

GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

A monthly publication of **Gwinnett County** Government

MAY 2018



County Commission reviews, updates priorities at annual strategy session

At their recent annual Strategic Planning Session in Athens, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners reviewed priorities established last year and looked two years into the future.

The updated priorities include a wide range of new and continuing initiatives, such as:

- Begin installing technology on Peachtree Industrial Boulevard that communicates relevant traffic information to motorists' vehicles, and starting the Sugarloaf Parkway extension from Ga. 316 to Interstate 85
- Opening Discovery Park in Lawrenceville, a courthouse expansion at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, and new libraries in Norcross and Duluth
- Starting the Infinite Energy Center expansion, the Small Business Resource Center, and redevelopment of the Gwinnett Place Mall area
- Fully staffing the Bay Creek police precinct and backup 911 center; implementing effective advocacy to address homelessness and other issues; and transitioning more homes from septic tanks to the County sewer system



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

AROUND GWINNETT

Burn ban in Gwinnett through September 30

The state Environmental Protection Division is imposing a burn ban for metro Atlanta that includes Gwinnett County from May 1 through September 30. In the summer, outdoor burning causes ozone in the air to reach unhealthy levels. All types of outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste, as well as the use of air curtain destructors. For more burn ban information, call [678.518.4980](tel:678.518.4980) or visit www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com.

Celebrate Juneteenth and the contribution of Gwinnett's African-Americans

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas and the emancipation of slaves throughout the United States. Now, Juneteenth is celebrated nationwide to applaud African American freedom and achievements. In celebration of Gwinnett's 200th birthday, a free Juneteenth event will be held **Saturday, June 23** from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at Yellow River Post Office in Lilburn. The celebration will feature guest speakers and performances and highlights of historical and prominent African-American leaders and their contributions to Gwinnett County. Register at www.gwinnett200.com, beginning May 2018.

Register to vote, know the election schedule

2018 is a busy election year and elections are scheduled throughout the year with primaries in May and the General Election set for November. You can register to vote online if you have a Georgia-issued personal identification card or a Georgia-issued driver's license. Visit the Secretary of State's website at www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/ to view sample ballots and find your Election Day polling location. To learn more about the election schedule and about registering to vote in Gwinnett County, visit www.gwinnettelelections.com.

Inscríbese para votar, conozca el calendario electoral

El 2018 es un año electoral muy ocupado durante el cual se han programado las elecciones y se han fijado las primarias para mayo y la elección general para noviembre. Puede inscribirse para votar en línea si tiene una tarjeta de identificación personal o una licencia de conducir, ambas emitidas por Georgia. Para ver muestras de las boletas electorales y localizar su centro de votación para el Día de las Elecciones, visite la página web del Secretario de Estado: www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/. Para obtener más información sobre el calendario electoral y cómo inscribirse para votar en el condado de Gwinnett, visite www.gwinnettelelections.com.

Water Department's Consumer Confidence Report now available

The Consumer Confidence Report containing important information about the quality of your drinking water is now available. The report details results of state and federally mandated tests for various contaminants. In 2017, there were no EPA *Safe Drinking Water Act* violations to report. View the report and learn more about your drinking water at www.gwinnettwaterwords.com.

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

Brown Bag Concert – 1800s Edition | FREE!

June 8 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Button Cup: Cardboard Boat Race

June 8 • 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Collins Hill Aquatic Center
2200 Collins Hill Road, Suwanee

Spring into Summer | FREE!

June 23 • 6:00pm
Includes
3K GLOW Fun Walk/Run • 8:30pm
B at the Movies with B98.5 • 9:30pm
Rhodes Jordan Park
100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

History A la Mode Ice Cream Party

June 29 • 1:00pm to 2:30pm
George Pierce Park
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee

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send questions or comments to
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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.



Road improvements coming to different parts of the county

The Board of Commissioners recently approved several SPLOST-funded transportation items, including improvements to the intersection of Suwanee Dam Road at Riverside Road and a new roundabout at North Road and Pharrs Road. The projects include:

- Improving the intersection of Suwanee Dam Road and Riverside Road by realigning the intersection and adding a traffic signal, left-turn lanes, and sidewalks on Suwanee Dam Road
- Installing a roundabout at North Road and Pharrs Road and adding lighting, sidewalks, and drainage improvements
- Working with Gateway 85 Gwinnett CID to install an upgraded traffic signal and landscaping at the intersection of Jimmy Carter Boulevard and Rockbridge Road

PUBLIC SAFETY

Know what to do when lightning storms come

It's hard to know what to do when you're caught out in the open during a lightning storm. Take shelter under a big tree? Stand out in the open?

The best strategy is prevention. Monitor the weather forecast before going out, and look for darkening skies, lightning, or increasing wind. If you can hear thunder, you are in danger. Find shelter in a building or car.

If in the open, be a very small target! Squat low to the ground. Lying on the ground will actually make you a larger target. If you are in the woods, take shelter under shorter trees or go to a low-lying, open place away from trees, poles, or metal objects. If you are boating or swimming, get to shore and find shelter.

If someone is struck by lightning, call 911. If the person's breathing has stopped, begin rescue breathing. If the victim's heart has stopped beating, a trained person should give CPR. For more information, visit www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES



Protect Lake Lanier by reducing outdoor watering this summer

In Gwinnett County, outdoor watering accounts for 21 percent of total residential water consumption, or about 1,100 gallons of water per month for each house!

Efficient use of water will save you money while reducing demand on Gwinnett's limited supply of drinking water. All water used at homes and businesses, including from your garden hose, is drawn from the same source — Lake Lanier. As the population in Gwinnett continues to grow, we all need to do our part to conserve our water resources.

Here are a few tips to help you conserve water outdoors:

- Opt for native, drought-tolerant plants
- Group plants with high water demands together
- Equip your hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle to better control water usage
- Use rainwater captured in a rain barrel to irrigate your landscaping
- Cover your swimming pools, even in the summer, to reduce evaporation by up to 90 percent

Regularly check your sprinkler systems and pools for leaks as well. A leak in a below-ground irrigation system can end up wasting thousands of gallons of water over the course of a month.

To learn even more ways to conserve, sign up for one of the Department of Water Resource's water workshops. For more information and to view the full 2018 water workshops calendar, please visit www.gwinnettH2O.com/Events.

Don't forget to attend our free workshops!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Self-service kiosks available for tag renewal

New self-service tag-renewal kiosks are available at the Lawrenceville and North Gwinnett tag offices. The kiosks accept credit and debit cards and dispense a new tag decal. You must have a valid Georgia driver's license and the correct address on your renewal notice. Proof of insurance and a current emission inspection, if needed, must be on file with the state. Visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com for hours and locations.

CHECK IT OUT

How about some sci-fi of the alien invasion sort? Here are a few books about extraterrestrials stopping by the planet Earth that you can find at the Gwinnett Public Library.

The 5th Wave, by Richard Yancey

The Host, by Stephanie Meyer

The War of the Worlds, by H.G. Wells

The End of All Things, by John Scalzi

Department of Water Resources 2018 June Water Workshops and Events

Water Wise Landscaping

June 7 • 6:00pm to 7:30pm
Lucky Shoals Park
4651 Britt Road, Norcross

Learn how to create and sustain a water-efficient landscape to save money and time on maintenance.

Smart Irrigation

June 12 • 1:00pm to 2:30pm
Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center,
Conference Room A
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Learn about efficient outdoor watering practices and how to maintain your irrigation system.

Three ways to register:

Visit the public education page at www.gwinnettH2O.com

Send an email with your name, address, and phone number to dwrworkshops@gwinnettcountry.com

Call 678.376.7193