

GWINNETT  
COUNTY

JANUARY  
2026

# Connection

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
GWINNETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

## BOC approves 2026 budget

On January 6, the Board of Commissioners approved a \$2.58 billion budget to fund County operations and projects for 2026, a reduction of \$84.6 million from the previous year's budget.

The adopted spending plan consists of a \$2.15 billion operating budget and a \$431 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

The budget includes funding for initiatives like the completion of the Gwinnett Community Resource Center at Grayson Highway, enhancements to E911 communications, and the relocation of Fire Station 3. The budget also helps to maintain roadways and provide safe, clean drinking water.

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com) for more information and highlights.



## AROUND GWINNETT

### County to host annual hiring event

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government at the annual Career From Here hiring event on Tuesday, February 3 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Gas South Convention Center in Duluth.

Candidates will have the opportunity to interview with County representatives, review their resume with the Department of Human Resources, and meet current employees to learn how they can thrive in various fields. Visit [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/jobs) to apply.

Gwinnett County offers competitive benefits, paid training, educational incentives for certain positions, tuition reimbursement, career advancement, and much more. The Gas South Convention Center is located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth.

### Celebrate Black History Month with us

Gwinnett County will host its Black History Month celebration on Wednesday, February 11 at 6:30pm to acknowledge the past and how it contributes to a brighter and more equitable future.

Join us at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/BlackHistoryMonth](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/blackhistorymonth) to register.

### Add a pop of color to your landscape

Shop more than 50 varieties of flowering and fruit plants that thrive in Georgia soil at UGA Extension Gwinnett's annual Plant Sale Fundraiser to benefit 4-H and Master Gardener projects. This year's diverse selection ranges from apples, blueberries, and pears to azaleas, camellias, and hydrangeas.

Preorder by mail or in-person through Friday, February 27 at the UGA Extension Gwinnett office in Lawrenceville. The pickup and bonus sale will be on Thursday, March 12 from 9:00am to 5:45pm at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville. For more information, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/UGAPlantSale](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/ugaplantsale).



## PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

### Prepare your home for cold weather

When temperatures drop, winterize your home to prevent potential damage to your plumbing system. Frozen water in your pipes can expand, causing those pipes to burst. Avoid costly repairs and prevent winter plumbing problems with these helpful tips:

- Use an insulated spigot cover on outdoor faucets
- Insulate pipes in attics, basements, and crawl spaces
- Keep garage doors closed to protect unheated areas
- While traveling, set your thermostat to at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit

Find more water-saving tips at [DWRConserve.com](https://www.dwrconserve.com).

### Explore ways to conserve water

Learn how to use water more efficiently at home and help protect our water resources! Attend the High Efficiency, Low Water Bill Workshop on Thursday, February 12 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at the George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center in Suwanee.

Interested in collecting rainwater for your landscaping? Join us on Saturday, February 28 at 10:00am for a rain barrel workshop at the Grayson Senior Center in Grayson.

Visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.7193, or email [DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com) with your name, address, and phone number to register for either workshop.



## TAX COMMISSIONER

### Emissions required for 2002 to 2023 model cars

For 2026, all gasoline-powered and light-duty trucks (weighing 8,500 pounds or less) with model years 2002 through 2023 must undergo emissions testing for registration and renewal. For testing locations, senior exemptions, and more, visit [CleanAirForce.com](https://CleanAirForce.com). Once your vehicle has been tested, renew online at [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew](https://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew).

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning in your home

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can cause illness or possibly death. It forms when fuel doesn't burn completely in appliances such as furnaces, dryers, wood-burning stoves, fireplaces, and car engines. Many cases of poisoning come from poorly installed or maintained home heating systems. To avoid carbon monoxide poisoning in your home, follow 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 or engines indoors.
- Avoid warming up your vehicle in the garage.

Remember to call 911 to report a carbon monoxide leak or any exposure symptoms. For more carbon monoxide safety tips, visit [GwinnettSafety411.com](https://GwinnettSafety411.com).



## SPLOST

### Pedestrian safety improvements coming near Dyer Elementary

Gwinnett County is enhancing safety and accessibility for pedestrians near Dyer Elementary School. New sidewalks will be installed on the north side of Hurricane Shoals Road from the school to Retreat Drive and on the west side of Rabbit Hill Circle from Hurricane Shoals Road to Hood Road. The \$1.3 million project will be funded by the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program as part of the County's ongoing commitment to building a more walkable, sustainable community. Learn more about how your pennies work in Gwinnett at [GwinnettSPLOST.com](https://GwinnettSPLOST.com).

## RESOURCES

### Get a grant toward your first home

If you're a first-time homebuyer, you might be eligible for Gwinnett's Homestretch Down Payment Assistance Program! New or existing Gwinnett residents aspiring to own a home can receive down payment assistance of up to \$10,000 as a five-year deferred payment loan with 0% interest. To qualify, the home must be located within Gwinnett County and should not exceed \$349,000 for an existing home or \$410,000 for new construction.

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/HomestretchDPA](https://GwinnettCounty.com/HomestretchDPA) for a list of eligibility requirements and to apply.

## SERVING GWINNETT

### Get rid of your hazardous waste

Have some hard-to-dispose-of items? Bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event on Saturday, February 7 at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds! From 9:00am to 1:00pm, residents can bring up to five disposable containers of items like motor oil, batteries, cleaning chemicals, and more. For a complete list of acceptable items, visit [GwinnettCB.org](https://GwinnettCB.org). The Gwinnett County Fairgrounds is located at 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway in Lawrenceville.

### Plant your own veggie garden

Reserve a spot for the 2026 growing season! Gwinnett's 11 community gardens offer raised plots for gardeners of all skill levels. At just \$35 annually, individual plots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To apply for a plot, visit [LiveHealthyGwinnett.com](https://LiveHealthyGwinnett.com). Email [HarvestGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:HarvestGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com) to learn more about educational programming and volunteer opportunities.

### County offices closed for Presidents Day

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed Monday, February 16 for the Presidents Day holiday and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, February 17.

Trash and recycling collection will remain the same during the holiday. Visit [GCSolidWaste.com](https://GCSolidWaste.com) for more information. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during the 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