles Day



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Detecting pollution in our waterways

Did you know that runoff that travels through the stormwater system is not treated before it reaches our waterways? Rainwater flows through our yards and streets through the inlets, pipes, and ditches directly to the streams that flow through our backyards. Because of this, we must take precautions to prevent pollutants from entering our storm drains and subsequently our streams.

In Gwinnett County, discharges to the stormwater system other than rainwater are against the *Illicit Discharge Illegal Connection Ordinance*. If you notice a suspected illicit discharge to the stormwater system or an illegal connection to the system, contact the Gwinnett County Stormwater Management Division at 678.376.7193. County employees find violations through work processes such as stream walks and pipe inspections.

When the County receives an illicit discharge complaint, staff members research the area and the surrounding stormwater infrastructure. They contact the complainant and go onsite to run tests or take samples to determine if a pollutant discharge has occurred. Once the source of the discharge has been found, appropriate enforcement action is taken.

Most often enforcement is addressed with guidance and education; other times, a notice of violation may be issued. In the worst-case scenario, a citation and/or fine can be issued. Please do your part and report any potential illicit discharge to 678.376.7193.

PUBLIC SAFETY

5 tips to keep kids safe this Halloween

Halloween should be a time of treats, not tragedies! Please observe the following tips to keep kids safe while trick-or-treating:

- Decorate your children's costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers, and choose light-colored costumes to improve visibility.
- Use non-toxic face paint and makeup instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- Kids should not carry sticks, swords, or other sharp objects.
- Kids should carry glow sticks or flashlights in order to see better and be seen by drivers. Liquid in glow sticks is hazardous, so parents should remind children not to chew on or break them.
- Check treats for signs of tampering before allowing your children to eat them. Throw away any candy that is unwrapped or if the wrapper is faded or torn.

Department of Water Resources • Stormwater Management Division

Detention Pond Maintenance Workshop

November 8, 2012 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Learn about the purpose, function, and aesthetic value of your detention pond along with some troubleshooting tips. Attendees from unincorporated Gwinnett County or the City of Lilburn may qualify for a maximum 5 percent credit towards their stormwater utility fee for the following year.

Please pre-register by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to dwrsreg@gwinnettcounty.com or calling 678.376.7193 (press 5).

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these listings to help take care of business. These and other titles are available at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

The Reluctant Entrepreneur: Turning Dreams Into Profits, by Michael Masterson

Julius Caesar, CEO: 6 Principles to Guide and Inspire Modern Leaders, by Alan Axelrod

Well Said! Presentations and Conversations That Get Results, by Darlene Price

Leading So People Will Follow, by Erika Andersen

SPLOST

Gwinnett plans to rebuild ladder truck

Commissioners approved a plan in September to purchase a new aerial ladder fire truck that will use the ladder from an older model owned by the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Harvesting old fire trucks is a new concept for the department, but it promises to save \$174,586.

The idea is to refurbish the 95-foot aerial ladder on a 1992 fire truck and remount it on a new chassis for a total cost of \$858,691. According to Fire Captain Tommy Rutledge, a brand new ladder truck would have cost just over \$1 million.

Gwinnett firefighters have used the old truck for the past 20 years to gain access to tall buildings and to provide elevated streams of water for firefighting. The combination of height and pumping capability often aids in rescuing victims, exposure protection at residential fires, and controlling major blazes. The new truck will feature a 1,500 gallon-per-minute pump, a 300-gallon booster tank, and storage compartments for firefighting and emergency medical equipment. It is set for delivery in July 2014 from Sutphen Corporation of Ohio.

"We're always looking for ways to trim the budget and still provide excellent service to our residents," said Fire Chief **Bill Myers**. "Harvesting equipment from older apparatus is an innovative idea that will allow us to leverage the use of SPLOST funds while still maintaining a high standard of equipment used by firefighters."

AROUND GWINNETT

International company builds partnership

The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (GEHC) and AGCO, a Duluth-based global manufacturer of agricultural equipment, are partnering to develop educational programming. The partnership has resulted in a gift valued at \$50,000 to the GEHC Foundation that will support programming for students, active seniors, and visitors with disabilities. This gift includes professional in-kind services and a Massey Ferguson 2670HD tractor, which will be used in programming and to create gardens and plant crops at heritage sites, including the Chesser-Williams House and McDaniel Farm. Guests will enjoy the tractor during old-fashioned hay rides and on a tram tour of the GEHC's forested trails.



"This partnership will allow students to experience the planting of a seed...and how this simple, biological process has a profound impact on the world economy," said **Steve Cannon**, the center's director. For more information about the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center, please visit www.gwinnettEHC.org.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Be first in line – every time!

Paying your property tax bill online is easy and fast. It's free to pay by check, or you can pay with a debit card for \$3.95 or use a credit card with a convenience fee. For more information or to pay online, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

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send questions or comments to shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com

Gwinnett County Communications Division
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County offices closed for Veterans Day

Please note that all offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of Gwinnett County, will be closed Monday, November 11 in observance of the Veterans Day holiday.

The public is invited to a **Veterans Day Ceremony** at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial in Lawrenceville on **Sunday, November 11 at 1:30pm** to celebrate and remember the men and women who have served and protected us throughout our nation's history.

EVENTS

Sign up for these and other great activities through the Community Services Department at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Parks & Recreation – 770.822.8840

5K Road Race & 1-Mile Fun Run

November 10 • Registration begins at 7:45am
Pre-Registered: \$20 • Onsite Registration: \$25
Proceeds benefit Gwinnett Parks Foundation
Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center
4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross

Holiday Craft Market • Free

November 17 • 10:00am – 3:00pm
Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center
4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross

25th Annual Lighting of the Tree • Free

November 22 • 5:00pm – 8:30pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Canvas Café Painting for the Cure

November 28 • 8:30am – 10:00pm
Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center
4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross

Health & Human Services – 770.822.8842

Championship Chess Instruction and Club for Ages 7 to 14

November 3 – December 15 • 10:00am – noon
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

Money Management and Life Skills for Ages 12 to 24 years

Saturdays • 10:00am – 11:30am
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross

linkup

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