

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

MAY 2015



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 2014, the department detected 13 contaminants in the drinking water it produces. These contaminants were below allowable levels, however, and no health-based violations were reported. View the annual water quality report and learn more about your drinking water at www.gwinnettwaterwords.com.

If you have questions about this report or want additional information, contact the DWR Environmental Laboratory at 678.376.4272. The Water Production section manager may be reached at 678.376.4200. Tours of the water plants may be scheduled for school groups and individuals at 678.376.4200. For more information about how DWR maintains the safety of your drinking water, please visit www.gwinnetth2o.com.

County offices closed
May 25 for Memorial Day

AROUND GWINNETT

Nash appointed ACCG President

Last month, Gwinnett County Chairman Charlotte Nash was sworn in by Senator Johnny Isakson as President of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and will serve as part of the association's 40-member board of managers. 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 president, Chairman Nash will work with the ACCG executive director and board of managers to lead the association and guide policies over the next year. In addition, she will work with the board to update the strategic plan, which focuses on increasing county efficiencies, enhancing continuing education offerings, and fostering strong relationships between counties and the state and federal government.

Burn ban in Gwinnett through September 30

The Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services will observe a total burn ban on all outdoor burning from May 1 to September 30, 2015, in Gwinnett County. All types of outdoor or open burning are prohibited during this time period, including the burning of trees, limbs, or any other yard waste and the use of air curtain destructors for land clearing. For unincorporated residents, please contact your solid waste hauler to ask about adding yard waste service.

For more information, contact the Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services Community Risk Reduction Division at 678.518.4980 or visit www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com.

FOCUS ON: Gwinnett County treatment courts

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's treatment courts, a network of eight accountability courts that links offenders with public health professionals to provide treatment and support and ultimately reduce their chances of repeating criminal behavior. To read more, visit www.gwinnettcounty.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 25 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.

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

Create It Theatre Summer Camp for ages 5 to 14

June 1 to July 31 • 9:00am to 4:00pm
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross
404.826.4277

Kids Fishing Day • FREE!

June 6 • 9:00am to Noon
Jones Bridge Park
4901 East Jones Bridge Road, Peachtree Corners
678.277.0920

Babysitter Boot Camp for ages 11 to 18

June 6 and June 15 • 10:00am to 1:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
678.278.8396

Zumba Party in the Park

June 13 • 10:00am to Noon
Bogan Park Community Recreation Center
2723 North Bogan Road, Buford
678.277.0850

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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 678.376.6700.



gwinnettSPLOST.com

your pennies
for transportation

Commissioners approve pedestrian and school safety projects

Three pedestrian safety projects and a school safety project will soon get underway. Commissioners approved construction contracts for each of the projects in April.

Pedestrian safety projects:

- Sidewalk installation along the north side of Rockbridge Road beginning at East Park Place Boulevard and continuing east onto U.S. 78
- Sidewalk installation along the east side of North Road from Wisteria Drive to Pharrs Road and also west onto Dogwood Drive
- Sidewalk installation along the west side of Walton Court from U.S. 78 to Destin Circle

Dacula school safety project:

- Realignment of Broad Street where it intersects with Dacula Road
- Installation of turn lanes and a traffic signal
- Sidewalk installation along Dacula Road and Broad Street with curb and gutter and drainage improvements

The projects are funded by 2009 SPLOST and are expected to be complete by the end of 2015.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Sheriff's Office hosts third annual Jail Break Challenge

The Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office will host its third annual Jail Break Challenge on June 6 at 8:00am at the Gwinnett County jail, located at 750 Hi-Hope Road in Lawrenceville. This 5K obstacle run is designed to challenge runners of all levels. The course leads runners around the campus of the jail, where they will encounter all levels of terrain and extreme obstacles.

The event will feature three categories: Open Competitive, Team Competitive, and Non-Competitive. Proceeds support the Sheriff's Office's teen mentoring programs. Space is limited, so register soon at www.active.com. For more information, please visit www.jailbreakchallenge.org.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Making the water-energy connection

Most of us understand how installing a low-flow showerhead or turning off the water while brushing our teeth saves water. But what if buying an energy-efficient refrigerator was just as beneficial? Have you ever stopped to consider how much water it takes to produce energy?

In the U.S., electricity production from fossil fuels and nuclear energy requires approximately 190,000 million gallons of water per day. Some of that water evaporates from these thermoelectric systems during cooling. On average, two gallons of water are lost to evaporation for each kilowatt-hour of electricity used. That means we may indirectly use as much water turning on the lights and running appliances as we directly use to take showers and water our lawns!

If we reduce our energy use, less water will evaporate during the production of that energy. So when you install an energy-efficient lightbulb or turn off the television when you are not watching it, you are also helping to conserve our water resources.

In addition, water utilities use a great deal of energy to treat and deliver potable water to customers. By using less water at home, you can help Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources lower its energy requirements. Lower water use means less energy will be needed for water treatment and delivery.

So as it turns out, water and energy are intertwined. Producing energy uses water, and providing drinking water uses energy. To be a good environmental steward, please do your part to conserve both of these vital resources.

Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Senior emission exemptions

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. Apply at any Gwinnett tag office or online at www.cleanairforce.com. For locations, please visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Get moving this May during National Physical Fitness and Sports Month with tips from these fitness DVDs. These and other titles are available at the Gwinnett Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

10 Minute Solution: Fitness Ball Workouts

Pizza Party: Yoga Class For Kids

Dance Fitness For Beginners: African Beat Latin Heat

The Firm: Cardio Sculpt Fusion

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop!
Homeowner H2O: Water Conservation

May 30, 2015 • 10:00am
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road • Snellville, Georgia

Thursday, June 18 • 6:00pm
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court • Norcross, Georgia

These workshops 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@gwinnettcountry.com or by calling 678.376.7126.