

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

OCTOBER  
2020

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## Don't miss important election deadlines

October features some critical dates in the run-up to the November 3 election:

- **Voter Registration Deadline:** October 5
- **Advance in-Person Voting:** October 12 – October 30
- **Absentee/Advance by Mail:** Ballot request deadline October 30

Voters who wish to vote by mail must apply for a mail-in ballot online at [BallotRequest.SOS.GA.gov](https://BallotRequest.SOS.GA.gov), or by using the forms at [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com). Mail-in ballots must be delivered by hand or by mail to the Voter Registration and Elections Office or dropped into a secure Ballot Drop Box. To check your voter registration status, please visit [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](https://MVP.SOS.GA.gov). For advance voting locations, visit [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com).

## No se pierda importantes fechas límite de la elección

Octubre presenta algunas fechas críticas en el período previo a las elecciones del 3 de Noviembre:

- **Fecha límite de inscripción electoral:** 5 de Octubre
- **Votación adelantada en persona:** 12 de Octubre al 30 de Octubre
- **Votación Ausente/Adelantada por correo:** Fecha límite para solicitud de boleta es el 30 de Octubre

Votantes que desean votar por correo deben solicitar una boleta por correo en línea en el nuevo sitio web [BallotRequest.SOS.GA.gov](https://BallotRequest.SOS.GA.gov), o a usando los formularios en [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com). Las boletas por correo deben entregarse en mano o por correo a la Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones o depositarlos en uno de los buzones de entrega. Para verificar su estado de inscripción electoral, visite [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](https://MVP.SOS.GA.gov). Para conocer los lugares de votación adelantada, visite [GwinnettElections.com](https://GwinnettElections.com).

## AROUND GWINNETT

### Visit [GwinnettTransitPlan.com](https://GwinnettTransitPlan.com) to learn more about the November referendum

Transit funding is on the November 3 ballot for a one-percent transit sales tax to invest in 82 major transit and infrastructure projects.

The Gwinnett Transit Plan includes high capacity BRT service that operates in dedicated travel lanes, as well as arterial rapid transit (ART) that operates in a combination of dedicated and shared highway lanes. These premium services bypass traffic for faster, more reliable transportation and provide many of the advantages of rail service with shorter construction times and lower cost. In addition, expanded local bus service will allow for shorter wait times and Sunday service, with commuter bus routes serving new park-and-ride lots. Expanded paratransit service will extend the transit system, serving most areas of Gwinnett. A rail line will connect Gwinnett's planned Multimodal Hub at Jimmy Carter Boulevard to MARTA's Doraville Station, creating a connection that avoids congestion on the roadways near that station.

Visit [GwinnettTransitPlan.com](https://GwinnettTransitPlan.com) to learn how the plan will deliver more options sooner, provide more connections to jobs, and maintain Gwinnett's local control of transit.

### Recycle used stuff at America Recycles Day

Recycle electronics, latex paint, and paper at America Recycles Day on November 14 from 9:00am to 2:00pm at Coolray Field in Lawrenceville. Shredding is limited to five copier paper boxes. Only latex paint will be accepted, limit 10 gallons. Electronics recycling is free, except TVs/monitors (\$15) and printers (\$5), cash only. Attendees should wear masks, remain in vehicles, and place recyclables in the back of vehicles or trunks for vendors to remove. Containers will not be returned. Preregistration at [VolunteerGwinnett.net](https://VolunteerGwinnett.net) is encouraged to reduce congestion. For more information, call 770.822.7141 or visit [GwinnettCB.org](https://GwinnettCB.org).

### Gwinnett veterans to be recognized remotely for Veterans Day

Gwinnett County Government will honor Gwinnett's veterans with a virtual Veterans Day ceremony on November 11. The video can be viewed on-demand on [TVGwinnett.com](https://TVGwinnett.com), the County's Facebook and Twitter pages [@GwinnettGov](https://@GwinnettGov), and on the County's Vimeo page [Vimeo.com/TVGwinnett](https://Vimeo.com/TVGwinnett).



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### The Water Tower, a county research and training center, becoming reality

Construction of The Water Tower, the new innovation center and strategic partner of the Gwinnett Water Resources, is underway near the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center. The Water Tower will be a campus featuring laboratory spaces and smart classrooms. Water and wastewater demonstration areas will promote advancements in applied research, technology innovation, workforce development, and community engagement within the water sector. The Water Tower will host interactive educational displays on the value of water.

Although the first facilities won't be open until 2021, the Water Tower has already launched several programs that include a virtual water-oriented book club, educational videos, and partnerships with local schools. Last year, the Water Tower partnered with students at the Gwinnett School of Math, Science, and Technology to create a green infrastructure design for the campus. Water Tower staff have created educational videos with water professionals to discuss topics such as wastewater treatment, Everglades restoration, and water-related careers. To learn more, visit [TheH2oTower.org](https://TheH2oTower.org).

## WATER TIPS

### LEARN ABOUT WATER QUALITY

The Water Resources website is a great place to learn about ways to protect water quality in Gwinnett, conserve water at home, and prevent troublesome clogs in your plumbing. Go to [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://Gwinnetth2o.com) and click 'Get Educated' to find tips on leak detection, septic systems, fats, oils, and grease clogs, and more!

## SERVING GWINNETT

### Major research center planned for county

Gwinnett County and the state of Georgia recently announced plans for a nearly 2,000-acre "knowledge community" called Rowen along Highway 316 that will include a combination of offices, research facilities, public spaces, and residences.

Rowen will be a collaborative space that fosters knowledge-sharing among entrepreneurs, Fortune 1000 companies, and researchers from more than 50 nearby research institutions, serving as a platform to spark scientific advancement and transformative discoveries.

The Development Authority of Gwinnett County and the Board of Commissioners authorized \$70 million in bonds during separate special called meetings August 25 to purchase the majority of the Rowen site east of Dacula and to fund associated infrastructure. The Development Authority also will provide funds annually to the Rowen Foundation, which will manage the project until it becomes self-sustaining. Rowen will focus on three areas of innovation: agriculture, the environment, and medicine.

### #ListenToGwinnettMoms to fight COVID-19

Mom's the word here in Gwinnett County as we officially launch our new public health education campaign, #ListenToGwinnettMoms. The campaign features real Gwinnett moms highlighting the simple ways we can all slow the spread of COVID-19 and do our part to protect our community. To learn how you can get involved, visit ListenToGwinnettMoms.com. Join the conversation by using #ListenToGwinnettMoms and on social media at @GwinnettGov.



## SPLOST

### Venture Drive roundabout nearly complete

Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Day Drive and Venture Drive near Steve Reynolds Boulevard is on track to be finished before the end of the year, weather permitting. Roundabouts allow better traffic flow than intersections with stop signs or traffic signals and tend to have fewer severe accidents than traditional right-angle intersections. The project includes the installation of lighting at the roundabout, curb and gutter, sidewalks, and drainage improvements, along with upgrades to the Steve Reynolds Boulevard intersection. Funding is provided by the 2009 and 2017 SPLOST programs, the State Road and Tollway Authority, and the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District.

## CHECK IT OUT

### Learn a new language with Mango Languages

Learning a new language is fun and rewarding with Mango Languages, an online program available through the Gwinnett County Public Library. Mango is a language learning resource with courses in more than 70 languages. Mango also offers specialized courses in certain languages with subjects like business or cultural appreciation. Mango focuses on the core elements of grammar, vocabulary, culture, and pronunciation to help you communicate with confidence. Whether you're learning a new language or just brushing up, you can do it for free with your library card. Visit [GwinnettPL.org](http://GwinnettPL.org) and check out the digital resources page for access to Mango Languages and more.

### COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED NOVEMBER 11

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents of the county, will be closed Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day. All offices will resume regular hours Thursday, November 12. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Trash collection in unincorporated Gwinnett is scheduled as normal.



## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Property tax bills due December 1

The 2020 Gwinnett County property tax bills are being mailed in October and are due December 1. If you have an escrow account, your property tax information is made available to your mortgage company; however, it is your responsibility to ensure taxes are paid. For more information or to learn how to pay online, please visit [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com).

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Gwinnett Fire providing free home safety checks

Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services offers free Home Safety Surveys to raise awareness of hazards inside and outside the home. The programs assist residents with identifying and correcting potential home hazards related to fires and slips, trips, and falls. All surveys are conducted by fire service professionals and are kept confidential.

Programs Include:

- Smoke alarm check/install
- Community fire safety talks
- Slip, trips, and fall prevention
- General well-being

Please email [FirePrograms@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:FirePrograms@GwinnettCounty.com) or call 678.518.4845 to schedule a home safety survey or educational program.

### LAST CHANCE TO COMPLETE THE CENSUS

The deadline to participate in the 2020 Census has been extended to October 31, 2020. If you haven't yet taken the survey online, by mail, by phone, or in person, please visit [2020Census.gov](http://2020Census.gov) to complete the census today.

## GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

ESCANEE PARA LEER EN ESPAÑOL  
한국어 버전은 QR 코드를 스캔해 주세요



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

Water bill questions: 678.376.6700