

GWINNETT
COUNTY

JULY
2022

Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Five themes emerge for Gwinnett Place Mall's future

Nearly a year of community feedback about the redevelopment of Gwinnett Place Mall shows that residents would like to see affordable housing, neighborhood services, incentives for existing businesses in the area, job support, and a central location with accessible transit.

In addition to the Community Partner Advisory Board guiding the process, several community-driven events were held over the course of the last year to streamline responses and gain valuable insight.

Moving forward, the Board of Commissioners will evaluate themes from the Reclaim Gwinnett Place Mall Project and outcomes from the Gwinnett Place Livable Centers Initiative study and use the findings from both plans to prepare a Request for Information to solicit proposals for the redevelopment of Gwinnett Place Mall.



AROUND GWINNETT

Gwinnett wins "Best Tasting Water" in Georgia

The Georgia Association of Water Professionals named Gwinnett County's drinking water the Best Tasting Water in the state of Georgia. Gwinnett now qualifies to compete in the national American Water Works Association competition against utilities across the country. The county gets its drinking water from Lake Lanier, and it's treated at two water production plants. These two plants use advanced technology to provide more than 70 million gallons of drinking water to Gwinnett's residents. The water is continuously tested for quality and taste. To learn more, visit GwinnettWaterWords.com.

Give animals in need a loving home!

Gwinnett Animal Welfare is participating in the nationwide Clear the Shelters campaign by offering free adoptions and fun for the whole family at the shelter Saturday, August 27 from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Along with free adoptions of vaccinated, microchipped, and spayed or neutered pets, there will be kid-friendly activities, music, vendors, and resources for pet owners. The shelter is located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. To see all the pets currently available at the shelter, visit GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com.

Homeowner H2O: Stop leaks and save water

Want to know if you have a leak? Learn how to determine if your home has a water leak, how to search for the source, and how stopping leaks conserves our shared water resources. Join us for a free, virtual workshop on Webex Tuesday, August 16 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Register at Gwinnetth2o.com, by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to Please DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com, or by calling 678.376.6914.

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.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Protect water by preventing pollution

Gwinnett Water Resources operates a vast stormwater infrastructure system that prevents localized flooding by keeping rainwater off the streets and parking lots.

The stormwater drainage system is separate from the sewer system and flows directly into a local waterway, which can become polluted if pollutants other than rainwater get into the system. Illicit discharges are considered a violation of Gwinnett County's Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection ordinance. Common illicit discharge violations include soapy water, used or leaking motor oil, paint, pet waste, and leaves or grass clippings.

If you see an illicit discharge, you can help protect water quality and environmental health by reporting it at 678.376.7000. Water Resources will investigate the situation, educate those involved, and ensure the discharge is stopped. For more information, visit Gwinnetth2o.com.

Attend a free Septic System Maintenance and Care workshop

Learn how your septic system works, how to protect it, and how this all protects our waterways. Water Resources is hosting a free Septic System Maintenance and Care workshop on August 11 at 6:00pm at OneStop Norcross. Attendees from unincorporated Gwinnett and Lilburn may qualify for a 5 percent credit on their stormwater utility fee. Register at Gwinnetth2o.com; by sending an email with your name, address, and phone number to DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com; or by calling 678.376.7193.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Property tax bills coming in August – Sellers take note!

Property tax bills should arrive to your mailbox by mid-August. If you sold a property this year, you will still receive a tax bill, as required by law. This is because taxes accrue in full on January 1, and the January 1 owner is responsible for the full amount. Typically, taxes are paid on time and liability for future taxes transfers seamlessly to buyers. If not, sellers may be named in tax liens placed on the property. Sellers can learn how to protect themselves by visiting GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Sold.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tips to beat the summer heat

With temperatures already rising above 90 degrees, the Georgia summer season is known for bringing extreme heat. The heat can be especially dangerous to seniors, children, and people with asthma. Here are some recommendations to keep the whole family safe during the summer heat:

- Stay hydrated during outdoor activities by drinking plenty of cool water
- Take a cool shower, especially after outdoor activities or long exposure to the sun
- Wear clothing that is lightweight, light-colored, and loose fitting
- Do not leave children in a parked car, even if the windows are cracked open
- When outdoors remember to use plenty of sunscreen and look for shaded areas to rest or to take breaks
- Monitor weather conditions and try to limit outdoor activities to early morning or late evening to avoid the hottest part of the day

For more summer heat tips, visit CDC.gov.



SPLOST

Commissioners approved Ivy Creek Greenway extension

Parks and trails are important parts of our community, and County leaders are making it easier for residents to walk and bike around the county.

The Gwinnett Board of Commissioners approved the extension of the Ivy Creek Greenway by 1.8 miles, from Westbrook Road to a new trailhead in George Pierce Park. The extension will connect to existing trails, including the Suwanee Creek Greenway, bringing the total length to 10 miles.

The \$3.4 million contract is funded by the 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program, known as SPLOST.

CHECK IT OUT

Start the school year strong!

As students head back to school, some new subjects may be difficult or confusing. Don't wait to consider tutoring to get them up to speed. The Gwinnett County Public Library offers a range of tutoring services for free. Students can meet with a library staff member at the library branch or online. GCPL also offers all sorts of online tutoring in math, science, social studies, and English through Tutor.com. For more information, visit GwinnettPL.org.



SERVING GWINNETT

Apply for home repair assistance

Gwinnett has partnered with Gwinnett/Walton Habitat for Humanity to provide plumbing and septic repair assistance to residents through the Water Resources Assistance Program. Qualified residents can apply for home plumbing repairs associated with damage caused by leaks, retrofitting of toilets, faucets, showerheads, and repair or replacement of failing septic systems.

To qualify, household income cannot exceed 60 percent of Area Median Income annually, based on family size. The applicant must also own and reside in the home where services are needed. To learn more, visit GCGA.us/WRAP.

Gwinnett County wins 2022 Social Justice Award

The National Association of County Park and Recreational Professionals awarded Gwinnett County the 2022 Social Justice Award for its Building Brains Anywhere program. The award recognizes outstanding leadership and collaboration in community programs or projects. It also honors park systems that have served as a change agent and made a tangible impact in the community. For more information, visit B2Anywhere.com.

Commissioners approves Juvenile Court reorganization

The Gwinnett Board of Commissioners approved a reorganization of the Gwinnett County Juvenile Court system. The decision establishes a new administrative department and move administration of Juvenile Court to the Administrative Office of the Courts, a move celebrated by the juvenile court judges. The reorganization will allow for the needed independence and open opportunities for the new department to apply for grants, prepare for future legislative changes, and tap into County resources.

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