

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 fourth annual **Public Safety Fall Festival** on **September 28** from 10:00am to 2:00pm 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. Everyone is invited to attend this free event, so bring the whole family. You won't want to miss out on the fun!

For more information, please contact the Gwinnett Police Crime Prevention Unit at 770.513.5119 or Gwinnett Fire Community Risk Reduction-Education Section at 678.518.4845.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Keeping your commute beautiful

The **Adopt-A-Road** litter prevention program is an initiative sponsored by Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation. The aim of this initiative is to enable residents to show community pride by reducing the amount of trash and illegal signage alongside county roads. Adopt-A-Road encourages civic involvement that directly benefits the community by cleaning up trash, preventing littering, and beautifying different areas of Gwinnett County.

To get started, first choose a road you and your group wish to adopt. The next step is to read the official Adopt-A-Road Agreement and contact Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful to confirm that you will maintain this location for at least 12 months with a minimum of four cleanups. This process has been streamlined to make each cleanup as hassle free and safe as possible by providing free trash bags, "Men Working" signs, and safety vests for your volunteer crew. Your efforts will be recognized through the placement of two signs placed on the adopted section of the roadway with the name of your group. After each cleanup, volunteers are encouraged to remove trash and dispose of it properly. Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation, will provide assistance for trash or debris that is too large or hazardous for your group to remove safely.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Road program or other volunteer opportunities, please visit www.gwinnettcba.org/volunteer or contact Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful at 770.822.5187 or gwinnettcba@gwinnettcba.org.

Department of Water Resources

Free Workshop! Fall Gardening and Composting Workshop

September 12, 2013 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Learn how to take advantage of the leaves that fall in your yard this autumn and prevent stormwater pollution at this free workshop.

Please pre-register by emailing your name, address, and phone number to dwrswreg@gwinnettcounty.com or calling 678.376.7193 (press 5).

PUBLIC SAFETY

6 tips for pedestrian safety

Another school year is here, which means more people are walking in our community. It is everyone's responsibility to know the laws pertaining to pedestrian safety.

Drivers:

1. Always yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk.
2. Be careful at intersections when making right turns on red; 90 percent of pedestrians die if hit by a car traveling 40 mph, compared to 5 percent at 20 mph.
3. Use caution when driving where people gather.

Pedestrians:

4. Be sure to cross the street at crosswalks.
5. If there are no pedestrian signals, cross with the green light.
6. When crossing with pedestrian signals, start crossing with the WALK light after looking both ways – the driver may also have a green light.

CHECK IT OUT

Want to learn more about U.S. history? Check out these and other titles at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Gettysburg: Turning Point of the Civil War, by Kelly Knauer

The Feud: The Hatfields and McCoys, The True Story, by Dean King

Here is Where: Discovering America's Great Forgotten History, by Andrew Carroll

The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America, by George Packer

SPLOST

Improvements coming to State Route 20

The last two-lane section of State Route 20 within Gwinnett County is now being widened. C.W Matthews Contracting Co. Inc. will widen almost 4 miles from Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to Burnette Trail in Sugar Hill. Construction is expected to take three years.

The Georgia Department of Transportation will also build two new two-lane bridges over the Chattahoochee River. Gwinnett County worked with GDOT to complete the engineering on both projects, and Forsyth County is working with the state to widen the road on their side of the river. Together, these projects are intended to improve traffic flow between Sugar Hill and Cumming. Planners expect traffic along this corridor to almost double over the next 20 years, up to 50,000 vehicles daily.

Approximately \$7 million from Gwinnett's SPLOST funded a portion of the engineering, right-of-way, and construction phases of work. State and federal governments are providing \$85 million for the bridge and roadway projects. State funds came from GRTA and the Georgia DOT. "It is a tremendous vote of confidence and a compliment to the experience and skill of the County's transportation staff and our contracted partners that GDOT has allowed us to take the lead with this project," said Board Chairman **Charlotte Nash**. "I am also grateful to GDOT for generously funding the project and providing relief for drivers on this heavily travelled road."

Be sure to check out footage of the official groundbreaking that took place on July 19 on www.tvgwinnett.com.



County offices closed: Labor Day

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents of the county, will be closed September 2 for the Labor Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours on September 3. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Labor Day is not a trash holiday.

EVENTS

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents.

See these great events and more at www.gwinnettcounevents.com.

Create It Theater for Youth

September 3, 10, 17, 24 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross
770.638.5661

Landscape Design Series

September 5, 12, 19 • 7:00pm – 8:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
770.985.4713

Remembering 9/11 and Preparing for the Unexpected

September 11 • 11:30am to 1:00pm
Buford Human Services Center
2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford
770.614.2526

Twilight Hike

September 13 • 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Jones Bridge Park
4901 East Jones Bridge Road, Norcross
678.277.0920

Princess and Me Father Daughter Dance

September 13 • 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 West Crogan Street, Lawrenceville
770.822.5450

Mamma Mia! Art and Dinner

September 27 • 7:00pm – 9:30pm
George Pierce Park
Community Recreation Center
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee
678.277.0910

AROUND GWINNETT

Understand your property taxes

After holding three public meetings and accepting comments, commissioners on July 16 adopted the property tax rates that formed the basis for this year's budget. Tax rates will vary based on a property's location and what services Gwinnett County provides. The county government portion of your tax bill will be broken out by service districts for fire and EMS, Loganville EMS, police, and development/code enforcement and will also contain levies assessed countywide for general operations and voter-approved debt and recreation. This billing method lets homeowners see exactly what services they are paying for and receiving from the County. Read more at www.gwinnettcounevents.com. Property tax bills will be mailed by August 3 and due October 3.

FOCUS ON: Traffic Control Center and Purchasing

FOCUS ON tells the story of how your county government employees provide high-quality services to you each and every day. August features the Department of Transportation's Traffic Control Center, which keeps traffic moving safely and efficiently, and the County's Purchasing Division, which helps procure goods and supplies services that departments need to provide high-quality service to Gwinnett County residents, like the equipment used to monitor our daily commutes. To read more, visit www.gwinnettcounevents.com.

TAX COMMISSIONER

North Gwinnett tag office closed Saturday, September 14

The North Gwinnett tag office at 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard in Buford will be closed Saturday, September 14 while the Georgia Department of Revenue conducts computer system maintenance. Online and telephone renewals will also be unavailable from 7:00pm Friday, September 13 until 6:00am Monday, September 16. For a tag office schedule, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

gwinnettcounevents.com connection

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

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