

GWINNETT
COUNTY

MAY
2021

Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Commissioners update vision, mission, and core values

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners recently updated the vision, mission, and core values intended to guide the County's actions going forward. The commissioners developed the new statements during their annual strategic planning session facilitated by UGA's Carl Vinson Institute of Government in March.

Vision: Gwinnett is the preferred community where everyone thrives!

Mission: Gwinnett proudly supports our vibrantly connected community by delivering superior services.

Core Values:

Integrity – We believe in being honest, building trust, and having strong moral principles.

Accountability – We believe in stewardship, transparency, and sustainability.

Equity – We believe in fairness and respect for all.

Inclusivity – We believe in engaging, embracing, and unifying our communities.

Innovation – We believe in continual adaptation of technology, process, and experience.



AROUND GWINNETT

Gwinnett offers rental and utility assistance

Applications are now open for Project RESET 2.0, the County's emergency rental assistance program. Project RESET 2.0 offers up to 15 months of total assistance, which may include rental and/or utility arrears (up to 12 months) and future rental and/or utility assistance. Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility providers for past-due balances. To receive assistance, applicants must be a renter in Gwinnett County; have a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income; have either qualified for unemployment benefits, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19; and demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness. To learn more about the program, who qualifies, and required documents, visit [GCGA.us/RentalAssistance](https://www.gwinnettcourts.com/ResetAssistance). Renters and landlords can apply at [GCGA.us/ProjectRESET2](https://www.gwinnettcourts.com/ResetAssistance).

Gwinnett Clerk of Court offers voters free paper copy of ID cards

The Gwinnett County Clerk of Court is offering free paper copies of identification cards for absentee ballot requests in future elections. A new law requires proof of identification for voters requesting an absentee ballot.

Gwinnett residents may bring identification to any Clerk of Court location from 8:30am to 5:00pm weekdays. The locations are:

- The Clerk of Superior and the State and Magistrate Court at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville
- The Detention Center and the Magistrate Clerk's Office at 2900 University Parkway, Court Annex, second floor, in Lawrenceville
- Juvenile Court Clerk's Office at 115 Stone Mountain Street in Lawrenceville

Time to register for kindergarten

If your child will be 5 on or before September 1, register for kindergarten for the 2021– 2022 school year in an easy, two-step process. Step 1: Complete online registration on the GCPS website at [bit.ly/GCPS21Kregis](https://www.gwinnettcourts.com/ResetAssistance). Step 2: Before May 28, schedule an appointment with the school to verify information, complete a readiness profile, pick up materials, and learn about summer activities. Check the website of your child's new school to learn more. To see which school your child will attend, visit "Find My School" at [bit.ly/GCPSSchoolLocator](https://www.gwinnettcourts.com/ResetAssistance).



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Stormwater utility fee pays for maintenance

Since 2006, the Stormwater Utility has helped fund numerous projects that proactively maintain and protect our water resources.

One such example is a project completed last November off Bruce Way/White Oak Circle and Hickory Ridge Drive in Lilburn. For more than 50 years, a 66-inch metal pipe lay beneath Hickory Ridge Road, draining stormwater to a nearby stream. The 100-foot-long pipe was corroded and emptied into a nearby streambed at an unfavorable angle, resulting in massive erosion of the streambed and posing a structural risk to a nearby home.

In late August, crews replaced the existing pipe with a 72-inch reinforced concrete pipe and corrected the erosion problem. This project, funded by the Stormwater Utility fee, increased the life span of the pipe to a 100-year level of service in addition to mitigating the structural risk posed to the nearby home.

Learn water saving tips at virtual Waterwise Landscaping workshop

Learn water saving landscape tactics and habits to help keep your yard beautiful and healthy while conserving water and saving money. A free virtual Water Wise Landscaping workshop is being held June 17 at 6:00pm. Register at [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnettcourts.com/ResetAssistance); by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to DWRworkshops@gwinnettcourts.com; or by calling 678.376.7193.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Do your tax and tag business online or at a kiosk

When it comes to conducting your tax and tag business, the safest option is still to skip the trip entirely and do it online or at a kiosk. The next safest way is to avoid the line by using our drop-box service. If you need to go in person, you can check tag office wait times in advance at this webpage GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Wait for the best possible experience.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Have fun in the water by being smart and safe

With school letting out and the summer heat cranking up, people naturally flock to the water to stay cool. Enjoy water recreation safely with these tips:

- Never swim alone; be sure there is a lifeguard or another person who is not in the water to watch swimmers
- Always supervise children in the water, staying within arm's reach of a young child
- Young children and inexperienced swimmers should always wear a life jacket in the water
- If in doubt about the depth of the water, always enter feet first; never dive headfirst into shallow water or murky water
- Avoid pool drains; hair, bathing suits, or limbs can get caught in the drain
- Never mix alcohol and swimming, even in shallow water
- Always inspect electrical cords near water for exposed wiring because water conducts electricity



SPLOST

County building two roundabouts this summer

Gwinnett is adding roundabouts to two intersections in the central and eastern part of the county this summer: Constitution Boulevard at Langley Drive near the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville and the crossroads at Lilburn Stone Mountain Road at Old Tucker Road near Lilburn. Both projects include sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and drainage improvements. The \$1.2 million roundabout in Lawrenceville and the \$1 million roundabout in Lilburn are both funded by SPLOST.

Roundabouts allow traffic to flow continuously and reduce the areas of potential conflict between vehicles. As in all crossings, pedestrians should wait for a gap in traffic and cross with care. When entering a roundabout, traffic will be from your left and has the right of way. Do not proceed until there is adequate room for you to safely enter the flow of traffic.

CHECK IT OUT

Duluth's new library building opens in May

The Gwinnett County Public Library's Duluth branch has relocated to 3180 Main Street in downtown Duluth across from city hall. At about 22,000 square feet, the new building is twice the size of the old library. When it opens this month, it will feature dedicated spaces for children and teens, digital media production, and a makerspace; a meeting room with seating for up to 120 people; and multiple group study rooms.

The city provided 1.9 acres of land along with offsite storm-water detention and streetscaping for the project, while the County added about a half-acre to the site and built and furnished the structure. Revenue from the voter-approved SPLOST funded the County's portion.

SERVING GWINNETT

Gwinnett launches early learning program

Gwinnett County has partnered with Gwinnett County Public Schools and the Building Babies' Brains initiative. In an early learning and literacy program called Building Brains Anywhere. B² Anywhere provides mobile early learning programs at parks, childcare facilities, community centers, apartment complexes, places of worship, and more. Programs focus on literacy, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math), and nature play. They also help prepare children to thrive in kindergarten. B² Anywhere events are free, but pre-registration is required. COVID-19 protocols are in place. For more information, visit B2Anywhere.com.

Burn ban in effect through September 30

To protect air quality, the state Environmental Protection Division is imposing a metro-wide burn ban through September 30. All types of outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste, as well as the use of air curtain destructors. For more information, visit GwinnettFireMarshal.com or call 678.518.4980.

Listen to Gwinnett Moms on vaccine safety

Gwinnett Moms continue to do everything they can to keep the county they love — and all of us who live here — safe. With COVID-19 vaccines available to all Georgians 16 and older, we encourage you to check out ListenToGwinnettMoms.com for information on COVID-19 vaccine safety and efficacy, details about how to schedule your appointment, and of course, encouragement from Gwinnett Moms.

Check out ListenToGwinnettMoms.com to learn more and start making your vaccination plan today. Gwinnett Moms want to know your "why" for getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Use [#ListenToGwinnettMoms](https://twitter.com/ListenToGwinnettMoms) and tag [@GwinnettGov](https://twitter.com/GwinnettGov) to join the conversation.

GWINNETT COUNTY CONNECTION

ESCANEE PARA LEER EN ESPAÑOL
한국어 버전은 QR 코드를 스캔해 주세요



Gwinnett County Connection questions/comments:
Info@GwinnettCounty.com | 770.822.7180

Water bill questions: 678.376.6700