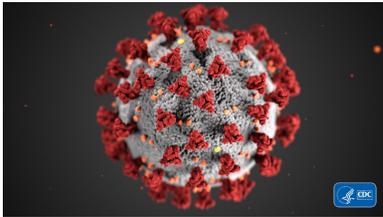


# NEWS

for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for Gwinnett County homeowners

March 13, 2020



Greetings!

Gwinnett County Government is monitoring developments in the spread of the coronavirus outbreak and how it may affect our residents, employees, and our delivery of important County services.

We are following the most up-to-date guidance from the Gwinnett-Newton-Rockdale County Health Departments, the state Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## Business Continuity

An internal task force has been working to evaluate existing policies and prepare additional plans for business continuity to allow us to **continue to provide essential services to the community**

## Courts and Trials

Chief Judge George F. Hutchinson III of the Superior Court of Gwinnett County [signed an order](#) declaring a judicial emergency for a period of 14 days beginning Friday, March 13. According to the order, no jurors or grand jurors shall report and no jury trials, except those trials now in progress and at the discretion of the presiding judge, for a period of 14 days. Further, no civil or non-essential matters will be heard by the courts during this time.

Essential functions, such as arrest and search warrants, first appearance hearings, family violence and stalking temporary protective order applications and hearings, will continue to take place.

## Senior Services and Programming

All Gwinnett County **senior center operations and senior recreation programming will be suspended after 5:00pm on Friday, March 13.**

Seniors who receive their meals through our senior congregate programming will be added to the County's home-delivered meals program to ensure that their essential needs are being met at home. Meals will continue to be delivered directly to the homes of seniors who already participate in our home delivered meal program, and in-home services will continue for those clients who receive homemaking and respite services.

**Recreational programming for residents ages 50 and older will be suspended until further notice** to limit exposure between at-risk individuals. All operations and programs at Prime Timers Pointe at George Pierce Park and Bethesda Park Senior Center have also been suspended.

## Events and Activities

**Events and activities are currently being assessed on a case-by-case basis** Current CDC recommendations are to cancel large gatherings (greater than 250 people) or move to smaller groupings. However, smaller events will be canceled at the County's discretion.

If a Gwinnett County Community Services event you have registered for is canceled you will receive an email or phone call notifying you of the cancellation. Any registration fee will be refunded.

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com](http://GwinnettCounty.com) or follow the [County's social media channels](#) to learn about event

cancelations.

## Elections

Voters who are concerned about the spread of COVID-19, especially those who are considered high risk including adults over age 60 and those with underlying medical conditions, are encouraged to consider alternatives to voting on Election Day. Before the March 24 Presidential Preference Primary, voters can cast their ballots [advance in person or advance by mail](#)

Satellite voting runs through Friday, March 20 from 7:00am to 7:00pm every day including weekends. Visit the [Advance Voting webpage](#) for satellite voting locations. In addition to the satellite locations, voters can cast their ballot at the Voter Registrations and Elections Office located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville during those same hours. Wait times are available on [GwinnettCounty.com](#), which can help residents assess crowd size at the voting location nearest to them.

Any voter may request an absentee/advance by mail ballot for the March 24 Presidential Preference Primary now through Friday, March 20. Please call the Voter Registrations and Elections Office at 678.226.7210 to request an application or [complete the form online](#). Voted absentee/advance ballots must be received in the Elections Office by 7:00pm on Election Day in order to be counted.

## County Facilities

At this time, County facilities, with the exception of senior centers, will remain open during normal business hours. The County has implemented many enhanced cleaning practices.

Visitors are encouraged to **practice everyday personal protective measures**, like avoiding contact with people who are sick, practicing coughing and sneezing etiquette, avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and washing your hands thoroughly and regularly.

Gwinnett County also offers a variety of [online services](#) that offer residents an alternative to coming into a County facility.

## Water Resources

The Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources emphasizes that **drinking water is still safe to consume**. According to the CDC, the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water, and conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, like those in our drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19.

As a precaution, Water Resources has developed an emergency staffing plan that will be implemented if necessary. This plan will ensure our facilities will continue to operate with no interruption and Gwinnett will continue to provide safe and reliable water to our residents.



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