

GWINNETT
COUNTY

FEBRUARY
2025

Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Board appoints Opioid Abatement Committee

Gwinnett County has established an Opioid Abatement Advisory Committee following settlements from federal lawsuits against several pharmaceutical companies.

As a result of these settlements, the state of Georgia has designated Gwinnett County to receive a substantial portion of the funds to support opioid abatement and remediation efforts.

The committee will review applications from organizations seeking funding and provide the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners with recommendations on how to allocate funding to maximize their impact on opioid mitigation efforts.

Committee members include:

- **Gwinnett County Superior Court Judge Angela D. Duncan**, Accountability Court Representative
- **Jennifer Hibbard**, Executive Member of a Community Services Board Representative
- **Tasha Edwards**, Lived Experience Representative
- **Dr. James Smith**, Gwinnett County Board of Health Representative

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com) for more information about the Opioid Abatement Advisory Committee and their work.

AROUND GWINNETT

Apply for the Empower Gwinnett internship program

Get hands-on experience with Gwinnett County Government by applying for the Empower Gwinnett internship program! This four-week paid program offers Gwinnett's young people ages 15 to 21 an opportunity to gain valuable experience, explore their passions, and develop leadership skills through workshops and on-the-job training. To be considered for this program, apply online by Monday, March 17 at [GwinnettCounty.com/EmpowerGwinnett](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/EmpowerGwinnett). Please note that the number of positions available is limited and not all applicants can be guaranteed a spot.

Get your rental home inspected

Gwinnett County is committed to upholding the interior standards of the International Property Maintenance Code at residential rental properties. If your rental home is damaged, improperly maintained, unsanitary, or unsafe, you may request an inspection by emailing CodeEnforcement@GwinnettCounty.com, visiting [GwinnettZIP.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com), or calling 770.513.5004. Once a request is submitted, an inspection appointment will be scheduled. During the inspection, any code violations will be documented on a notice of violation. A Gwinnett Code Enforcement officer will then work with the property owner or manager to address all violations. For a list of common interior code violations, visit [GwinnettCodeEnforcement.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com).

Elevate your landscape this spring

Shop more than 50 varieties of flowering and fruit plants that thrive in Georgia soil at UGA Extension Gwinnett's annual Plant Sale Fundraiser.

This year's diverse selection ranges from blueberries, apples, and pears to azaleas, hydrangeas, and magnolias. Pre-order by mail or in-person through Friday, February 28 at the UGA Extension Gwinnett office in Lawrenceville. The pickup and bonus sale will be on Thursday, March 13 from 9:00am to 5:45pm at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville. Proceeds benefit 4-H and Master Gardener projects. For more information, visit [GwinnettExtension.com](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com).



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Dispose of fat, oils, and grease properly

By being mindful of fat, oils, and grease disposal, we can help protect our sewer system and the environment. When rinsed down the drain, FOG solidifies, leading to blockages and potential damage. Save money and the environment with these helpful disposal tips:

- Scrape food scraps into the trash
- Wipe excess FOG off dinnerware and cookware before washing
- Use sink strainers to keep food scraps out of the drain
- 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.

Learn how to identify and repair leaks

Are you interested in learning how to identify and fix leaks? Join us at the Fix-a-Leak workshop on Saturday, March 15 from noon to 1:30pm at the Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center in Lawrenceville or Tuesday, March 18 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at The Water Tower in Buford. To register for either date, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.7193, or email DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com with your name, address, and phone number.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Seniors may qualify for a tax exemption

Residents who are 65 or older as of January 1 with Georgia taxable income below \$121,432 might qualify for the Senior School Tax Homestead Exemption. Qualifying residents must own and occupy their home as of January 1 and must apply by April 1 to receive the exemption on this year's tax bill. If not required to file taxes, seniors can provide other proof of income to qualify. Learn more and apply at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Seniors.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning in your home

Carbon monoxide is a hard-to-detect, colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can cause illness or death. Many poisonings come from poorly installed or maintained home heating systems. Symptoms – often mistaken for the flu – include headache, nausea, confusion, dizzy spells, and fatigue. Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning in your home with these helpful tips:

- Install a carbon monoxide detector in your home
- Install home heating appliances according to the manufacturer's instructions
- Never use gasoline-powered tools and engines indoors
- Avoid warming up your vehicle in the garage

Remember to call 911 to report a carbon monoxide leak as well as any exposure symptoms. Please visit GwinnettSafety411.com for more carbon monoxide safety tips.



SPLOST

Enhancements coming to East Jones Bridge Road

Gwinnett County is making improvements to East Jones Bridge Road, including a new bridge with pedestrian amenities to replace the existing two-lane bridge and pedestrian bridge over the Chattahoochee River tributary. The project will also install new sidewalks and curb and gutter, enhancing pedestrian safety and connectivity in the area. Funded by the SPLOST program, the project is anticipated to be complete by 2026. Learn more about how your pennies work in Gwinnett at GwinnettSPLOST.com.

RESOURCES

Discover new adventures by reading

Encourage your little ones to pick up a book during National Reading Month. Our G.R.E.A.T. Minds Book Exchanges are stocked with books for children from birth through age 14. Reading unlocks the door to life-long learning, social skills, and professional development. Support literacy in our community by donating books to the book exchanges or by becoming a book exchange steward! To learn how to get involved or find a location near you, visit B2Anywhere.com.

SERVING GWINNETT

Become a lifeguard in Gwinnett

Looking for a rewarding job opportunity this summer? Become an American Red Cross-certified lifeguard for Gwinnett County's award-winning park system. Not only will you learn lifesaving skills and boost your fitness level, but you can also enjoy flexible hours in a fun team environment with ample growth opportunities.

Pay starts at \$17.35 per hour, plus the training is free. Part-time and seasonal positions are available at our five year-round aquatic centers and four seasonal pools. Visit GwinnettCounty.com/Lifeguard to learn more.

Recycle right, Gwinnett!

Did you know Gwinnett County offers curbside recycling pickup for residents in unincorporated areas? Simply place your recyclables in a cart next to your trash cart for collection.

Don't have a recycling cart yet? If you already receive trash services, you can request a free 65-gallon cart online at GCSolidWaste.com. That's also where you'll find a list of accepted curbside recycling items.

Stay plugged into Gwinnett news and events

Follow us on Facebook, X, Instagram, and YouTube at @GwinnettGov to get the latest news and announcements. Subscribe to our e-newsletters at GwinnettCounty.com for information about events, volunteering, transit service, public safety, and more delivered right to your inbox.

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