

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

JULY  
2021

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## Chairwoman Hendrickson announces DEI initiatives

At the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit, Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson introduced initiatives to help build an equitable, inclusive, and welcoming foundation for all services, programs, policies, and developments made by the County.

The Gwinnett Place Mall Redevelopment Equity Plan is underway and will ensure that the redevelopment effort around the mall does not exclude or displace Gwinnett County's marginalized communities, but instead offers them an opportunity to thrive.

The County is also evaluating proposals from qualified consultants for the development of an Equity Action Plan on behalf of Gwinnett County. The plan will examine how the County addresses inclusion in all facets of government to identify where disparities impact the lives of Gwinnettians.



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Water Resources' Consumer Confidence Report now available

The annual 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 2020, there were no EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report. View the report and learn more about your drinking water at [GwinnettWaterWords.com](https://www.gwinnettwater.com/GwinnettWaterWords.com).

### DOT repaving program underway

The Gwinnett Department of Transportation is repaving sections of roads and streets covering about 95 miles countywide this summer. About 350 sections are on residential streets and 30 are on major roads, including Hamilton Mill Road, Five Forks Trickum Road, Sugarloaf Parkway, and Rosebud Road. DOT asks for patience as they work to restore our roadways to top condition and that motorists use caution where repaving is occurring.

### Ready, set, register for school!

If you're new to Gwinnett and need to register your child for school or if your child is changing schools due to a move, summer is the best time to register. All Gwinnett County Public Schools locations will be open for registration from 9:00am to 4:00pm on July 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, and 22. To learn which school your child will attend, go to "Find my school" at [bit.ly/GCPSSchoolLocator](https://bit.ly/GCPSSchoolLocator). Start the registration process at [bit.ly/GCPS21onlineregis](https://bit.ly/GCPS21onlineregis), then go to the school on registration days to complete the process. Visit [bit.ly/SchoolPhoneListGCPS](https://bit.ly/SchoolPhoneListGCPS) for your school's phone number to learn additional registration dates and hours. GCPS' first day of school is August 4.

### Be cautious around animals behaving oddly

Rabid animals are a natural occurrence, so be sure to use caution around wild animals or animals acting oddly. Primary carriers of rabies are bats, raccoons, skunks, bobcats, and foxes, although domestic pets can be infected as well. All pets should be current on their rabies vaccination. Experts say unvaccinated animals exposed to rabies should be euthanized immediately or strictly quarantined for six months and vaccinated a month before being released. Take seriously any bites by wild or unfamiliar animals and seek immediate treatment; without treatment, rabies is nearly always fatal to humans. Animal bites should be reported to Gwinnett-Newton-Rockdale County Health Departments at 770.339.4260.



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Wash your car – not the stream!

Washing your car at home can be satisfying, but it can also be a source of water pollution. Soaps and detergents can be harmful to the environment – even biodegradable soaps.

Water that enters a storm drain goes directly into local waterways unfiltered. Soap and anything that washes off the car can be harmful to the environment if it flows into storm drains and mixes with surface waters. There, it can expose wildlife to potential toxins and contribute to algal blooms.

To avoid polluting surface waters in your own backyard, consider two options:

1. Wash your car over grass or gravel so that the soapy water soaks into the ground where microbes degrade the ingredients and hold them in place, preventing water pollution.
2. Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash. Most commercial car washes recycle water and end up using less water than a typical at-home car wash.

If your driveway does not slope towards the road or a storm drain, you can wash your car on your driveway. As long as wash water doesn't enter a storm drain, you are helping prevent water pollution. To learn more, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com/GetEducated](https://Gwinnetth2o.com/GetEducated).

### Save water and money, stop water leaks

Finding and stopping water leaks in your home not only helps conserve our water resources, but it can also save you money on your water bill. Water Resources is hosting a free virtual workshop August 12 at 6:00pm to share tips on finding and fixing leaks at home. Register at [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://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 COMMISSIONER

### Schedule your tag office appointment online

Gwinnett residents no longer need to wait in line when they visit a tag office. To schedule an appointment, visit [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Appointments](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Appointments), find your desired location, click "Make an Appointment," then follow the remaining prompts. Appointments are available from 10:00am to 3:00pm up to two weeks in advance.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Use caution in summer heat

Summer temperatures in Georgia can reach 100 degrees or more, which can be especially dangerous to seniors, children, and people with asthma. If you work or play outdoors, take precautions to be safe.

Heat exhaustion symptoms include rapid, shallow breathing, cold and clammy skin, heavy perspiration, general weakness, muscle cramps, and possible loss of consciousness. Heat stroke includes deep breaths followed by shallow breathing, fluctuating pulse, dry hot skin, dilated pupils, loss of consciousness/possible coma, and seizures or muscular twitching. Heat stroke could result in brain damage or even death. If you find someone with heat exhaustion or heat stroke, try to cool them down, hydrate them, and call 911.

Follow these tips to stay safe in the summer heat:

- Stay hydrated during outdoor activities by drinking plenty of water
- Take a cool shower, especially after long exposure to the sun
- Wear clothing that is lightweight, light-colored, and loose fitting. A brimmed hat and sunglasses provide protection to the head, face, and eyes
- Use sunscreen and take breaks in shade
- Limit outdoor activities to early morning or late evening



## SPLOST

### DOT finishing Pleasant Hill Road improvements

The Gwinnett Department of Transportation is nearing completion on major improvements to Pleasant Hill Road. Pleasant Hill was widened from Howell Ferry Road to Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to add a third travel lane in either direction within the project limits. This project also installed dual left turn lanes at all approaches of the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. These improvements were paid for with funds from the 2014 SPLOST program and State Road and Tollway Authority. As part of a separate but connected project, the third westbound lane is being extended to the Chattahoochee River. This project also includes a new multi-use path from west of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to the Chattahoochee River, as well as a pedestrian boardwalk connecting to the pedestrian bridge crossing over the Chattahoochee River. This project is funded with revenues from the 2009 and 2017 SPLOST programs.

## CHECK IT OUT

### GCPL's photography exhibition invites entries

The Gwinnett County Public Library invites professional and aspiring photographers to submit their work to the GCPL Photo Annual July 7 through August 16. Selected photographers will have their work exhibited at the new Duluth branch during the Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival in October. The exhibition will be juried by Maria Kelly, a curatorial assistant of photography at the High Museum of Art. This year's theme is "Imagining the Unreal." For more information, visit [bit.ly/GCPLPhotoAnnual](http://bit.ly/GCPLPhotoAnnual).



## SERVING GWINNETT

### Celebrate Park and Recreation Month

Gwinnett is hosting a variety of events throughout the county this July to encourage people to tell their stories as part of Park and Recreation Month. Residents are also invited to share their park story on social media using #OurParkAndRecStory. Like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram [@GwinnettParksandRec](https://www.instagram.com/GwinnettParksandRec) for more information throughout the month. Park and Recreation Month is an initiative of the National Recreation and Park Association to recognize the many ways that parks and recreation transform our daily lives. For more information about the fun things to do in our parks this July, visit [GwinnettParks.com](http://GwinnettParks.com).

### Gwinnett moms say, 'Get vaccinated'

Across the country – including at nearly 100 sites here in Gwinnett – millions of people have stepped up and chosen to be vaccinated. These vaccines are our best shot at safely getting back to the life we love, with the people we love. The shots are free and require no insurance.

Gwinnett County Government, with the support of our Gwinnett Moms, is here to support you on your vaccine journey with the latest facts. Backed by decades of science, tested extensively, and proven remarkably effective again and again, these vaccines are safe, they're working, and it's time for each eligible person to get one. So why wait? Visit [ListenToGwinnettMoms.com](http://ListenToGwinnettMoms.com) for more information and join the conversation by tagging [@GwinnettGov](https://www.instagram.com/GwinnettGov) and using #ListenToGwinnettMoms.

### GCPS seeking school bus drivers

Gwinnett County Public Schools needs bus drivers. They enjoy competitive pay (\$17 to 24 per hour) and benefits, paid training, and a great schedule – no week-nights, weekends, or student holidays, and summers off with full pay. Drivers must be 21 or older, have a clean driving record, and hold a high school diploma or GED. Apply at [GCPSJobs.org/Drivers](http://GCPSJobs.org/Drivers).

## 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