

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnett**county government

AUGUST 2017



Gwinnett Transit needs you to help plan its future!

After decades of successful growth and development, the County is experiencing unprecedented traffic congestion. Gwinnett has rapidly changed, and its residents have diverse transportation needs and challenges. A robust, high-capacity transit system may be part of the response to these transportation concerns, so the County needs your help to identify how we should invest in this system for future success.

Gwinnett County Transit is embarking on its first-ever comprehensive system review, *Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan*. For this effort, the planning team will be at local events throughout the county and is conducting an online survey to hear from you about how to enhance the current transit system in the short term and what Gwinnett's long-term transit future should look like.

Get involved! Visit www.ConnectGwinnettTransit.com for upcoming events and other project information. Also, share your opinions and insights by taking the online survey at www.ConnectGwinnettTransit.com/survey.

Ahora pueden leer Gwinnett
County Connection en español a
www.gwinnettcounty.com.



AROUND GWINNETT

Recycle old furniture, appliances

Do you need to get rid of your old, bulky furniture or appliances like refrigerators or washing machines?

Consider donating your bulky items, but if they can't be donated, contact your hauler at least 48 hours before your desired pickup date. Make sure you empty all appliances and remove the refrigerator door. If your appliance has Freon gas, it must be removed and tagged by a qualified technician before it can be picked up. If you have questions, visit www.sustainablegwinnett.com or call 770.822.7141 to find your hauler's information.



Gwinnett hosting state Master Gardeners Green Table conference

Gwinnett Master Gardeners are hosting The Green Table, the Georgia Master Gardener Association's annual conference, which offers a cornucopia of gardening information. The conference will be held on **October 6** at Bogan Park and on **October 7** at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center.

Nationally renowned speakers, diverse breakout session topics, and specialty workshops provide a unique learning opportunity for Georgia gardeners. Register now for this exciting conference at www.georgiamastergardeners.org.

Make a difference for foster children

On any given day, there are more than 650 children in foster care in Gwinnett County, with less than 80 foster homes to care for them. The Georgia Division of Family and Children Services urges Gwinnett families to make a difference in a child's life by becoming a foster parent.

Get involved by attending an upcoming orientation sponsored by the Gwinnett County DFCS held the second Monday of each month from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. To register, please call Kimberly Griffin at 404.852.3694 or send an email to Cathy Chapman at cathy.chapman1@dhs.ga.gov.

County offices closed: Labor 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, September 4 for Labor Day. All offices will resume regular working hours Tuesday, September 5. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Labor Day is not a trash holiday for residents in unincorporated Gwinnett County.

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

Fall Computer Courses for Seniors

Online registration begins August 1
www.gsrlc.org

In-person registration at two locations
September 19 • 10:00am – 11:00am
Bethesda Park Senior Center
225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville
or
Prime Timers Pointe at George Pierce Park
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee
770.564.4699

Fall Yard Sale • FREE!

September 9 • 9:00am – 2:00pm
Mountain Park Activity Building
1063 Rockbridge Road, Lilburn
678.277.0179

Movie on the Lawn • FREE!

September 16 • 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Dacula Park Activity Building
2735 Old Auburn Avenue, Dacula
678.277.0850

Messy Masterpieces • FREE!

September 21 • 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center
4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Berkeley Lake
678.277.0920

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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.



SPLOST funding to finance two new paved trails at Tribble Mill Park

The Board of Commissioners recently approved about \$500,000 in SPLOST revenue to build two new paved trails this year at Tribble Mill Park.

A 10-foot-wide concrete trail will lead from the Festival Field parking lot to the granite shoals on the east end of the 718-acre park. A 12-foot-wide asphalt trail will go from the existing multi-use trail to the corner of Callie Still and New Hope roads where it will connect to a new multi-use path being built.

The existing unpaved trail to the granite shoals will be closed for repair during construction of the new trails. The project also includes two directional kiosks.

The project also received a \$100,000 state Recreational Trails Program grant.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Watch out for kids walking to and from school

With the arrival of August, Gwinnett students will be starting another school year. Here are a few tips to share with your child to prevent him or her from being injured by a car while walking to and from school or the bus stop:

- Look both directions multiple times before crossing the street and continue to check for oncoming traffic as you cross
- Wait until you cross the road to check texts or social media
- Always cross at the intersection
- Always use sidewalks! If none are available, walk facing traffic and as far away from the pavement as possible

For motorists, the rules are similar:

- Put down your cell phone
- Don't block a crosswalk
- Don't pass vehicles in a school zone

Learn more at www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Replace your toilet and get money back!

Some of the biggest water hogs in your home are your toilets. Old toilets can waste up to two gallons of water per flush. To conserve water and save money, consider replacing your older toilet with a water-efficient commode.

Replacing your toilet will save you upwards of \$50 per year, all while helping conserve water. As an extra incentive, the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources provides a \$100 credit for each toilet replaced. The Single-Family Toilet Rebate Program is available for residents who are up-to-date on their billing payments, have a home built in 1993 or earlier, and who purchase a *WaterSense* labeled toilet that uses 1.28 gallons per flush or less. There is a limit of two toilet rebates per household.

Replacing old, inefficient toilets with *WaterSense* labeled models can enable the average family to reduce water used for toilets by 20 to 60 percent—nearly 13,000 gallons of water savings for your home every year. Nationally, using only *WaterSense* toilets would save 520 billion gallons of water annually—the amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in 12 days.

Visit www.northgeorgiawater.org/toiletrebate and scroll down to *Gwinnett County Water Resources* to view the requirements and download an application. Applicants should mail their printed application, the original receipt for the toilet, and a copy of their most recent water bill. Applicants can also call 404.463.8645 with questions.

Save water and money while upgrading your bathroom today!

And remember, replacing older toilets is only one way to conserve water. Visit www.DWRConserve.com for more conservation tips.



Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Property tax bills due October 15

The 2017 Gwinnett County property tax bills will be mailed by August 15 and are due October 15. 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. You can make multiple payments as long as the total balance is paid by October 15. For more information about ways to pay or to pay online, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Here are some end-of-summer reads for last-minute vacations or weekends off. These and other titles can be found at your nearby Gwinnett County Library branch, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Final Girls, by Riley Sager

Slightly South of Simple, by Kristy Woodson Harvey

The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo, by Taylor Jenkins Reid

You Don't Have to Say You Love Me, By Sherman Alexie

Water Resources • Free Workshop!

Backyard Stream Restoration Workshop

September 9, 2017 • noon – 2:00pm
Ronald Reagan Park
2777 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lawrenceville

Learn how to manage creeks, ditches, ponds, and other water on your property. Workshop presenters will review causes of erosion and how to use native plants and other materials to create a healthy environment.

Presented by: Gwinnett County DWR, Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation, and UGA Extension Gwinnett

Attendees from unincorporated Gwinnett County, city of Lilburn, or city of Peachtree Corners may qualify for a maximum 5 percent credit toward their stormwater utility fee for the following year.

Three ways to register:
Email: dwrworkshops@gwinnettcounty.com
Online: www.gwinnetth2o.com
Phone: 678.376.7193