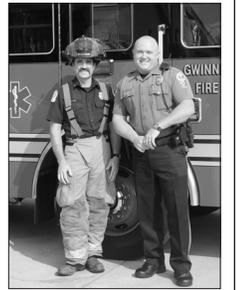


FEATURE

Meet your police officers and firefighters at the annual Public Safety Fall Festival

The Gwinnett County Police Department and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services will host the fifth annual Public Safety Fall Festival on Saturday, September 27 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves. This free event will feature fire apparatus and police vehicle displays, safety training demonstrations, kids' activities, pet adoptions, and a softball face-off between Gwinnett County police officers and firefighters. Everyone is invited to attend, so bring the whole family. You won't want to miss out on the fun!

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



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Save water and sales tax in October

Columbus Day and Halloween will be joined by another holiday this October: the state of Georgia's sales tax holiday for select WaterSense and Energy Star products. WaterSense-labeled products for household use with a sales price of \$1,500 or less will be exempt from sales tax October 3 – 5, making it a great time to change from standard to water-efficient appliances.

WaterSense-labeled products use at least 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than conventional models. To find a list of WaterSense-labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense/product_search.html. If you have questions or need more information about the sales tax holiday, visit www.gefa.georgia.gov/energy-star-and-watersense-sales-tax-holiday or call Georgia's Taxpayer Services Division at 1.877.423.6711.

Don't forget you can also take advantage of the toilet rebate program sponsored by Water Resources and the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. By replacing an old toilet, residents may qualify for up to a \$100 rebate. Customers may apply for up to two rebates per household for a maximum of \$200 of account credit. For more information and to see if you qualify, visit www.DWRconserve.com.



PUBLIC SAFETY

Tips to keep young athletes safe

With the start of the fall sports season, our young athletes are headed back to the field and the gym. Safe Kids USA urges athletes, parents, and coaches to encourage safe play. Here are some tips to help keep young athletes playing safe and strong:

1. Set ground rules at the beginning of the season: Coaches, be sure to bring together parents and athletes before the season begins to agree on the team's approach to prevent injuries.
2. Teach athletes ways to prevent injuries: Proper technique, strength training, warm-up exercises, and stretching can go a long way toward preventing injuries.
3. Encourage athletes to speak up when they get an injury: Remove injured athletes from play.

For more, visit www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

Department of Water Resources

Free Workshop! Homeowner H2O: Water Conservation

October 4, 2014 • 2:00pm to 3:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

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, a do-it-yourself home water audit guide, and information on how to apply for Gwinnett County's toilet rebate program.

Please pre-register by emailing your name, address, and phone number to dwrconserve@gwinnettcountry.com or by calling 678.376.6722.

CHECK IT OUT

Did you know you can stream videos from your library? Here are just a few featured videos you can access from the streaming videos section of the catalog at www.gwinnettpl.org.

Bill Frisell: Solos—The Jazz Sessions

Girls in Their Summer Dresses (and Other Stories)

Flannery O'Connor's The Displaced Person

Inside the Presidency: Eisenhower vs. Nixon

Profiles: John L. Lewis

SPLOST

Renovations approved for Bethesda Park pools

Renovations are in store for the Bethesda Park Aquatic Center at 225 Bethesda Church Road near Lawrenceville. Funds from the 2009 SPLOST program will pay for the \$408,107 contract commissioners approved in August with low bidder Poolside Inc.



The year-round indoor instructional pool and leisure pool will both get new tile along with new mechanical skimmers, grates, float assemblies, and equalizers. Drains and HVAC ducts will be cleaned and a new system installed to remove chloramines from the air at pool level to improve air quality. The contract also includes replacing the play structure.

Project Administration Division Director **Grant Guess** said, "We're using SPLOST funds to renovate existing facilities like this one in order to extend their life and improve operational efficiency."

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation, a finalist for the national Gold Medal Award presented by the National Recreation and Park Association after winning it in 2008, operates 17 aquatic facilities. Pool types include indoor competition, instructional, lap, and indoor and outdoor leisure/water parks. General attendance at county pools numbered around 418,000 visits last year. For information about hours, fees, swim lessons, or facility rentals, please visit www.gwinnettparks.com or call 678.277.0880.

AROUND GWINNETT

Final Human Trafficking Forum held September 23

The Gwinnett Human Relations Commission is presenting a series of forums to raise awareness of human trafficking in the community. Attendees will learn what human trafficking is, how to identify it, its underlying causes, how to report it, and how other agencies intervene and rescue victims. The commission's final forum will be held Tuesday, September 23 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Buford Community Center, located at 2200 Buford Highway. To register, please send an email to hrc@gwinnettcountry.com and include Human Trafficking Forums as the email subject.

Sign up to volunteer for Great Days of Service

Join the cause and sign up to volunteer for the 15th annual Gwinnett Great Days of Service at www.volunteergwinnett.net. This year's event will be held October 24 – 25. Volunteers will be able to choose from more than 300 different projects. This annual event offers Gwinnett residents the opportunity to donate their time and energy to doing community service and helping those in need. For more information, visit www.gwinnettgreatdaysofservice.org.

FOCUS ON: Voter Registrations and Elections

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 Voter Registrations and Elections Division that works throughout the year to make every vote count in Gwinnett County. To read more, visit www.gwinnettcountry.com.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Property tax bills due October 1

The 2014 Gwinnett County property tax bills were mailed in August with a single due date of October 1. If you have an escrow account, your property tax information is available to your mortgage company; however, it is your responsibility to ensure taxes are paid. For more information about ways to pay or to pay online, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

Pay your water bill with your smartphone

Visit www.gwinnetth2o.com using your smartphone to easily pay your water bill on the go. Just have your username or water account number and password ready. You can use this convenient service for nonrecurring, one-time only payments.

EVENTS

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

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

Nutrition Certificate Program • FREE!

October 3 to November 21
12:30pm to 2:00pm
Buford Human Services Center
2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford
678.225.5360

The Taste of Centerville, A Community Celebration

October 11 • 11:00am to 4:00pm
Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian
3750 Zoar Church Road SW, Snellville
770.979.2467

Creatures of the Night Festival

October 17 • 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center
2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford
770.904.3500

Spooktacular Dance and Play Party

October 18 • 1:30pm to 3:00pm
and 3:30pm to 5:30pm
Bogan Park Community Recreation Center
2723 North Bogan Road, Norcross
678.277.0850

Park'nership Cleanup Day • FREE!

October 25 • 9:00am to noon
Little Mulberry Park
3800 Hog Mountain Road, Dacula
678.277.0900

Haunted Halloween Festival

October 25 • 5:00pm to 8:00pm
Lucky Shoals Park
Community Recreation Center
4651 Britt Road, Norcross
678.277.0860

gwinnettcountry connection

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

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

linkup

get county government
information from the source

gwinnettcountry.com

