

GWINNETT COUNTY Connection

A monthly publication of
Gwinnett County Government

JULY 2019



Gwinnett, Georgia Tech partner on Smart Corridor program for PIB

The Gwinnett County Department of Transportation is wrapping up the planning phase for deploying connected vehicle technology that would allow vehicles, smartphones, and other devices to receive alerts and information from traffic signals, emergency vehicles, and transit buses.

This planning effort has been a part of the Georgia Smart Communities Challenge, a new Georgia Tech-led initiative that partners local governments with public and private organizations to implement smart community projects that could be applied statewide while adding the support of Georgia Tech's research faculty.

The connected vehicle technology would make driving safer and improve the flow of traffic. As envisioned, motorists would know when they might be about to run a red light or from which direction an emergency vehicle is approaching. The technology would also allow transit vehicles to stay on schedule and provide more real-time information for traffic engineers to better manage traffic flow.

The next step is the Smart Corridor pilot project. The project will be implemented on a 20-mile stretch of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard in Gwinnett County with some of the highest traffic counts in the region. The project kicks off a program developing a smart technology roadway network that will ultimately cover the county and connect to the metro Atlanta region.



Ahora pueden leer Gwinnett
County Connection en español en
www.GwinnettCounty.com.

AROUND GWINNETT

Complete the Census online

When 2020 Census Day arrives on April 1 of next year, U.S. residents for the first time will be able to complete their census questionnaire online. Residents can also complete the survey by phone or by mail. Be sure to report each person living in your household. For more information on special cases, such as moving to a new home on Census Day, visit www.2020census.gov.

The Constitution requires a head count of the country every 10 years. Census results are used by government and the private sector for multiple purposes, including redistricting at the national, state, and local levels, distributing billions of dollars in federal and state funds, analyzing local economic and demographic trends, and making business decisions.

New graduates added to Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy roster

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners recently recognized 31 community leaders for completing the spring 2019 session of the County's ninth Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy. Offered twice each year, Gwinnett 101 is a 12-week crash course in Gwinnett County Government operations. The program is aimed at developing and nurturing informed and engaged residents, students, and business owners in the county. For more information, visit www.gwinnett101.com.

Keep mosquitoes at bay this summer

Don't let mosquitoes drive you indoors. To reduce the mosquito population around your home, the Department of Water Resources, UGA Extension Gwinnett, and the Gwinnett County Health Department recommend:

- Cleaning gutters to eliminate breeding areas
- Removing any standing water in trash can lids, pet feeding bowls, and flowerpot saucers
- Replacing water in birdbaths frequently
- Keeping tight-fitting screens on windows and doors

View a video on combatting mosquitoes in the on-demand section of www.tvgwinnett.com.



Save money and time...manage your water bill online

Did you know you can start, stop, and transfer your services online at www.gwinnett20.com? Make a one-time online payment, schedule a future payment, or enroll your credit or debit card for automatic monthly charge. Our Customer Care representatives strive to provide excellent service and in 2018 the J.D. Power Water Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study ranked our county as having the happiest customers in the south. Visit the Department of Water Resources website for questions about your water service.

Explore Gwinnett is Gwinnett's official tourism agency and promotes Gwinnett as a place to meet, stay, and play.

View the complete events calendar at
www.exploreGwinnett.com.

Spotlight on Artists Series

August 1 through September 6
Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00am to 4:00pm
Kudzu Art Zone
116 Carlyle Street, Norcross
www.kudzuartzone.org

JapanFest

September 21 and 22
Saturday from 10:00am to 6:00pm
Sunday from 10:00am to 5:00pm
Infinite Energy Center
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth
www.japanfest.org

Lawrenceville Ghost Tours

August 2 through October 31
Through September, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30pm
Through October, Sundays through Thursdays at 7:30pm
Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00pm and 9:00pm
Aurora Theatre
128 East Pike Street, Lawrenceville
www.scarystroll.com

GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

Send questions or comments to
Shaunika.Taylor@gwinnettcounty.com
Gwinnett County Communications Division
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046
770.822.7180 • www.gwinnettcounty.com

Questions about your water bill?
Call 678.376.6700.



Gwinnett DOT constructing two roundabouts
 Gwinnett County is set to begin construction of two roundabouts in the near future – one at Ridgedale Drive and Pharrs Road in Snellville and one at Venture Drive and Day Drive in Duluth.

In addition to the roundabout, the \$1.4 million Ridgedale Drive project also includes installation of right-turn lanes on both approaches of Ridgedale Drive at North Road. The construction is funded by the 2014 and 2017 SPLOST programs and the city of Snellville. The \$2 million Venture Drive roundabout will include a second eastbound through-lane on Venture Drive and will lengthen the southbound left-turn lane at the intersection of Venture Drive and Steve Reynolds Boulevard. The project is funded by the 2017 SPLOST and the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District.

Roundabouts are becoming a popular alternative to four-way stops because they can keep traffic moving and are safer. Roundabout accidents tend to occur at an angle instead of T-bone collisions, and the island in the center of the roundabout provides a safe haven for pedestrians trying to cross the street.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Gwinnett Police joins home security company to fight crime
 Police is partnering with Ring to provide participating residents with real-time safety information to deter crime.

Under the agreement that was approved by the Board of Commissioners, the department can join crime and safety conversations with local residents on Ring's Neighbors app, which residents can download for free on their smartphones.

This agreement allows Police to send out real-time crime and safety alerts and request potentially valuable photos, videos, and information from community members on Neighbors to investigate incidents in a particular area.

Police will not have access to cameras, live footage, or user data and can only view content posted by users to the Neighbors app or that users wish to share with them.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES



Cut back on outdoor water use with these tips
 Hot summer temperatures mean increased outdoor water use for homeowners who water their lawns, gardens, and landscape. About 50 percent of water use outdoors is wasted from evaporation, wind, or overwatering. You can save money, conserve water, and get better results by following a few easy tips.

Keep it on the green. Watering the driveway, house, or sidewalk is a huge waste! Make sure your sprinklers are directed to apply water only to the landscape where it's needed. Keep water off solid surfaces.

Don't overdo it. Did you know the typical homeowner overwaters by up to 30 percent? Established lawns and landscapes require only one inch of water per week to stay healthy. Tuna cans are generally one inch tall. Place these cans or other containers around your yard to learn how long it takes to water one inch.

Timing is key. *The Georgia Water Stewardship Act of 2010* allows landscape and lawn irrigation only before 10:00am and after 4:00pm, so be sure to set your system to water at the right time of day. By avoiding outdoor water use during the hottest part of the day, you will reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation. Also don't forget to turn your timer off and skip a watering cycle whenever you get enough rain to soak the soil. Only water when you need to.

Consider the ultimate water saving method. Homeowners are increasingly deciding to leave their lawns dry instead of constantly watering. You can join the Society of Intentionally Dry Lawns and drastically decrease your water use by visiting www.mydropcounts.org/pledge-to-conserve.

There are many more ways to use water wisely such as using native plants, mulching, and checking for leaks. For more information about outdoor water use and efficiency, visit www.DWRconserve.com.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Receive your property tax bill via email
 You don't have to wait for the mail – email is immediate. If you own property in Gwinnett, please go online and visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com, click the "Go Paperless" button, then follow the instructions on the "View/Pay Your Taxes" page to sign up.

CHECK IT OUT

Gwinnett County Public Library offers books for homebound patrons
 Gwinnett County Public Library has launched a program that allows homebound patrons to access library materials and have them delivered to their home for free.

Called Mailbox Books, the service is designed for people who can't visit the library because of age, physical disability, chronic illness, visual impairment, or a temporary condition that renders them homebound.

Users will receive the Best Readers' Advisory and customer assistance. Staff will help patrons locate books in their preferred format, such as regular print, large print, DVD, or CD books. To participate, Gwinnett residents must fill an online application at www.gwinnettpl.org, where you can also see a comprehensive listing of all Gwinnett County Public Library's accessibility resources.

Department of Water Resources
 2019 August Water Workshops

Fix-A-Leak
 August 17 from 11:00am to 12:30pm
 Five Forks Library
 2780 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lawrenceville
 Learn how to test your home for leaks, how to find them, and how to do the repairs yourself.

Composting for Water Quality
 August 20 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm
 Alegre Farm, 2225 Givens Road, Dacula
 Learn about the benefits of keeping a compost pile and how to do it successfully in this hands-on workshop.

Three ways to register:
 Visit the Events page at www.gwinnettH2O.com
 Send an email with your name, address, and phone number to dwrworkshops@gwinnettcounty.com
 Call 678.376.7193