

# gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

## NOVEMBER 2017

### New brand conveys modern Gwinnett

Gwinnett County has an exciting new look!

The official seal drafted in the 1980s is being replaced with a more-modern image that better captures contemporary Gwinnett County. After being approved by the Board of Commissioners in October, the rollout of the new logo will begin online, in print, and on County vehicles and street signs over the coming months.

The brand resembles a colorful kaleidoscope that symbolically encompasses the desired image of our County – a business-friendly environment catering to our unique blend of many people, nations, ages, religions, cultures, education levels, professional skills, and life perspectives.

The slogan, “Vibrantly Connected,” reflects the energy and vitality of the Gwinnett community as well as our common goals of harmony, progress and prosperity as we march toward the American Dream.

The design, created by the nationally acclaimed firm of Perkins+Will, was selected after more than a year of interviewing and surveying residents, business people, and civic leaders about their perceptions of Gwinnett County, and their vision of the future.



## Gwinnett



Ahora pueden leer Gwinnett  
County Connection  
en español a  
[www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).

## AROUND GWINNETT



### Volunteer this holiday season

With the holidays approaching, please consider giving your time, energy, and experience to help others in need. Volunteer Gwinnett can help you find the right volunteer opportunities whether you have just a little or a lot of free time to help those less fortunate during the holidays.

Volunteer Gwinnett is a countywide volunteer program designed to involve more residents in volunteer activities. Check out [www.volunteergwinnett.net](http://www.volunteergwinnett.net) to find your next volunteer opportunity.

### Elections Office seeks bilingual poll workers for upcoming elections

The County's Voter Registrations and Elections Division is looking for bilingual poll workers to staff elections this year and in 2018. As a poll official, you get a front row seat to the democratic process, earn valuable work experience, and best of all, you get paid! Residents who can read and write English and Spanish are encouraged to complete a poll worker application at [www.gwinnettcountyjobs.com](http://www.gwinnettcountyjobs.com).

### Lawrenceville library to relocate to historic Hooper-Renwick School

Gwinnett County and city of Lawrenceville officials are partnering to relocate the Lawrenceville branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library to the site of the city-owned Hooper-Renwick School, Gwinnett's original school for the African-American community.

The move will ensure the preservation of the historic school, built in the 1940s. The 12-room structure will become a civic space and museum, and the new library branch will be built next door. Completion of the library project, to be funded by 2017 SPLOST revenues, could take two to three years.

### County offices closed for Thanksgiving

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of the county, will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours on Monday, November 27. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County jail. Thanksgiving Day is a trash and recycling holiday in unincorporated Gwinnett County, so pickups will be delayed by one day.

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events. See these and more at [www.gwinnettcountyevents.com](http://www.gwinnettcountyevents.com).

### 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Lighting of the Tree • FREE!

November 23 • 5:30pm – 8:00pm  
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse  
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville  
770.822.5450

### Melted Snowman Party

December 1 • 6:30pm – 8:30pm  
Collins Hill Park Aquatic Center  
2200 Collins Hill Road, Lawrenceville  
770.237.5647

### Cookies with the Clauses

December 9 • 10:00am – noon  
Bogan Park Community Recreation Center  
2723 North Bogan Road, Buford  
678.277.0850

### Holiday Candlelight Tours

December 8, 9, 17, 19 – 22, 28  
7:00pm – 8:30pm  
McDaniel Farm Park  
3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth  
770.814.4920

### Breakfast with Santa

November 25, December 16 • 8:30am – 10:00am  
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse  
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville  
770.822.5450

### 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.

## Parks and Recreation adds playground, plaza to Tribble Mill Park

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation recently completed additions to Tribble Mill Park, including new playground equipment, a new plaza, and landscaping at the festival field.

Funded through the 2009 SPLOST, the project featured other amenities, such as a new small playground, a bench swing, and accessible sidewalk and pedestrian bridges between pavilions and restrooms. The nature-themed playground has climbing boulders and logs.

The festival field playground also received new equipment with ramps and several handicap-accessible features. It has several challenging climbing features and swings that accommodate adults with toddlers.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Don't let this holiday season turn tragic; practice fire safety while cooking

Burning up Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner would be bad, but burning down the house would be worse. Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services has some safety cooking tips to help ensure your holidays are happy, yummy, and mishap-free:

- Create a "kids-free zone" around your stove, oven, fryer, or grill
- Turkey fryers should be used outdoors at a safe distance from the house and should never be unattended when in use
- Place the turkey fryer on a solid, level surface; NEVER use the turkey fryer on the back deck or in the garage/carport
- DO NOT overfill or overheat the oil in the fryer
- Do not place a frozen turkey into a hot fryer because a violent reaction could ensue
- Partially lower the turkey into the pot, stop, then let the bubbles settle before completely lowering the bird
- Always keep a multipurpose (ABC-rated) portable fire extinguisher on hand

## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES



### Unclog the FOG

Fall means family, fun, food, and FOG – fats, oils, and grease. Poured down the drain, FOG can mean backed-up sinks, showers, and toilets. Not good with a house full of company.

FOG, which comes from many foods including meat and drippings, butter, cooking oil, peanut butter, salad dressing, and gravy, can accumulate in pipes, clogging them. When grease is washed down the drain, it may seem like a small, harmless amount, but as many people can sadly attest, it adds up, and when it does, it can create blockages.

The blockages can cause backups in sewer pipes, known as sewer overflows. These overflows can bubble up in sinks, bath tubs, and toilets in your home, causing an expensive, disgusting mess. FOG can also cause overflows in the sewer system, causing a mess outside that can affect rivers and streams, polluting ecosystems.

There are easy things everyone can do to help reduce FOG in the pipes:

- Pour liquid food scraps (i.e., gravy, salad dressing) into a container and place in the trash can
- Pour used oil into a container with a top, so it can be recycled or placed in the trash can for disposal
- Pour cooled grease into a grease can or other container for disposal and/or absorb with paper towels or newspapers
- Use mesh drain strainers to catch solid food scraps for disposal in a trash can
- Scrape plates over the trash can or wipe with a paper towel to absorb FOG

Just remember, protect the pipes and don't pour fats, oils, or grease down the drain!

For more information, visit [www.unclogthefog.com](http://www.unclogthefog.com).

Don't forget to attend one of our free workshops!

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Tax Commissioner's office Thanksgiving holiday hours

All Tax Commissioner offices will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving. The Lawrenceville tag office will be open on Saturday, November 25. Visit [www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com) for online services and to view the holiday schedule.

## CHECK IT OUT

Get in touch with nature with these titles from the Gwinnett County Public Library:

*The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative*, by Florence Williams

*The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2017*

*Vitamin N: The Essential Guide to a Nature-rich Life*, by Richard Louv

*The Practical Naturalist: Explore the Wonders of the Natural World*, by Chris Packham

*How to Read Nature: An Expert's Guide to Discovering the Outdoors You've Never Noticed*, by Tristan Gooley

*Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer

## 2018 Water Workshops

The Department of Water Resources 2018 Water Workshop calendar is available – and there's something for everyone: indoor and outdoor, hands-on, and classroom-style.

Topics include how to:  
fix leaks  
conserve water  
create a rain barrel  
maintain your septic tank

Visit the Events page at [www.gwinnettH2O.com](http://www.gwinnettH2O.com) for a link to the calendar and registration information.