

# gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

## JUNE 2015



### Police department hosts first citizens academy for clergy

The Gwinnett County Police Department will host its first-ever Clergy Citizens Police Academy this summer. This academy will give local clergy members an opportunity to learn more about their police department. Topics that will be covered during the academy include organizational structure, criminal investigations, 911 operations, use of force, internal affairs, K-9, SWAT, traffic enforcement, and gang investigations.

Five sessions will be held on Mondays at noon to 5:00pm from August 17 to September 21. Clergy members who are interested in joining the Citizens Police Academy can obtain an application from the Gwinnett County Police Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association's website at [www.gwinnettcpa.com](http://www.gwinnettcpa.com). Applications must be received no later than August 3 to be considered for this session; applications received after the deadline will be considered for future sessions. For more information, please email [citizenpoliceacademy@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:citizenpoliceacademy@gwinnettcounty.com).

County offices closed  
July 3 for Independence Day

## AROUND GWINNETT

### Public library kicks off annual Summer Reading Program

Gwinnett County Public Library will host Summer Reading Program kickoff events for kids and teens at all 15 library branches beginning June 1. The Summer Reading Program encourages children to develop a lifelong habit of reading. Reluctant readers will be drawn in by numerous activities and programs that are scheduled throughout the summer.

*"Reading over the summer also allows children to keep their skills up and helps prevent brain drain,"* said GCPL Youth Services Manager **Amy Billings**. *"Recreational reading helps develop competencies such as fluency and vocabulary and exposes kids and teens to a wider world."* To sign up or to learn more about the Summer Reading Program, please visit [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org).

### Protect yourself and your home from mosquitoes

To reduce the mosquito population around your home, eliminate breeding areas by cleaning gutters, replacing water in birdbaths, draining flowerpot saucers, and removing any other sources of standing water. If you would like more information about how to prevent mosquitoes, contact the Gwinnett Extension Service at 678.377.4010 or [extensionservice@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:extensionservice@gwinnettcounty.com).

### FOCUS ON: Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office Jail Division

*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 Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office Jail Division and the people who maintain a safe and secure environment at the Pre-Trial Detention Center that houses approximately 2,200 inmates each day. To read more, please visit [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).



### 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, will be closed Friday, July 3 for the Independence Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours Monday, July 6. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Trash service in unincorporated Gwinnett will not be affected by the holiday.

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these and more at [www.gwinnettcountyevents.com](http://www.gwinnettcountyevents.com).

#### Going Nuts! • FREE!

July 8 • 10:00am to 11:00am  
Buford Senior Center  
2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford  
678.377.4010

#### Job Readiness Workshop • FREE!

July 11 • 9:00am to Noon  
Norcross Human Services Center  
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross  
678.225.5400

#### Family Movie Day • FREE!

July 15 • 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
Centerville Community Center  
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville  
770.985.4713

#### Family Night Swim

July 17 • 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Collins Hill Park Aquatic Center  
2200 Collins Hill Road, Lawrenceville  
770.237.5647

### gwinnettcounty connection

send questions or comments to  
[shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com)

Gwinnett County Communications Division  
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046  
770.822.7180 • [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com)

Questions about your water bill? Call 678.376.6700.



gwinnettSPLOST.com

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for transportation

### SPLOST funds upgrades to road, bridge

A new bridge across the Alcovy River is coming to Old Fountain Road, and safety and alignment upgrades are in store for Old Norcross Road at its intersection with Ingram Road. Commissioners awarded construction contracts for both projects using funds from the 2009 SPLOST program.

The bridge replacement project will improve sight distance and add a center turn lane to provide for left turns into neighborhoods adjacent to the bridge. Sidewalk, curb, gutter, and drainage improvements are also included in the \$2.8 million contract. Work is expected to be completed mid-2016.

A second project will raise Ingram Road to improve sight distance and safety at its intersection with Old Norcross Road. The project will add a right turn lane onto Ingram Road along with sidewalk, curb, gutter and drainage improvements. Completion is expected by the end of the year.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Make a safe splash into summer

Pools and aquatic centers are open now that summer is here! Swimmers should be aware that many backyard, apartment complex, and subdivision pools have no life-guard, requiring extra diligence from caregivers. Follow these safety rules while you're having fun in the sun:

- **Supervise:** Never take your eyes off children who are in and around the water.
- **Use barriers:** Fences with self-closing or self-latching gates and secured doors with alarms can prevent young children from wandering into the pool.
- **Avoid entrapment:** Suction from a pool drain is so powerful it can trap an adult underwater. Be sure to check for and replace missing or broken drain covers.
- **Learn to swim:** All family members should learn how to swim. Wear a flotation device if you can't swim.
- **Know how to respond:** Learn CPR and basic rescue skills.

For more information, visit [www.gwinnettsafety411.com](http://www.gwinnettsafety411.com) or [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org). You can also schedule a water safety program with the Gwinnett Fire Community Risk Reduction Division at 678.518.4845.



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Stormwater project highlight: Pounds Lake restoration

The Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources' mission is to enhance quality of life by providing excellent water, wastewater, and stormwater services at the best possible value to our customers while preserving natural water resources. The award-winning lake, stream, and wetland restoration project completed at Pounds Lake in the Stone Mountain area serves as one example of our commitment to customers and the environment. DWR initiated this project to improve habitat and water quality and provide flood control benefits.

The Pounds Lake restoration project repaired a historic stone masonry dam and increased channel protection, flood storage capacity, and lake volume. As a result of these efforts, a sustainable hydrologic system was established that includes the lake itself, creeks flowing to the lake, and adjacent wetlands in the area.

This project did not go unnoticed. The American Public Works Association—an organization that supports the people, agencies, and other organizations that plan, build, maintain, and improve our communities—recognized the Pounds Lake Restoration project with the Georgia Chapter Environmental Project of the Year award in 2015.

In addition to this accolade, the community surrounding the lake now has an enhanced amenity, complete with benches made of boulders recovered from the project and a fishery resulting from a partnership with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. As always, DWR will continue to identify and complete projects that will enhance our community, improve our environment, and preserve the quality of life we all enjoy.

Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Redesigned Tax Commissioner's website coming soon

The Tax Commissioner's office is redesigning its official website! In addition to the brand new look, it will be mobile responsive, making it even easier to pay property tax and renew your motor vehicle registration online. Visit the site at [www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com).

## CHECK IT OUT

Check out these videos to keep your kids entertained on summer road trips. They're available for free using your library card at [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org).

*Aboriginal Rock Art*, by National Geographic

*The Five Senses: Sight and Sound*, by McIntyre Media, Inc.

*There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, by Simms Taback

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop!

### Smart Irrigation

July 23, 2015 • 7:00pm – 8:00pm  
Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center  
Conference Room C  
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Water demand for lawns, gardens, and landscapes typically peaks in July, which can lead to higher than expected water bills. Join Gwinnett Extension Service Director Robert Brannen and learn how to water smarter and keep your yard green without wasting water or 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@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:dwrconserve@gwinnettcountry.com) or call 678.376.7126.