



# News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcountry homeowners

January 22, 2014

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## Dear Homeowner,

As a resident of Gwinnett County, you know there is always a lot going on in the community.

[Gwinnett County Government](#) would appreciate your help keeping your neighbors informed by sharing the following information through your homeowner association newsletter, website, and emails and by talking to your friends and family.

## Chairman Charlotte Nash delivers State of the County Address

"We are optimistic because we have every reason to be," said Gwinnett Commission **Chairman Charlotte Nash** during the annual State of the County address to community and business leaders on Thursday, January 16.

The event was held at Gwinnett Center in Duluth, hosted by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and the Council for Quality Growth. Click the thumbnail to the right to view the entire speech.



## What's new on TVgwinnett?



Gwinnett County brings you the latest news and happenings about your community through Eye on Gwinnett, our bi-weekly news program.

### What you'll see in this episode:

- State of the County: Looking to the future
- Volunteer Gwinnett reaches 1 million hours
- Unemployment hits 5-year low
- Homicides lowest in 10 years
- MLK holiday features new events

## GIS conducts annual system update

Gwinnett County is currently acquiring aerial photography and survey ground control to update its Geographical Information System (GIS). The County contracted Sanborn Map Company to capture this data. Sanborn's team for this service will include WK Dickson & Co. Inc., a surveying firm based in Raleigh.



Surveyors will place temporary 10' to 12' black and white plastic targets in the shape of a "V," "X," or "T" within the public right-of-way and other public access lands in the county. All targets will be removed by mid-April after completion of the aerial flight and quality control of the images.

Please be careful to not disturb these targets. If you have any questions regarding this process, contact Sharon Stevenson, GIS Manager, at 770.822.8033 or [sharon.stevenson@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:sharon.stevenson@gwinnettcounty.com).

### Free tax preparation services offered at Centerville Community Center



The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will provide services through IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers on **January 24 from 9:00am to 1:00pm** at Centerville Community Center, located at 3025 Bethany Church Road in Snellville. Other services include credit report analysis and benefits screening. This event is sponsored by United Way, IRS, and other community organizations. Services are free, but you must register by calling 770.985.4713.

### Gwinnett Cooperative Extension hosts annual plant sale

The Gwinnett Cooperative Extension Service is hosting its annual plant sale from now until March 11, 2014. Prepare for your spring planting now and plan where you will grow delicious blueberries, apples or, figs. If you prefer decorative perennials, the sale also features beautiful camellias, azaleas, and gardenias.

Each plant is locally grown and is strong and healthy. For information about plants that are offered and assistance with planting them, call 678.377.4010 or visit the Cooperative Extension office in the Gwinnett Government Annex, located at 750 South Perry Street, Suite 400 in Lawrenceville.

Only pre-paid orders will be accepted. Residents may pick up their orders on March 19, 2014, from 10:00am to 6:00pm at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds (use the Sugarloaf Parkway entrance). All orders must be paid by cash or check only. Please make checks payable to Gwinnett Cooperative Fund.

See the list of plants for sale and basic information about each plant [here](#) or by visiting [www.gwinnettextension.com](http://www.gwinnettextension.com).

To place an order, please fill out the [plant sale order form](#).



### SPLOST: County approves funding for streetlights

Residents of streets and subdivisions built before streetlights were required can now get help lighting their neighborhoods. Gwinnett commissioners in December approved a resolution to use 2009 SPLOST funds to install standard streetlights as long as property owners agree to pay operating and maintenance costs.

Since June 1997, Gwinnett has required developers to install streetlights in new subdivisions. Operating costs are billed annually to property owners as a fee on the property tax bill. The development ordinance allows residents in older areas to petition the



Gwinnett Department of Transportation for streetlighting if they agree to pay electricity and maintenance costs.

Interested residents can get more information on the petition process by contacting the Gwinnett DOT Community Relations office at DOTCommunityRelations@gwinnettcountry.com or at 770.822.7400.

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