

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

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APRIL 2015



Celebrate National Drinking Water Week

Ever wonder where your water comes from? Find out Saturday, May 9 at Shoal Creek Filter Plant as Water Resources celebrates National Drinking Water Week. The celebration takes place from 10:00am to 2:00pm and includes a tour of the filter plant, kids' activities, and free refreshments. County departments will set up informational displays and representatives will be on hand to answer any questions. The Shoal Creek Filter Plant is located at 1755 Buford Dam Road in Buford. If you have any questions about this event, please call 678.376.4200.

Town Hall Meeting with the Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, May 12 • 6:15pm to 8:30pm
Hudgens Center for the Arts
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Building 300 • Duluth
www.gwinnettcounty.com

Check out the
latest episode of
Eye on Gwinnett



AROUND GWINNETT

Celebrate Earth Day at the County's free recycling event

Please join the Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division on Saturday, April 18, 2015, at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves, as we celebrate Earth Day with a free recycling event. This event will feature paper shredding (limit five copier paper boxes), electronics recycling (\$10 cash fee per TV), tire recycling (limit eight tires per vehicle; no dealer tires), paint collection (limit five one-gallon cans per vehicle; cans must contain 25 percent wet, usable paint; no paint thinners, stains, spackle, oil paint cans, rusted paint cans, or dried-up paint), and toner/printer cartridge collection. Please also bring your gently used or old sneakers to be donated to those in need or recycled into surfaces for local playgrounds and running tracks.

Kids will enjoy free activities like touch-a-truck, and adults will get to meet the haulers. If you would like to volunteer, please visit www.volunteergwinnett.net to sign up for this event.

Tax Assessors Office issues real estate property annual notice of assessments

Most residential and commercial annual notice of assessments were mailed April 3, 2015. An annual notice of assessment is not a tax bill. The notice informs you of the value assessed on your residential or commercial real estate as of January 1, 2015. If you do not agree with the notice value, you may appeal during the 45-day appeal period, which begins from the date on your notice and ends 45 days later (May 18 for those dated April 3). Visit www.gwinnett-assessor.com to appeal your 2015 value electronically or submit a completed PT311A state appeal form to the Tax Assessors Office before the end of the 45-day appeal period.

FOCUS ON: Prison Awareness Program

FOCUS ON tells the story of how your county government employees provide high-quality services to you each and every day. April features the Department of Corrections' Prison Awareness Program, which aims to prevent troubled youth from becoming residents of the County's correctional facility. To read more, visit please www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Save money and time... manage your water bill online

Did you know you can start, stop, and transfer your services online at www.gwinnetth2o.com? You can also make a one-time online payment, schedule a future payment, or enroll in our free Automatic Payment Advantage program. Just have your username or water account number and password ready.

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

Open Mic Variety Show

May 5 • 1:00pm to 3:30pm
Bethesda Park Senior Center
225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville
678.277.0179

Pest Control in the Vegetable Garden • FREE!

May 6 • 6:30pm to 8:00pm
Snellville Community Garden in T.W. Briscoe Park
2500 Sawyer Parkway SW, Snellville
678.377.4010

Job Readiness Workshop • FREE!

May 9 • 9:00am to Noon
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross
678.225.5400

AARP Smart Driver Course

May 12 • 9:30am to 4:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
770.985.4713

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

Gwinnett County Communications Division
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046
770.822.7180 • www.gwinnettcounty.com

Questions about your water bill? Call 678.376.6800.



gwinnettSPLOST.com

your pennies
for transportation

Gwinnett's second DDI opens

Last month, the Jimmy Carter Boulevard bridge over I-85 opened as a new Diverging Diamond Interchange, Gwinnett County's second DDI and the third in Georgia. The DDI's innovative design relieves congestion, improves safety, and is less expensive than replacing the bridge. Funding for the project comes from the 2009 SPLOST sales tax program, the Gwinnett Village Community Improvement District, and the State Road and Tollway Authority.

Construction will continue on the center median and pedestrian facilities while crews finalize the signals, interchange lighting, and pavement markings. In the meantime, pedestrian traffic should continue to use the detour route of Jimmy Carter Boulevard to Oakbrook Parkway to Center Way to Goshen Springs Road to Jimmy Carter Boulevard and the reverse. Project completion is expected this summer.

For more information on how to drive the diamond, including a video rendering of the completed project, please visit www.gwinnettddi.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Department hosts second annual Gwinnett Multicultural Festival

The second annual Gwinnett Multicultural Festival will take place **Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 11:00am to 3:00pm** at Gwinnett Place Mall, located at 2100 Pleasant Hill Road in Duluth, near the Satellite Boulevard and Tandy Key Lane entrance. The event offers families the opportunity to see the services provided by the Gwinnett County Police Department and interact with officers.

In addition to meeting officers from various units such as Animal Welfare and Enforcement, Crime Prevention, CSI, and the DUI Task Force, families can receive free car seat checks and enjoy kids' activities, police vehicles and fire truck displays, K-9 demonstrations, cultural performances, a rock wall, inflatables, and food vendors.

For more information about the festival, please contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 770.513.5119.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Dispose of household hazardous wastes the right way

Many of the products that we use frequently around the house come with warning labels to prevent harm to our bodies, but did you know that they can also harm the environment if they are not disposed of properly? Household products such as herbicides, pesticides, paints, solvents, batteries, automobile fluids, and some cleaning products that are thrown away or dumped in our stormwater drainage system, which includes drains, pipes, and ditches, can harm the health of our rivers, lakes, and streams. These drains lead directly to surface waters.

Discharges to the stormwater drainage system are also considered violations of the County's *Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Ordinance*. If you know of or see individuals dumping hazardous substances into storm drains, drainage ditches, or streams, call 678.376.7193 and choose option 2 to report the violation.

There are several options available to properly dispose of or recycle these products. One is to give away used products to someone who can use them. There are also local retailers who participate in recycling programs for your old electronics and certain household wastes such as used motor oil, batteries, and light bulbs. Always be sure to consult the label for guidance concerning proper usage and disposal methods. For more information on how to dispose of household hazardous wastes, please visit www.gwinnettcba.org/recycling or the County's recycling directory at www.sustainablegwinnett.com.

Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Reminder: Mobile home tax payments due May 1

Mobile home tax bills are mailed in January of each year and are due May 1. Once full payment is received, a decal for the current year is issued. All mobile homes in Gwinnett are required to have the current decal visibly posted. Please visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com for more information.

CHECK IT OUT

Download these titles and other music for your kids, free with your library card and courtesy of OverDrive. These and other titles are available at the Gwinnett Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Kidz Bop 80s Gold

NOW That's What I Call Disney

120 Sing Along Songs

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop!
Water Wise Landscaping

May 12, 2015 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center
Auditorium
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, Georgia

Gwinnett Extension Service Division Director Robert Brannen will present methods and tips to help you transform your yard into a water wise landscape, saving you time and money on maintenance.

All participants will receive a free outdoor water efficiency kit.

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