

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

JUNE 2016



Check out the annual water quality report

The Department of Water Resources has published the annual Consumer Confidence Report containing important information about the quality of your drinking water. Gwinnett County's water is tested for various organic and inorganic substances in strict adherence to state and federal regulation.

In 2015, there were no EPA *Safe Drinking Water Act* violations to report. Visit www.gwinnettwaterwords.com to view the annual water quality report and learn more about your drinking water.

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 678.376.6804. Tours of the water plants may be scheduled for school groups and individuals at 678.376.6802. Visit www.gwinnettH2O.com for more information about how DWR maintains the safety of your drinking water.

County offices closed
July 4 for Independence Day

AROUND GWINNETT



Animal Control Ordinance made simple

Changes were made to the Gwinnett County Animal Control Ordinance in 2015 that relate to tethering, cruelty and neglect, boarding, and the keeping of livestock. Many of the changes were made to comply with the *Responsible Dog Owners Act* that became state law in 2012. To help you better understand changes to the ordinance, the Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Unit compiled a list of frequently asked questions about tethering and many other topics. For more information about the recent changes to the ordinance, please visit www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com.

Library kicks off annual summer reading program

The Gwinnett County Public Library will host summer reading program kickoff events for kids and teens at branches throughout the county beginning June 1. The summer reading program encourages children to develop a lifelong habit of reading. Readers can set a goal, keep track of their reading activities, and collect great prizes. Drawings will also take place throughout the summer for a chance to win more prizes. All programs are free and open to children and their accompanying adult. Register online at www.gwinnettpl.org/summer-reading or stop by any branch to pick up a registration packet with a reading record log, sticker, and bookmark.

FOCUS ON: Gwinnett County's Community Outreach program

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 County's community outreach program, which helps engage residents to be more involved in their local government. For more, visit www.gwinnettcounty.com.

County offices closed for Independence Day

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents of the county, will be closed Monday, July 4 for Independence Day. All offices will resume regular working hours Tuesday, July 5. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Independence Day is not a trash holiday for residents in unincorporated Gwinnett County.

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

Monday Movie Matinee

July 11 • 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Bethesda Park Senior Center

225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville

678.277.0179

Let's Make a Coaster for Ages 6 to 10

July 14 • 10:30am to 11:15am

Centerville Community Center

3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville

770.985.4713

Double Dip: Ice Cream Day

July 20 • 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Mountain Park Aquatic Center

1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain

678.277.0870

Punt, Pass and Kick • FREE!

July 30 • 9:00am to noon

Rhodes Jordan Park Soccer Field

100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

678.277.0860

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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.



Lenora Park playground renovation is completed

The playground near the Lenora Park baseball complex has been renovated using funds from the 2009 SPLOST program. New curb and fencing is in place along with new equipment including four swings, two spinners, and a large rocking fire truck. The playground also has a new modular structure with slides, climbers, bridges, and shade canopies with a "drop zone" feature that lets children ride to the ground from the structure, like an elevator.

Besides the playground replacement, Lenora Park is undergoing other SPLOST-funded improvements. Currently, crews are replacing the concession building and dugout roofs and an upcoming project will replace the pavilion roof. Lenora Park is located at 4515 Lenora Church Road in Snellville. For more information on Lenora Park, visit www.gwinnettparks.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Be water safe at local lakes and rivers

Our local lakes and rivers are great places to visit during the warm summer months, but Gwinnett residents are encouraged to be safe while enjoying the water. The Chattahoochee River can quickly change from a serene, slow-moving stream to a swift, treacherous river when water is released from Buford Dam. Here are tips to be safe:

- **Wear a life jacket:** It's required if you are wading, boating, or tubing in certain sections of the river.
- **Listen to the radio:** Station 1610AM provides river safety messages and water release schedules in your area.
- **Pay attention to signs and sounds:** Look for safety signs posted along riverbanks to tell you where you are in case of an emergency. Be sure to exit the river immediately when you hear warning sounds.
- **Swim safely:** Learn to swim and swim only in designated swim areas.
- **Be a safe boater:** Observe all safety rules and never operate a boat while drinking.

Learn more at www.gwinnettsafety411.com.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Adopt-A-Road to enhance your commute

The Adopt-A-Road litter prevention program is an initiative sponsored by Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation. The goal of this program is to reduce trash and illegal signage alongside county roads. This program is a great way to give back to your community and help keep our roadsides clean and free of clutter. Cleaning up trash from our roadways prevents litter from washing into streams and lakes during rainstorms, which saves wildlife and protects water quality.

Adopting a road is an easy process that involves five simple steps:

1. **Choose a road to adopt:** Select a section of roadway with a convenient location that is safe to access on your cleanup day.
2. **Learn more about the program:** Get details about the program and download the official Adopt-a-Road agreement at www.gwinnettcg.org.
3. **Contact us and take action:** Confirm your road section and participation in the Adopt-a-Road Program on our website. We'll provide free garbage bags, "Men Working" signs, and safety vests for you to use on cleanup day.
4. **Share your results and complete a post-cleanup report:** Submit post-cleanup reports on our website.
5. **Receive recognition for your group's hard work:** Each adopted section of road will be marked with two signs with your group's name. We will order your signs and install them.

For more information and details about volunteering with Gwinnett Adopt-a-Road, visit Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful's website, www.gwinnettcg.org, and follow the links for Programs and then *Adopt-a-Road* or call 770.822.5187.

Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

New for 2016! Paperless billing available for property tax bills

In 2015, a law was passed that allows property tax bills to be sent electronically, replacing, when requested, the paper bill. If you own property in Gwinnett, sign up for paperless billing at www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these ebooks that are truly out of this world. You can find them online at Gwinnett County Public Library's website, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Jedi Academy, by Jeffrey Brown

Space Boy, by Leo Landry

Beyond the Solar System, by Mary Kay Carson

Solar System Superhero, by Megan McDonald

Darth Paper Strikes Back, by Tom Angleberger

Space, by Mary Pope Osborne

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop! Smart Irrigation

July 14, 2016 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center
Conference Room C
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

July is traditionally the month of peak water demand for lawns, gardens and landscapes, and that can lead to higher than expected water bills. Learn how to water smarter and keep your yard green without wasting water and money. All participants will receive a free outdoor water efficiency kit.

Presented by: Robert Brannen
Gwinnett Extension Service

Pre-register by emailing your name and address to dwrconserve@gwinnettcg.com or call 678.376.7126.