

gwinnettcounty connection

a monthly publication of gwinnettcounty government

County offices
closed July 4:
Independence Day

FEATURE

Animal Welfare picked to take the Rachael Ray \$100K challenge

The Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center has been chosen as a contender in the ASPCA Rachael Ray™ \$100K challenge. Throughout the months of June, July, and August of this year, each competing shelter must save more dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens than they did during the same three months in 2013. Winners of the challenge could earn \$5,000 to \$100,000 in grant money from the ASPCA helping to find homes for more animals in Gwinnett County and helping low-income families spay/neuter their pets.

Several activities are planned during these summer months, so visit www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com to find out how you can take part in the challenge.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Stormwater wins regional award for management program

The Gwinnett County Stormwater Management Division earned the Atlanta Regional Commission's 2013 CREATE Community Award for the development and implementation of the Stormwater Strategic Asset Management Plan.

The plan outlines a proactive inspection and maintenance program for more than 1,300 miles of stormwater pipe and more than 90,000 drainage structures throughout the county. In 2009, the program began using established criteria for likelihood of failure and consequence of failure to prioritize inspections and subsequent repairs, rather than simply reacting to emergencies. A mixture of technological applications including GIS, GPS, databases, cameras, and more were used to plan, implement, and track the progress of the program.

As a result, the Stormwater Management Division is now better able to anticipate potential failures in high-risk areas and make repairs before a public hazard forms, such as a sinkhole. The plan also has a positive effect on water quality by identifying potential sources of sediment, as well as illegal connections to the stormwater drainage system.

Stormwater management crews and contractors use pole cameras to record a video of the inside of structures and pipes. These videos are reviewed using a pipeline assessment protocol that results in a list of assets with a condition score. This list is used to prioritize repairs or enhancements to the infrastructure. If you have a problem related to the stormwater drainage system, contact the Gwinnett Stormwater Management Division to make a report at 678.376.7193.

Department of Water Resources

Free Workshops!

Smart Irrigation Workshop

July 24, 2014 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

July is traditionally the month of peak water demand for lawns, gardens, and landscapes, which can lead to higher than expected water bills. By learning to water smarter, homeowners can keep their yards green without wasting water and money.

All participants will receive a free outdoor water efficiency kit.

Please pre-register by sending an email with your name and address to dwrconserve@gwinnettcounty.com or call 678.376.6722.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Be safe while enjoying fireworks

Fireworks are a popular way to celebrate our nation's Independence Day. Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services suggests leaving fireworks displays to the professionals. In addition, some fireworks are illegal for consumer use, such as Roman candles, bottle rockets, and firecrackers. Sparkler-type fireworks are okay to use; however caution must be taken to avoid injury. Here are some tips to be safe when using sparklers:

- Never give fireworks to children and store them in a cool, dry place, away from open flame.
- Never attempt to re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and use a BBQ/fireplace lighter to keep a safe distance away.

For more safety tips on using fireworks, visit www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these titles that will take you around the world this summer. These and other titles are available at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Cutting For Stone, by Abraham Verghese

Winter's Bone, by Daniel Woodrell

Never Let Me Go, by Kazuo Ishiguro

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot

The Last King of Scotland, by Giles Foden

SPLOST

Soccer fields coming to Rock Springs Park

Three new lighted soccer fields and a building for concessions and restrooms will be under construction next year at Rock Springs Park. Last month, Gwinnett commissioners approved a contract with McFarland-Dyer and Associates Inc. of Suwanee to develop construction documents for the new facilities. The firm was the lowest short-listed bidder at a fee not to exceed \$242,000.

The 113-acre park currently has a football field with a lighted walking track and six lighted tennis courts plus a playground, pavilion, and a two-mile paved multi-purpose trail. It opened in 2008 at the intersection of Old Peachtree Road and Rock Springs Road, between Suwanee and Lawrenceville.

"Residents recommended and approved this new phase in the development of Rock Springs Park as part of the 2009 SPLOST program, so I'm pleased we are now delivering on that promise," said District 1 Commissioner **Jack Brooks**. *"The much-needed soccer complex will serve the area well."*



County offices closed: Independence 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 on Friday, July 4 for Independence Day. All offices will resume regular working hours on Monday, July 7. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. It is not a trash holiday for residents in unincorporated Gwinnett County.

EVENTS

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at gwinnettcouentyevents.com.

An Engaging Affair Summer Bridal Show

July 6 • 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville
770.822.5450

Brown Bag Concert • FREE!

July 11 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville
770.822.5450

Fraud Smart: Protect Yourself From Scams • FREE!

July 16 • 6:00pm to 7:30pm
Five Forks Library
2780 Five Forks-Trickum Road, Lawrenceville
678.377.4010

Kids' Night Out

July 18 • 6:00pm to 9:30pm
George Pierce Park
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee
678.277.0910

AARP CarFit Program • FREE!

July 29 • 9:00am to 1:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
770.985.4713

Invasive Plants Class • FREE!

July 30 • noon to 1:00pm
Gwinnett County Extension Office
750 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville
678.377.4010

AROUND GWINNETT

Grants information network available at Lawrenceville library branch

Nonprofit organizations and other grant seekers in Gwinnett County now have access to a valuable new collection of resources at Gwinnett County Public Library's Lawrenceville branch. The Funding Information Network offered by the Foundation Center of New York is available on any Lawrenceville branch computer or through the branch's WiFi connection. The Funding Information Network at Lawrenceville can be used to search thousands of grant makers and foundations, find grants for organizations and individuals, learn about grant writing basics and budget narratives, and access print directories and resources.

For more information about Foundation Center resources, visit www.foundationcenter.org. To learn more about Gwinnett County Public Library's programs and services, please visit www.gwinnettpl.org or call 770.978.5154.

FOCUS ON: Road Assessment Team

FOCUS ON is a monthly feature that tells how your county government employees focus on providing high-quality services to you each and every day. This month features the Department of Transportation's road condition assessment team that travels every road in Gwinnett County to measure and prioritize necessary repairs to 2,700 miles of roadway the County maintains. To read more, please visit www.gwinnettcouety.com.



TAX COMMISSIONER

Be first in line – every time!

Paying your property or motor vehicle taxes has never been easier thanks to the ability to pay online. Gwinnett County residents can pay their taxes from just about anywhere at www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

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

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information from the source

gwinnettcouety.com

