

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

NOVEMBER  
2022

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## County moves to stop street racing and stunt driving

Commissioners approved a new ordinance that will make it more difficult to drag race on Gwinnett County streets. The ordinance allows Gwinnett Police to impound vehicles involved in street racing for up to a month. State law does not address impounding – only fines. The County's action comes on the heels of cities like Atlanta and Sandy Springs that have passed similar ordinances.

Street racing has surged nationwide and to crack down on this problem locally, our law enforcement officers use several resources to track down drag racing drivers – including intersection cameras.



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Board approves long-term Water Storage Agreement

The Board of Commissioners approved a Water Storage Agreement with the state of Georgia to allow the County to use storage volume in Lake Lanier for water supply. While Gwinnett and others have used the lake's water for many years, the new contract grants us long-term rights to meet Gwinnett County's water supply needs for years to come. As part of the agreement, the County will pay a roughly \$1.5 million annual payment to the state toward the cost of storage.

Additional fees for the County's percentage of the cost of lake repair, rehabilitation, and replacement, as well as operation and maintenance, will be assessed every year. The contract remains in effect for a minimum of 30 years.

### Gwinnett Parks earn national accreditation

Gwinnett has joined the ranks of elite park and recreation agencies across the country. Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation earned accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies, which measures the overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community.

The accreditation indicates that an agency has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, and safety. Visit [NRPA.org/CAPRA](http://NRPA.org/CAPRA) for more information about CAPRA.

### Enjoy the holiday tree display at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse

Looking for something to do over the holiday season? Hop in the car, turn on some holiday tunes, and head to the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse to see the holiday tree display.

Following the annual Lighting of the Tree on Thanksgiving night, visitors can stop by the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse lawn at 185 West Crogan Street in Lawrenceville to celebrate the festive season with family and friends.



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Keep fat, oils, and grease out of your pipes

Certain ingredients can be tasty additions to your favorite recipes, but they do not make great additions to sewer pipes or septic systems. Fats, oils, and grease can clog your pipes when not disposed of properly. When rinsed down the sink, FOG solidifies and creates blockages, which can result in costly backups in the home. FOG clogs in the public sewer also pose a risk to our natural resources when a backup overflows into a creek or pond.

When you are cooking, it is important to be mindful of how you clean up. Wipe cookware with paper towels and scrape all solid scraps into the trash before washing dishes. Keeping FOG out of the drain will help you save money and protect our environment. For more information about preventing problems associated with fats, oils, and grease, visit [UnclotTheFog.com](http://UnclotTheFog.com).

### Pay your water bill easily

Water Resources offers convenient ways to pay your water bill. Customers can pay in-person at the central facility or at any Western Union, by mail, via phone, or online! Online bill pay and autopay are easy to use and can save you valuable time. Learn more and create your account now at [Gwinnetth2o.com/PayMyBill](http://Gwinnetth2o.com/PayMyBill).

**TAX COMMISSIONER**

You may qualify for senior emission exemptions. If you are 65 or older, your vehicle model is 10 years old or older, and you drive less than 5,000 miles per year, you may be eligible for an emission inspection exemption. Apply online at [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) or at a Gwinnett tag office. Visit [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Locations](http://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Locations) to find a location near you.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Take these precautions while holiday shopping. Holiday sales events have already begun, and consumers are shopping earlier than ever before. Stay safe while holiday shopping with these helpful tips:

- Avoid leaving valuables or gifts in your vehicle unless they're hidden in an enclosed compartment, like a trunk
- Park in well-lit areas and be aware of your surroundings
- Avoid carrying unnecessary credit cards or your social security card in your wallet
- If you carry a purse, keep it closed and secure
- There is safety in numbers; use the buddy system
- If your credit card is stolen or misplaced, contact your credit card issuer immediately
- Call 911 if you notice suspicious activity

Thieves have many tactics to commit their crimes. From intimidation and threats to coercion or bodily injury, these dangerous acts can affect any person or business. To find more safety tips for the holiday season, please visit [GwinnettSafety411.com](http://GwinnettSafety411.com).



**SPLOST**

**Officials break ground on themed library**

County leaders joined the Gwinnett County Public Library Board of Trustees, Lawrenceville officials, and the Hooper-Renwick Legacy Preservation Committee recently to break ground on the Hooper-Renwick Themed Library. The new library branch will preserve the site of Gwinnett's only African American public school for decades.

The projected \$7.6 million project, funded by the 2017 SPLOST program and nearly \$1.7 million from the city, will incorporate the existing 11,400-square-foot school building into the 25,000-square-foot library. The new library will preserve architectural design elements and honor the legacy of the former Hooper-Renwick School through exhibits about the school's history.

**RESOURCES**

**Stay warm during the coldest nights**

Gwinnett County is opening five warming stations for residents to receive temporary, overnight relief from long-term exposure to temperatures of 35 degrees and below. When activated, the warming stations will be available from 6:00pm to 7:00am. Residents who visit the sites will be able to warm up, eat a meal, and get some rest. For more information on warming stations, visit [GwinnettOneStop.com](http://GwinnettOneStop.com). To volunteer, email [OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:OneStopHelp@GwinnettCounty.com) or call 770.822.8850.

**SERVING GWINNETT**

**County expands glass recycling program**

Gwinnett has teamed up with Waste Management to open the County's third glass recycling drop-off site at E.E. Robinson Park in Sugar Hill, giving residents another safe and sustainable option to recycle glass and help protect our environment. Clean, empty glass containers can be dropped off from sunrise to 11:00pm, unless posted otherwise.

Acceptable glass items include clear and colored bottles and jars. For more information about glass recycling, visit [GCSolidWaste.com](http://GCSolidWaste.com).

**Give a pet a home for the holidays**

This holiday season, give a shelter pet the gift of a forever home. Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement is waiving all adoption fees for the rest of the year. Pets adopted from the shelter are vaccinated, spayed/neutered, and microchipped. To learn more and see available pets, visit [GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](http://GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com).

**County offices closed for Christmas**

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Friday, December 23 through Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, December 27.

Trash and recycling collection will remain the same during the Christmas holiday. For more information, visit [GCSolidWaste.com](http://GCSolidWaste.com). A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during each holiday.

**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