

gwinnettcounty connection

a monthly publication of gwinnettcounty government

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FEATURE

Check out the annual water quality report

The Department of Water Resources has published WaterWords, an annual report containing important information about the quality of your drinking water. In 2013, the department detected 12 contaminants in the drinking water it produces. These contaminants were below allowable levels, however, and no health-based violations were reported. To view the annual water quality report and learn more about your drinking water, visit www.gwinnettwaterwords.com.

If you have questions about this report or want additional information, contact the DWR Environmental Laboratory at 770.614.2080. You can reach Water Production Director Alan Berg at 678.376.4200 or request tours of the water plants for yourself or your school group by calling 678.376.4200. For more information about how DWR maintains the safety of your drinking water, visit www.gwinnett20.com.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Is your old toilet worth \$100?

Toilet flushing accounts for the largest percentage of indoor water use in the average home. By replacing an old or leaking toilet with a new high-efficiency model, you could save thousands of gallons each month. The Department of Water Resources participates in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's regional Toilet Rebate Program for single-family homes. Through the program, DWR provides \$100 rebates to qualified homeowners for replacing old, inefficient toilets.

To meet the requirements for the rebate program, you must have an individual residential water account with DWR and be up to date on your bill payments. Your home must have been built in 1993 or earlier and the new toilet must be an approved WaterSense®-certified toilet that uses 1.28 gallons per flush or less. Customers may apply for up to two rebates per household for a maximum of \$200 of account credit. For more details about this program and to download an application, please visit the Metro Water District website at www.northgeorgiawater.org, email toiletrebate@northgeorgiawater.org, or call 404.463.8645.

Residents in Gwinnett County who replace their old toilets can drop them off to be recycled for free 24-hours a-day, seven-days-a-week at DWR's Central Facility in Lawrenceville. The porcelain is recycled by breaking it up and mixing it into stone aggregate to be used for landscaping, pipe beds, or as a road base. Since Gwinnett County began its recycling program in February 2011, more than of 240 tons of porcelain have been diverted from our landfills. For more information about our toilet recycling program, please visit www.dwrconserve.com.

Department of Water Resources

Free Workshops!

Homeowner H2O: Water Conservation

June 17, 2014 • 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Norcross Human Services Center • 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross

This free workshop will provide the knowledge and tools you need to increase water efficiency in your home. Attendees will receive a low-flow retrofit kit, outdoor water efficiency kit, do-it-yourself home water audit guide, and information on how to apply for Gwinnett County's toilet rebate program.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tips to keep kids safe around water

According to Safe Kids Gwinnett, more than 700 children under age 14 died in 2009 in the United States due to unintentional drowning. Here's how you can help keep your children safe around water:

- **Lock:** Make sure your pool is surrounded by a fence with self-closing and self-latching gates. Install anti-entrapment drain covers and backup devices.
- **Look:** Always watch children when they are around any type of water, even if they know how to swim. If a child is missing, check the water first.
- **Learn:** Learn how to swim and use a Coast Guard approved life jacket. Learn CPR and how to use rescue equipment. Teach your children water safety rules.

For more information about drowning and water safety, visit www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these books on America's favorite pastime. These and other good reads are available at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Baseball, an American Classic: The World Series at 100, by Ken Leiker

The Art of Fielding: A Novel, by Chad Harbach

You Can Observe a Lot by Watching: What I've Learned about Teamwork from the Yankees and Life, by Yogi Berra

Baseball in Atlanta, by Paul Crater

Calico Joe, by John Grisham

SPLOST

Board allocates 2014 SPLOST funds

On April 16, 2014, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners allocated 2014 SPLOST program funds within the public safety category and approved project lists in accordance with the purposes outlined in the referendum approved by voters last November. In addition to public safety, other purposes include transportation, recreation, senior services, and libraries. All 16 cities in Gwinnett County are also sharing in the sales tax proceeds.

Project selection for these purposes involved heavy public input, with recommendations for both the transportation and recreation lists coming from committees made up of residents.

To view the 2014 SPLOST budget, visit www.gwinnettsplost.com.



County offices closed for Memorial 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, May 26**, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

The public is invited to a **Memorial Day Ceremony** at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial in Lawrenceville at 1:00pm to celebrate and remember the men and women who have served and protected us throughout our nation's history.

AROUND GWINNETT

Poll officials needed for elections

The Voter Registrations and Elections Division needs dedicated citizens to serve as paid poll officials for the 2014 elections. Successful poll officials demonstrate patience, enjoy working with people, take direction well, and are detail oriented. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen and a resident of Gwinnett County, at least 16 years old, and able to read, write, and speak English. Those who were convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude or judicially determined to be mentally incompetent are not eligible to serve as a poll official. To apply, please visit www.gwinnettcountryjobs.com.

Chairman Nash appointed to ACCG Board of Managers

Gwinnett Chairman Charlotte Nash was sworn in by Governor Nathan Deal as First Vice President of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia and will serve as part of the association's 40-member Board of Managers for the next year. She is slated to become the association's next president in April 2015. ACCG is Georgia's county association and works on behalf of county officials and their communities by providing public policy and legislative advocacy, leadership development, civic and community engagement initiatives, insurance and retirement programs that specialize in local government needs, and other cost-saving programs.

As ACCG First Vice President, Chairman Nash will serve as a member of the group's executive committee and work with the other officers to lead the association and guide policies. She is also charged as the board liaison to the association's membership services programs, including insurance, retirement, technical assistance and preferred partnerships. In addition, she will chair the ACCG Policy Council, which helps to guide the association's advocacy efforts before the Georgia General Assembly and Congress.

FOCUS ON: Senior Services

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 Gwinnett County Senior Services and the many ways the staff helps to enhance the quality of life for Gwinnett's growing senior population. To read more, visit www.gwinnettcountry.com.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Senior emission exemptions are available

If you are age 65 or older, are a registered owner of a vehicle 10 model years old or older and drive less than 5,000 miles a year, you may be eligible for an emission inspection exemption. You can apply online at CleanAirForce.com or at a Gwinnett tag office. Please visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com for locations.

EVENTS

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

See these great events and more at gwinnettcounevents.com.

Brown Bag Concert

June 6 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville
770.822.5450

Home Food Preservation: Canning and Freezing the Safe Way • FREE!

June 6 • 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
678.377.4010

Kids Fishing Day

June 7 • 9:00am to 1:00pm
Jones Bridge Park
4901 East Jones Bridge Road, Norcross
678.277.0920

Living Well: A Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

Wednesdays, June 18 – July 23 • 9:30am to noon
Buford Human Services Center
2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford
678.225.5360

Aloha Summer Hawaiian Luau

June 21 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Mountain Park Aquatic Center
1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain
678.277.0870

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

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information from the source

gwinnettcountry.com

