

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

APRIL  
2020

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

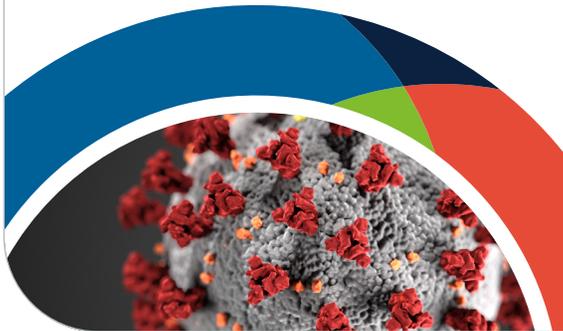
## Governor Kemp extends statewide Shelter-in-Place Order

Governor Brian Kemp extended the Executive Order to Ensure a Safe & Healthy Georgia establishing shelter-in-place and travel restrictions for residents and visitors statewide through April 30. The original order went into effect April 3.

The governor's extended executive order supersedes Gwinnett County local emergency orders. To read Kemp's extended order, visit [Georgia.gov](https://www.Georgia.gov). For more information and FAQs about the order, visit [Georgia.org](https://www.Georgia.org).

The County has made provisions to ensure that essential services will be provided without interruption. County-related and other public events are canceled or delayed. Access to the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center and other County offices is limited while some facilities are closed. Courts are closed except for vital functions through May 13.

Residents are urged to engage in social distancing, frequent handwashing, and other precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To learn how to protect yourself from COVID-19 and what to do if you are sick, please visit [Coronavirus.gov](https://www.Coronavirus.gov).



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Gwinnett seniors receiving meals through home-delivered meal program

In response to the pandemic, seniors receiving meals through senior congregate programming have been added to the County's home-delivered meals program. Meals are being delivered to seniors in the home-delivered meal program. In-home services continue for clients receiving homemaking and respite services. For information or to request assistance, call 678.377.4150.

### Take advantage of Gwinnett's online services

Gwinnett offers a variety of online services to help you accomplish tasks while practicing social distancing. You can renew motor vehicle tags, pay property taxes, request a service order, pay your water bill, pay a false alarm fee, and more when you visit the Online Services page at [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.GwinnettCounty.com). Planning and Development allows people to search for existing building, development, fire, or planning permits; request an inspection; renew a building permit; or report a code violation. Water Resources also offers customers the opportunity to set up automatic payments and paperless billing.

### It's not too late to complete your census questionnaire

The 2020 Census is underway and the most important thing you can do is respond online, by phone, or by mail when you receive your invitation. Responding now will minimize the need for the Census Bureau to send census takers out into communities to follow up. Taking the census is easy, important, and safe, and you can do it online, by mail, or by phone. It is important that every Gwinnett household is counted. Knowing the number of people in our community ensures that we have adequate representation and can plan for important community needs like schools, roads, and hospitals. For more information, visit [2020Census.gov](https://www.2020Census.gov).

### Tax Assessor's Office delays real estate property Annual Notices of Assessment until May 1

Most Residential and Commercial Annual Notices of Assessment typically sent in early April now will be sent May 1. An Annual Notice of Assessment is not a tax bill. The notice informs you of the value assessed on your residential or commercial real estate as of January 1, 2020. Personal Property Annual Notices of Assessment for tangible business inventory, watercraft, and aircraft will be mailed May 18. You may appeal your 2020 value within 45 days of the date on your notice at [Gwinnett-Assessor.com](https://www.Gwinnett-Assessor.com).



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Inspect your detention pond to catch problems early

Detention pond maintenance becomes increasingly important during periods of increased rain. Detention ponds are designed to protect water quality in streams and lakes by slowing the flow of stormwater and allowing sediment to settle. However, sediment can start to fill in a pond. Other issues can also arise requiring periodic maintenance to ensure the detention pond functions properly.

Detention ponds should be inspected every three to four months and after every heavy rain to help identify small issues before they develop into big problems. Inspections should involve checking all the major structures. The inlet headwall is the pipe putting water into the pond; the outlet control structure releases water from the pond; the access easement is the path to reach the outlet control structure; the dam is the embankment that holds the water back. Each structure should be checked for cracks, holes, tree growth, or any other issues.

For more information about detention pond inspections and maintenance, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.Gwinnetth2o.com).

### Dispose of household hazardous waste properly

Household hazardous waste, common products that are corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or flammable, should be disposed of properly or they can hurt public health and damage the environment. Products such as paint, pesticides, and cleaners should not be placed in the trash or dumpsters or poured down the drain where they can damage the sewer system or cause septic tank failure.

To help people dispose of HHW, Gwinnett Water Resources partners with Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful to host HHW disposal events. For more information about HHW, please visit [GwinnettCB.org](https://www.GwinnettCB.org) or [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.Gwinnetth2o.com).

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### In-person services suspended indefinitely

To slow the transmission of COVID-19, Tax Commissioner offices are closed to the public. Use e-services, the website, drop boxes, and kiosks. They are still processing drop-box paperwork and payments, web renewals, online homestead exemptions, and property tax payments. For information, please visit [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com).

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Check your smoke alarm to buy time in a home fire

Spring cleaning around the house is a good time to change the battery in your smoke alarms, especially if you forgot to change the battery at daylight saving time. You may have less than two minutes to get out of a house in a fire emergency, but a smoke alarm can buy you precious time to escape.

Smoke alarms should be on each level of a home, including hallways outside the sleeping area, and in each of the bedrooms. Never ignore the noise of the smoke alarm. A constant loud "beeping" sound from the alarm indicates smoke or fire in the home. An intermittent "chirp" indicates the battery needs to be changed.

Test the alarm monthly and replace all smoke alarms after 10 years, and be sure to have an escape plan with two ways out and clear pathways to exits. Contact Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services' Community Risk Reduction Section at 678.518.4845 or email [fireprograms@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:fireprograms@gwinnettcounty.com) for details.



## SPLOST

### New trail will connect Harbins and Tribble Mill Parks

A new trail will soon connect pathways in Harbins and Tribble Mill parks so patrons can hike, bike, or jog from one recreational area to the other.

The 2.2-mile project includes a paved multi-use trail with a 760-foot boardwalk, overlooks along Palm Creek plus bridges, associated landscaping, and furnishings. The \$3.5 million contract is funded by the 2017 SPLOST program. Construction will take about a year.

The trail is an extension of the Lloyd N. Harris Trail, a Signature Trail in Tribble Mill park. Harris dedicated his life to preserving public land in Gwinnett. The extension is part of a countywide trails master plan adopted in 2018.

The new trail section will start at a side path trail along New Hope Road and connect with the Harbins Park trail at the Luke Edwards entrance.

## CHECK IT OUT

### Gwinnett Public Library resources can be accessed remotely

The Gwinnett County Public Library offers several online activities and programs. The **eRead Kids** program offers e-books and e-audiobooks for children. **Explora** for high school, middle school, and elementary school supports both research and classroom instruction with rich, reliable content. **Gale** offers a wide range of interactive classes led by live instructors as well as e-books across a wide range of topics. **Ferguson's Career Guidance Center** is a career research database featuring detailed, up-to-date profiles of more than 3,000 jobs. **FindMyPast** is a family history and genealogy resource with more than 2 billion historical records. **Flipster** allows you to browse and download digital versions of the latest popular magazines. To learn more, visit [GwinnettPL.org](http://GwinnettPL.org).

## EVENTS & CLASSES

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 [ExploreGwinnett.org](http://ExploreGwinnett.org). Please check venues for updated schedules.

### ERMA BOMBECK: AT WIT'S END

May 7 through June 7  
Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8:00pm  
Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:30pm  
Aurora Theatre  
128 East Pike Street, Lawrenceville  
[AuroraTheatre.com](http://AuroraTheatre.com)

### DILEMMAS WITH DINNER

June 5 through 14  
Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm  
Sunday matinees at 3:00pm  
The Eagle Theatre  
5029 West Broad Street, Sugar Hill  
[pgatsh.com](http://pgatsh.com)

### A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD

July 17 through July 26  
Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30pm  
Sunday matinees at 2:00pm  
[LionheartTheatre.org](http://LionheartTheatre.org)

## COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Please note that all offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents of Gwinnett County, will be closed Monday, **May 25** in observance of Memorial Day.

## GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

The new *Gwinnett County Connection* and water bill designs are here! We hope you enjoy the new look and feel, and we look forward to keeping you connected to all things Gwinnett County.

**ESCANEE PARA LEER EN ESPAÑOL**  
**한국어 버전은 QR 코드를 스캔해 주세요**



**Gwinnett County Connection questions/comments:**  
[info@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:info@gwinnettcounty.com) | 770.822.7180

**Water bill questions:** 678.376.6700