

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

JANUARY  
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# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## County launches major infrastructure project in eastern Gwinnett

Gwinnett has started construction on an infrastructure project that will provide water, sewer, and trails for 8,500 acres of land in eastern Gwinnett.

The Eastern Regional Infrastructure Project includes approximately five miles of new public trails, two trailheads, upgraded and expanded water service, and expanded sewer service. The \$125 million project will be funded by the departments of Water Resources and Community Services, including revenue from the 2017 SPLOST program, which will fund the trails component of the project.

The trail system will provide access to trails heading to Barrow County and beyond to the east. With its planned connectivity to the future Piedmont Pathway to the southwest, users will be able to access trail systems across the metro Atlanta region, some of which extend all the way into Alabama.

Learn more about the ERI project at [GwinnettERI.com](http://GwinnettERI.com).



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Animal shelter adjusts hours

The Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center in Lawrenceville has adjusted its hours of operation through February 28. The center's office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 5:00pm. Adoption hours are Monday through Thursday from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Friday and Saturday hours will remain 11:00am to 4:00pm. The shelter is closed Sundays. For more information, visit [GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](http://GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com).

### Find a career with Gwinnett County

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government at the Career From Here hiring event on February 25 from 9:00am to 5:00pm in Duluth. Interview with County representatives, review your resume with Human Resources, and meet with current employees to learn how you can thrive in a variety of fields. Apply before February 11 on [GCGA.us/HiringEvents](http://GCGA.us/HiringEvents). The event will take place at the Gas South Convention Center, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth. Gwinnett County offers competitive benefits, paid training, educational incentives for certain positions, tuition reimbursement, career advancement, and much more.

### Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center welcomes inaugural members

The inaugural group of fledgling business owners are moving into the newly opened Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center, a County-sponsored facility to nurture small business startups. In partnership with Georgia Gwinnett College, the center will provide member businesses with instruction, networking connections, coworking space, and offices. Additionally, services available to regional entrepreneurs will include classes, workshops, coaching, and peer networking. Learn more about the center at [GwinnettEntrepreneurCenter.com](http://GwinnettEntrepreneurCenter.com).

### Rain barrels save money and water

Learn how to collect and store rainwater in a rain barrel for use in your landscape. A \$30 pre-payment is required to take home your new rain barrel. The Rain Barrel Workshop is being held at the Grayson Senior Center on February 19 at noon.

Please register at [Gwinnetth2o.com](http://Gwinnetth2o.com), by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to [DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com), or by calling 678.376.6914.



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Protect storm drains from illicit discharges

Storm drains are an integral part of the public infrastructure and help keep rainwater off our streets and parking lots. In Gwinnett, storm drains are separate from the sewer system, which means that anything discharged into a storm drain will flow directly into a local waterway.

Anything other than rainwater is considered an illicit discharge and can pollute our waterways. Illicit discharges also violate a County ordinance prohibiting the discharge of anything other than rainwater to the stormwater drainage system. Common illicit discharges include:

- Soapy water
- Used or leaking motor oil
- Paint
- Pet waste
- Leaves and grass clippings

You can report if someone is discharging waste products into a storm drain by calling at 678.376.7000. Water Resources will investigate the situation and if necessary, issue enforcement to stop it. For more information, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](http://Gwinnetth2o.com).

### Homeowner H<sub>2</sub>O: Toilet Tech Workshop

Learn more about toilets and how they can save you water and money. A virtual Toilet Tech Workshop is being held on February 17 at 6:00pm. Please register at [Gwinnetth2o.com](http://Gwinnetth2o.com), by calling 678.376.6914, or by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to [DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com).

## TAX COMMISSIONER

### New tag office hours

As of January 4, Gwinnett tag offices are open from 8:30am to 5:30pm on weekdays, with Wednesdays extending to 6:00pm; Saturday hours are no longer offered. Gwinnett residents may also skip the trip entirely by conducting business online, or, if an in-person visit is required, they can skip the wait by making an optional appointment in advance – see [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com) for details and links. Walk-ins are always welcome. Check wait times in advance at [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Wait](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Wait).

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Be prepared in case winter weather traps you in your car

With the peak of winter storm season upon us, it's a good time to prepare for weather conditions like snow and ice that could trap you in your car.

Take these few steps to prepare for a winter emergency in your vehicle:

- Before you leave, check weather forecasts on your route
- Dress for the weather outside, not for the inside of your vehicle, with several layers of loose-fitting clothing covered by a topcoat
- Try not to travel alone, but if you must, let someone know your timetable and routes
- Winterize your vehicle and keep your gas tank at least half full to prevent your fuel line from freezing
- Stock an emergency kit with food and bottled water, a portable cell phone charger, ice scraper, flashlight and batteries, a first aid kit, blankets, jumper cables, and sand or cat litter for traction
- If you do get stuck on the road, remain in your vehicle where rescuers are most likely to find you



## SPLOST

### Pedestrian projects currently in progress on State Route 120 and State Route 20

Pedestrian improvement projects recently began on two of Gwinnett's major routes, State Route 120 and State Route 20.

The \$312,700 project will construct new sidewalks along the north side of State Route 120/Duluth Highway from Colony Bend Drive to Riverside Parkway and on the east side of State Route 20/Grayson Highway from Crane Drive to Park Place Drive.

New curb and gutter and associated drainage improvements as well as the extension of the existing eastbound left turn lane on State Route 120/Duluth Highway are included in the scope of work.

The projects are funded by the 2017 SPLOST program.

## CHECK IT OUT

### Order library books mailed to your home

Mailbox books is a by-request service for Gwinnett County Public Library homebound customers who are unable to visit the library due to age, disability, chronic illness, or a temporary health condition. With this service, customers can either request specific titles and formats or let librarians choose materials based on the customer's personal preferences. Materials can be checked out for 42 days and can be renewed without extended loan fees. To register, call the library at 770.978.5154 or apply online at [GwinnettPL.org](http://GwinnettPL.org).



## SERVING GWINNETT

### County provides help to people in need

Gwinnett County is providing community navigators to guide people in need through the sometimes complicated process of finding and acquiring resources, services, and assistance from nonprofits and other charitable organizations. The navigators are part of a program called OneStop 4 HELP and can be contacted by email at [OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com), by phone at 770.822.8850, and soon in person at OneStop facilities in Norcross, Buford, and Centerville.

Gwinnett residents can visit [GwinnettOneStop.com](http://GwinnettOneStop.com) to complete an assistance request form to identify a variety of critical needs. The assistance offered includes employment, food, housing and shelter, income support, legal consultation, mental and behavioral health, substance use, transportation, and utilities.

### Protect yourself from COVID-19

With a new variant and the lingering presence of the coronavirus in our community and around the world, it's important to maintain healthy behaviors to protect yourself and others.

If you haven't and you're eligible, please get your COVID-19 vaccine. Remember to stay home when you're sick, wear a mask when appropriate, and wash your hands regularly. Together, we can keep our community safe and healthy.

### County offices closed for MLK and Presidents Day holidays

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Monday, January 17 for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Offices will reopen January 18. Offices also will be closed Monday, February 21 for Presidents Day and will reopen February 22. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center on both holidays.

## 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