

gwinnettcounty connection

a monthly publication of gwinnettcounty government

Sign up for
e-newsletters and
get the scoop:
gwinnettcounty.com

FEATURE

Save the date for the Public Safety Fall Festival

The Gwinnett County Police Department and the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services will host the third annual **Public Safety Fall Festival** on **October 6** from 10:00am – 4:00pm at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves. This event will feature fire truck, police motorcycle, and helicopter displays; safety training demonstrations; kids' activities; pet adoptions; community yard sale; and a softball face-off between Gwinnett County police officers and firefighters. Don't miss this fun festival! The event is free, and all members of the public are invited to attend.

For more information, please contact the Gwinnett Police Crime Prevention Unit at 770.338.4170 or Gwinnett Fire Community Risk Reduction-Education Section at 678.518.4850.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Adopt-a-Road in Gwinnett

Does it upset you to see trash on the side of the road? Have you ever thought about picking it up but don't know how to get started? Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful and Gwinnett County have the solution for you: the **Adopt-a-Road** program. This program is an opportunity for you to volunteer to clean up a stretch of road littered with trash and debris. To get started, simply contact Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful at 770.822.5187 or gwinnettcba@gwinnettcba.org for an information packet and registration form. After picking a stretch of road and registering your team of volunteers, your commitment to four cleanups throughout the year will help keep Gwinnett's roads clean and beautiful!



Last year, more than 1,000 volunteers cleaned up 939 miles of roadways in Gwinnett, which amounted to 120,000 pounds of litter. That's 60 tons of trash removed from the environment, which kept the rain from washing it down storm drains and into our rivers, lakes, and streams.

If you see someone dumping trash or debris illegally on the side of the road, please report the incident to the Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division at 770.822.7141. To report illegal dumping in storm drains, call the Stormwater Management Division at 678.376.7193. Be sure to identify the date and time of the dumping as well as a description of the person and vehicle involved.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Is your child safe in your car?

Car crashes remain the number one killer of children ages 3 to 14 in the U.S. Did you know it can take up to 12 years for some children to reach the height and weight (close to 5 feet tall, 80 to 100 pounds) to safely use a safety belt? Until then, children should always sit in the back seat and use the following stages of protection:

- **Under 3 years:** Infants and toddlers should use a rear-facing car seat as long as possible.
- **4 – 7 years:** Use a forward-facing car seat until the harness no longer fits or the child's ears are above the car seat.
- **8 – 12 years:** Once children outgrow the forward-facing car seat, they should sit in a booster seat.
- **Full-size children:** Children can begin using just a safety belt once they are the appropriate size and weight, their knees bend at the edge of the seat, and the shoulder belt rests on the shoulder or collar bone.

CHECK IT OUT

Gwinnett's annual **Fall into the Arts** cultural awareness program allows residents to experience the arts for free in support of the entertainment and lifelong learning they provide. Check out these Fall into the Arts titles and more at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org:

Thrall: Poems, by Natasha Trethewey

Return of the Library Dragon, by Carmen Agra Deedy

The Caine Mutiny, by Herman Wouk

Art groups and individual artists are invited to re-imagine a chair or bench and enter their creative works into the **Chair-ish the Arts @ Your Library** contest. Entries are due September 30.

Department of Water Resources

Homeowner H2O: Water Conservation Workshop

Learn how to detect and repair leaks, install water-efficient fixtures, and increase your family's water-saving behaviors. Participants will receive a low-flow home retrofit kit.

October 13, 2012 • 10:30am – noon
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

Pre-register by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to dwrconserve@gwinnettcounty.com or calling 678.376.6722. Please arrive early.

ELECTIONS

Register to vote in the November 6 General Election

The 2012 General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 6. Before you can cast a ballot, you must be registered to vote. The deadline to register to vote and be eligible to cast a ballot in the election is Tuesday, October 9. To register to vote in Georgia, you must be a citizen of the United States, a legal resident of Georgia and of the county in which you wish to vote, and at least 17 ½ years old. However, you must be 18 years old by Election Day to vote. You may not register to vote if you are currently serving any sentence imposed by the conviction of a felony or judicially determined to be mentally incompetent.



Registered voters may request an absentee ballot by mail beginning on Friday, September 21 or cast their ballots in person from October 15 – November 2, Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm at the Gwinnett County Elections Office, located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville. Saturday voting will also be available at the elections office and satellite voting locations on October 27 from 9:00am – 4:00pm.

In addition, satellite offices will be open October 29 – November 2 from 9:00am – 7:00pm at the Centerville Community Center in Snellville, George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center in Suwanee, Dacula Park Activity Building in Dacula, and Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center in Norcross. For more information about voter registration and advance voting, visit www.gwinnettelections.com.

AROUND GWINNETT

Make a difference for foster children

Did you know that there are about 8,000 children in foster care in Georgia and about 300 of them are in Gwinnett County? The Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) urges Gwinnett families to make a difference in children's lives by becoming foster parents. Get involved by attending an upcoming orientation sponsored by the Gwinnett County DFCS on October 15, November 5, or December 10.

The orientations will take place from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Clayton Commerce Center, 33 South Clayton Street in Lawrenceville. For more information, please call 1.877.210.5437 or email dfcsrd@gmail.com.

Learn helpful gardening tips from Gwinnett Cooperative Extension

Fall is the best time of the year to plant trees and shrubs. Their root systems will continue to grow and develop during cold weather. Establishing the plants now will allow them to better tolerate next year's hot, dry summer weather.

For more gardening and landscaping tips, contact the Cooperative Extension Service at 678.377.4010 or visit the Lawrenceville office located at 750 South Perry Street, Suite 400.



TAX COMMISSIONER

North Gwinnett Tag Office closed: September 15

The North Gwinnett Tag Office at 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard in Buford will be closed Saturday, September 15 while the Georgia Department of Revenue conducts computer system maintenance. The maintenance period will take place from 7:00pm on Friday, September 14 until 6:00am on Monday, September 17. During this period, Internet and telephone tag renewals will not be available. For more information, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

Reminder: Property taxes are due on October 15.

gwinnettcounty connection

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

Gwinnett County Communications Division
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • 770.822.7180

Water billing enhancements

Gwinnett County water and sewer customers can now view and pay their monthly water bills, opt-out of receiving paper bills, enroll in automatic payment, and sign up for email notification of bills online. Customers can also schedule a move-in, move-out, or transfer of service in addition to updating personal information. Visit www.gwinnetth2o.com to take advantage of these features.

EVENTS

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

Parks & Recreation – 770.822.8840

Cat Eye Night Hike

October 12 • 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center
100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Halloween Father Daughter Dance

October 26 • 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Big Hair Halloween Party

For residents with disabilities
October 27 • 7:00pm – 10:00pm
Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center
100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Health & Human Services – 770.822.8842

Fun, Interactive Math Workshop for Grades 3 to 10

October 13 • 1:00pm – 2:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

Hatha Yoga

October 1 – November 8 • 7:00pm – 8:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

Prostate Cancer Awareness • Free

October 11 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross

Environmental & Heritage Center –
770.904.3500

Fall Tree Walk

October 13 • 10:30am – 1:30pm
McDaniel Farm Park
3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

linkup

get county government
information from the source

gwinnettcounty.com

