

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

APRIL  
2021

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## Commissioners approve bonds for purchase of Gwinnett Place Mall property

The Board of Commissioners has approved \$23.5 million in bonds to buy 39 acres of Gwinnett Place Mall as part of a major initiative to redevelop one of the key economic engines of the county.

The purchase is part of an effort by the County, the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District, and local property owners to create new opportunities to serve as a catalyst for redevelopment. Redevelopment of the area could reap tremendous benefits for the entire county by generating new businesses and jobs and increasing the county's tax base.

The approval came after the three major rating agencies reaffirmed the County's rare Triple AAA/Aaa bond rating, the highest available. The rating means the County can borrow money at most-favorable interest rates and refinance bonds at better rates than most counties.



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Gwinnett accepts 88-acre donation of land for passive park in Gwinnett Place area

The County will use 88 acres of a former golf course east of Pleasant Hill Road in unincorporated Duluth as passive greenspace. The parcel, donated by Benjamin A. Wood and Anthony L. Wood, is located between two neighborhoods and combines rolling hills, wetland areas, and small patches of woods. The new park could fill in a gap in park and recreational opportunities identified in previous studies. The property also provides wildlife buffers and greenway trail possibilities that could connect with Gwinnett Place Mall or along the eventual Sweetwater Creek Greenway. The County will also expand existing sewer lines on the property to accommodate growth in the area.

### Homeowner H<sub>2</sub>O: saving water and money

Learn various methods of indoor and outdoor water conservation and how these new habits can help save money on your water bill. Join the virtual workshop on Webex set for May 13 at 6:00pm. Please register online at [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to [DWRWorkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRWorkshops@GwinnettCounty.com), or by calling 678.376.7193.

### Tax Assessor's Office to issue Real Estate Property Annual Notices of Assessment

Most Residential and Commercial Annual Notices of Assessment for 2021 will be mailed on April 23. 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, 2021. Property owners may appeal the assessed value within 45 days of the date of the notice by submitting a completed PT311A state appeal form to the Tax Assessor's Office or visiting [Gwinnett-Assessor.com](https://www.gwinnett-assessor.com).

### Help prevent underage drinking

Adults who buy, supply, or provide alcohol to minors may be fined up to \$1,000, sentenced to a year in jail, or sued for damages. When teens drink, it can lead to accidents, DUIs, fatalities, lower school performance, and decreased athletic performance. Find more information from GUIDE Inc., a nonprofit organization focused on substance abuse and positive youth development, at [Guidelnc.org](https://www.Guidelnc.org).



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Keep HHW out of storm drains

Household hazardous waste is any household waste that is corrosive, reactive, ignitable, or toxic, such as pesticides, paint, vehicle fluids, and cleaning agents. HHW can be extremely harmful to water resources. Gwinnett County's stormwater drainage system is an open system intended to control flooding, not pollutants. When HHW is illegally discharged into the environment, stormwater runoff can pick it up and send the runoff directly into local lakes and rivers, which can affect the health of people and aquatic life alike.

To prevent HHW from polluting the environment, follow these tips:

- Never dump HHW down a storm drain
- Recycle automotive fluids at your local auto parts store
- Only buy as much of a product as you need, thus reducing waste
- Solidify paint with cat litter or sawdust before throwing it away

Visit [DPH.Georgia.gov/Household-Hazardous-Waste](https://www.dph.georgia.gov/Household-Hazardous-Waste) for more on HHW. Gwinnett County and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful host two HHW Collection Days each year. Visit [GwinnettCB.Org/Events](https://www.gwinnettcb.org/Events) to find the next event.

### COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Please note that all offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day. The County will hold its annual Memorial Day ceremony virtually this year. It will premiere May 31 on [TVGwinnettLive.com](https://www.tvgwinnettlive.com), on the County's Facebook page [@GwinnettGov](https://www.facebook.com/GwinnettGov), and on the County's Vimeo page. The ceremony will also be televised on TV Gwinnett, the County's local government access cable channel. It will run periodically afterward and will be available on demand at [TVGwinnett.com](https://www.tvgwinnett.com).

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Skip a trip to the tag office!

Do you need to renew or cancel your tag? Need a duplicate registration or to pay insurance fines? Skip the trip and the line! You can do all this and more by visiting the webpage [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/eservices](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/eservices).

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Prepare for tornado season

Tornadoes are the primary weather-related killer in Georgia. Most tornadoes are weak, but a few produce wind speeds greater than 166 mph. To protect yourself and your family, prepare a Home Tornado Plan and pick a place where family members can gather for safety, such as a basement or a windowless center hallway, bathroom, or closet on the lowest floor. You should also learn these commonly used terms:

**Watch:** A watch means that you should start paying attention because the threat of hazardous weather is increasing, although the timing and location is uncertain. A watch is intended to provide enough lead time for you to prepare. Listen to your local news or NOAA radio for more information and possible warnings.

**Advisory:** An advisory is issued when a hazardous weather is occurring, imminent, or likely. Advisories are used for conditions that can cause significant inconvenience, such as a winter storm.

**Warning:** A warning means life-threatening weather conditions are happening and people in the path of the storm need to take protective action.



## SPLOST

### Commissioners approve roundabout, sidewalk projects

The Gwinnett Board of Commissioners recently approved a roundabout at the intersection of Rosebud Road and Brushy Fork Road near Loganville and sidewalks along portions of Sugarloaf Parkway and Jimmy Carter Boulevard.

The \$1.1 million roundabout will improve sight distance and safety at the intersection. The project includes drainage structures and curb and gutter.

Sidewalks will be installed on the north side of Sugarloaf Parkway from Satellite Boulevard to North Brown Road and on the north side of Jimmy Carter Boulevard from Financial Drive to Lanier Boulevard. The \$374,500 project includes drainage structures and curb and gutter. These pedestrian projects will provide a continuous sidewalk on Jimmy Carter Boulevard from Interstate 85 to North Norcross Tucker Road. Both projects are funded by the 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

## CHECK IT OUT

### Create your personal projects at GCPL's Learning Labs

The Gwinnett County Public Library's Learning Labs are community makerspaces where expert staff are available to help you learn how to use equipment and software through public programs, one-on-one appointments, video tutorials, and educational outreach. Patrons can craft DIY projects, prototype designs, or simply learn a new skill. Create your own videos, music, podcasts, and A/V content. Use iMac workstations loaded with creative software like Adobe Creative Suite.

GCPL cardholders ages 13 and older can access the learning labs free of charge. To make a reservation, attend a program, or book a help session, call 770.978.5154 or visit [GwinnettPL.org/LearningLabs](http://GwinnettPL.org/LearningLabs).



## SERVING GWINNETT

### Celebrate Earth Day with free recycling

Recycle your electronics, paint, tires, and paper at the County's Earth Day event on Saturday, April 24 from 9:00am to noon at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, located at 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway in Lawrenceville. This event is brought to you by Gwinnett Solid Waste Management and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful.

Paper shredding is limited to five copier paper boxes; paint is limited to 10 gallons; and tires are limited to eight (dealer tires not accepted). Recycling is free except for TVs, monitors, and printers; there is a \$35 cash fee per projection or console TV, \$15 cash fee per TV or computer monitor, and a \$5 cash fee per printer.

All attendees are encouraged to wear masks and must remain in their vehicles at all times. Items to be recycled should be placed in the trunk or back of vehicles where they will be removed by vendors. Materials should be placed in disposable containers or boxes; containers will not be returned. For more information, please visit [GwinnettCB.org/Events](http://GwinnettCB.org/Events) or call the Solid Waste Call Center at 770.822.7141.

### Keep wearing your mask in public even if you've been vaccinated

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at protecting you from getting sick — and they're now available to all adults in Georgia! Based on what we know about COVID-19 vaccines, people who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic. The CDC says that fully vaccinated people can visit other vaccinated people indoors without masks, so you'll be able to safely hug Mom soon! After you've been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, continue precautions in public places, including wearing a mask, staying 6 feet from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. For more, visit [ListenToGwinnettMoms.com](http://ListenToGwinnettMoms.com).

## GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

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