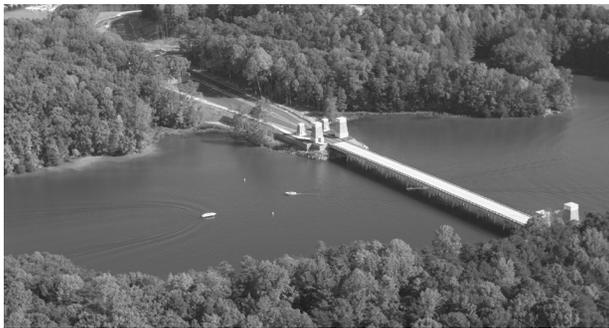


gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

JUNE 2017



Consumer Confidence Report shares details on County water

The Department of Water Resources has published its annual Consumer Confidence Report containing important information about the quality of your drinking water. It also explains the many County programs in place to save you money on your water bill and help reduce overall water usage countywide.

The report also details the results of state and federally mandated tests for various contaminants. In 2016, 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. 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 will be closed July 4 for Independence Day.

AROUND GWINNETT

Adopt a shelter cat this month during Catapalooza

June is National Adopt a Shelter Cat Month, and to celebrate, the Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center is hosting its annual Catapalooza with \$10 cat adoptions all month long. Spring is kitten season, which means there are many cute, cuddly kittens available at the shelter waiting to become a part of your family.

Dog adoption fees are also reduced to just \$30. Adoption fees include the first round of vaccines, microchip, and spay/neuter. For more information, visit www.gwinnettanimalwelfare.com or call 770.339.3200. Visit the shelter at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

Outdoor burning banned until fall

The state Department of Natural Resources has issued an outdoor burn ban for 54 counties, including Gwinnett, through September 30.

The state imposes an annual ban on outdoor burning to comply with federal Clean Air regulations because ozone in the air often reaches unhealthy levels. Residential grills for outdoor cooking do not require a permit, but grills are prohibited from apartment balconies. With proper permits, authorities will allow some exceptions, such as fires for agricultural practices or a forestry service prescribed burn, and some bonfires. For more information on permits, visit www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com or call 678.518.6000.

Library kicks off annual summer reading program

Kids can hone their reading skills for a chance to win prizes as part of Gwinnett County Public Library's summer reading program, starting June 1.

Kids can win a free book of their choice, tickets to a Gwinnett Braves game, or even a laptop computer by setting a goal and keeping track of their reading activities. The free program also includes crafts, movies, storytimes, and special guest performers. Drawings take place throughout the summer. Adults can participate as well for the chance to win a gardening gift basket. For more information, visit www.gwinnettpl.org/summer or stop by any branch to pick up a registration packet with a reading record log, sticker, and bookmark.

County offices closed Independence Day

County government offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day, except for operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents. All offices will resume regular working hours Wednesday, July 5. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the 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.gwinnettcountryevents.com.

Stars and Stripes Family Night

July 3 • 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Lenora Park Pool

4315 Lenora Church Road, Snellville

770.982.5309

Family Fun Day at the Farm • FREE!

July 15 • 10:00am – 2:00pm

McDaniel Farm Park

3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

770.822.8840

Monday Movie Matinee

July 17 • 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Bethesda Park Senior Center

225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville

678.277.0179

Scavenge-ART Hunt • FREE!

July 22 • 11:00am – 2:00pm

Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center

4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Berkeley Lake

678.277.0920

Ahoy! It's Pirate Night

July 25 • 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Mountain Park Aquatic Center

1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain

678.277.0870

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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.



New Medical Examiner's Office and Morgue offers more space, capability

The recently opened Gwinnett County Medical Examiner's Office and Morgue is providing more space, better technology, and more efficient administrative capability.

The \$5.7 million facility, funded by SPLOST, combines the functions of two spaces—a morgue and an administrative office that once existed a mile away from each other.

The new morgue space has three state-of-the-art autopsy stations, including a separate station for cases requiring isolation. It has enhanced medical and laboratory equipment and space for evidence processing and storage. The former morgue had only one autopsy station with limited medical and laboratory equipment. The new morgue can accommodate 50 decedents; the former morgue had room for just four.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Water safety tips for summer 2017: cool down but don't drown

Water is a great way to beat the heat, but always remember to exercise caution or you risk a tragic end to what was supposed to be a fun outing.

The Chattahoochee River may appear easygoing, but when water is released from Buford Dam, the river can rise 10 feet in minutes. Call 770.945.1466 or listen to 1610AM for release schedules. Watch water levels, and know your location so first responders can find you quickly.

At Lake Lanier, swim in designated areas, and obey boating rules. At pools, designate an adult *water watcher* to monitor kids in or around the pool, and keep a phone handy.

Learn more at www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Save our rivers, streams by adopting a road

Does the visual blight of litter spoil your commute? Have you ever thought, "I wish someone would pick that up"? Take the initiative and contact the Gwinnett County Adopt-a-Road program—sponsored by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful and the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation—and organize a litter cleanup on that road.

The Adopt-a-Road program enables residents to help keep our roadsides clean and free of clutter. Storm drains do not lead to treatment plants, which means rain washes roadside litter down stormwater drains. These drains lead directly into rivers and streams that provide the water we drink, cook with, and bathe in. The litter also hurts aquatic ecosystems, destroying habitat and poisoning wildlife.

Adopting a road is quick and easy with only a few simple steps:

- Identify the road for your cleanup
- Read the official Adopt-a-Road agreement at www.gwinnettcg.org
- Contact Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful to confirm your road section and participation in the program
- Hold your first of four annual cleanup events—GC&B provides free garbage bags, "Men Working" signs, and safety vests
- Fill out a post-cleanup report on the GC&B website to share your results

For more information about volunteering with the Adopt-a-Road program, visit GC&B's website www.gwinnettcg.org or call 770.822.5187.



Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Effective July 1: New tag office operating hours

For more convenient customer access, beginning July 1, the Norcross, North Gwinnett, Peachtree Corners, and Snellville tag offices will be open Monday – Friday and the Lawrenceville tag office will be open Tuesday – Saturday. All tag offices will be open 8:00am – 5:00pm. Visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com for more information.

CHECK IT OUT

Here are four books about restoring and maintaining good mental health. These and other titles can be found at your nearby Gwinnett County Library branch, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Reasons to Stay Alive, by Matt Haig

When Someone You Know Has Depression: Words to Say and Things to Do, by Susan J. Noonan

All the Things We Never Knew: Chasing the Shadow of Mental Illness, by Sheila Hamilton

Hi, Anxiety: Life with a Bad Case of Nerves, by Kat Kinsman

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop! Rain Barrel Workshop

July 15, 2017 • 10:00am – noon

Lilburn City Park, Gartrell Nash Pavilion

76 Main Street, Lilburn, GA 30047

Even with recent rains, Lake Lanier is still very low and watering restrictions remain in place. Water your plants with water collected in a rain barrel you made at the Rain Barrel Workshop.

Presented by:

Jackie Valett and John Butler

Gwinnett Department of Water Resources

Pre-registration and pre-payment is required. The cost is \$30 per barrel (limit 1). For registration and payment information, call 678.376.7126 before July 11, 2017.