

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

DECEMBER  
2023

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## Budget proposed for 2024

Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson's proposed budget for 2024 totals \$2.5 billion. The proposal consists of a \$1.96 billion operating budget, which funds everyday expenses such as employee salaries, benefits, equipment, and repairs, and a \$542 million capital improvements budget, which includes funding from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

New initiatives funded by the operating budget include the expansion and enhancement of critical water services for new developments, the execution of the Gwinnett Trails program, and a mental and chronic health care initiative for residents. The capital budget will pay for new libraries, parks, and roads.

Find the proposed 2024 budget resolution online at [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com). Residents can also share comments on the County's website through December 31. Commissioners will consider the budget on January 2.



## AROUND GWINNETT

### Attend Gwinnett County's annual hiring event

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government at the Career From Here hiring event on Friday, January 19 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Candidates will have the opportunity to interview with County representatives, review their resume with Gwinnett Human Resources, and meet current employees to learn how they can thrive in a variety of fields. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/Careers](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/Careers) to learn about opportunities with the County and apply.

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.

### Recycle your live Christmas tree

Do you want to be sustainable this holiday season? Then be sure to drop off your live Christmas tree at designated fire stations between December 26 and January 24. It's all part of the annual Bring One for the Chipper event! On Saturday, January 27, Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful will chip the trees into mulch for use in parks. For a list of all 24/7 drop-off sites or to register as a volunteer for the chipping event at Bethesda Park, please visit [GwinnettCB.org/Events](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/Events).

### Additional safety cameras coming to Gwinnett

Gwinnett Police is leaning on technology to fight crime with the installation of additional safety cameras across the county. Flock cameras are used to find amber alert victims and missing persons, and they allow officers to get real-time information on where stolen vehicles and suspects of crime are located. The Board of Commissioners recently approved an additional 36 Flock cameras to be installed along state routes. There are more than 7,400 cameras in metro Atlanta, and 835 of those cameras have been placed across Gwinnett since 2020. To learn more, visit [GwinnettPolice.com](https://www.gwinnettpolice.com).



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Avoid clogs this holiday season

Certain ingredients make tasty additions to your favorite recipes but leave fats, oils, and grease, known as FOG, on your dishes. When rinsed down the sink, FOG solidifies and creates blockages, which can lead to plumbing and environmental problems. Minor changes in your food preparation and cleanup habits could also reduce risks of costly repairs in or around your home. Here are some tips to help you properly dispose of FOG this holiday season:

- Scrape food scraps into the trash
- Wipe excess FOG off cookware before washing
- Pour used FOG in a container with a lid and place it in the trash

Visit [UnclogTheFog.com](https://www.unclogthefog.com) to learn more about proper FOG disposal.

### Help protect our water resources

Join us Tuesday, January 16 to get tips on the best methods for detention pond care and maintenance from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the Grayson Branch Library. Later that week, residents can discover how septic systems work, how to protect them, and why proper maintenance is essential for our water resources on Thursday, January 18 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at OneStop Norcross. To register, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.6914, or email [DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com) with your name, address, and phone number.

### TAX COMMISSIONER

#### Emissions are required for 2000-2021 model years

For 2024, all gasoline-powered and light-duty trucks weighing 8,500 pounds or less with model years 2000 through 2021 require an emissions test to register and renew. For more information, testing locations, senior exemptions, and more, please visit [CleanAirForce.com](https://CleanAirForce.com). Once your vehicle has been tested, renew online at [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew](https://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew).

### PUBLIC SAFETY

#### Deck the halls safely for the holidays

Holiday decorations are a joy for many during the season, but it's crucial to be aware of potential fire hazards. Every year during the holiday season, fires injure more than 2,600 people and cause millions of dollars in property damage. No matter your décor choices, it's essential to follow the manufacturer's instructions. The following tips will help make the holiday season a safe and enjoyable time for the whole family:

- Maintain your holiday lights
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets
- Never leave holiday lights on unattended
- Water your live tree and check for freshness daily
- Use nonflammable decorations

Visit [GwinnettSafety411.com](https://GwinnettSafety411.com) to find more safety tips for the holidays.



### SPLOST

#### Subdivision added to streetlighting program

Gwinnett County is set to improve traffic safety and enhance community well-being by incorporating the Parkwood Ridge subdivision into its streetlighting program. This decision follows a request from property owners who live in the Snellville-area neighborhood.

Gwinnett's streetlighting program aims to illuminate residential streets throughout the county, working in collaboration with utility providers to maintain a uniform standard of streetlighting. Walton EMC will be responsible for installing and maintaining 34 energy-efficient LED streetlights, funded by the 2017 SPLOST program at a cost of \$18,360. To learn more about how your pennies are working in Gwinnett, visit [GwinnettSPLOST.com](https://GwinnettSPLOST.com).

### RESOURCES

#### Test for radon in your home

Radon is an invisible, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas — and it is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Learn if radon is present in your home with a test kit from UGA Extension Gwinnett.

The affordable and easy-to-use kit should be hung in the lowest lived-in part of your home, such as the basement or first floor, for three to seven days. Instructions for use and next steps will be shipped with your kit. Learn more about radon and order your test kit at [UGARadon.org](https://UGARadon.org).



### SERVING GWINNETT

#### Boost your wellness in the new year

Live Healthy Gwinnett offers year-round opportunities to enhance your well-being through free programming. Participate in monthly Walk the Talk trail walks led by health professionals or Community Health Fairs offering health screenings, community resources, and more. For more information, visit [LiveHealthyGwinnett.com](https://LiveHealthyGwinnett.com).

#### Volunteer for MLK Day of Service

Mark your calendars for the annual MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 15. Lend a helping hand by participating in vital wetland cleanups with Gwinnett Water Resources or preparing food for homebound seniors in our county. To learn more and sign up, visit [VolunteerGwinnett.net](https://VolunteerGwinnett.net).

#### County offices closed for New Year's and MLK Day

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Monday, January 1 in observance of the New Year's Day holiday and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 2. Offices will also be closed on Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 16.

Trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the New Year's Day holiday and remain the same during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. For more information, please visit [GCSolidWaste.com](https://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