



# News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

April 13, 2012

## Other newsletters:

[GC Connection](#)  
[Gwinnett LIFE](#)  
[OneStop](#)  
[Tax & Tag News](#)  
[Waterwords](#)

## 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 e-mails and by talking to your friends and family. Click on *forward this e-mail to a friend* below to share this newsletter!

## Celebrate Earth Day | April 14

Come celebrate America Recycles Day with the Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division on Saturday, April 14 from noon to 2:00pm at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves.

This free event will feature paper shredding, household battery and paint collection (limit 5 one-gallon cans per vehicle; dried-up paint is acceptable), kids' activities, and more!

Don't forget that every day can be Earth Day! For a list of items that can be recycled curbside in unincorporated Gwinnett County, visit [www.sustainablegwinnett.com](http://www.sustainablegwinnett.com).



## National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day | April 28

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00am to 2:00pm, giving you the opportunity to safely get rid of your unwanted, expired, or unused prescription drugs and reduce the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse. Last October, Americans turned in more than 188.5 tons of unwanted or expired medications for safe and proper disposal at the 5,327 take-back sites in all 50 states and U.S. territories.

Visit the [DEA's website](#) to find a collection site near you; check back frequently as collection sites are continuously being added. Call 1.800.882.9539 if you have any questions.

## Volunteer Gwinnett celebrates National Volunteer Week

Volunteer Gwinnett is celebrating National Volunteer Week, April 15 - 21, by thanking its dedicated volunteers for their generous support, community service, and positive impact in Gwinnett County.

National Volunteer Week is about celebrating and recognizing the amazing contributions *Volunteer Gwinnett* volunteers make every day to make Gwinnett County the best place to live, work, play, and volunteer! *Volunteer Gwinnett* aims to involve more people in volunteer activities to support the functions of County government. To learn more about *Volunteer Gwinnett*, visit [www.volunteergwinnett.net](http://www.volunteergwinnett.net).



## Gwinnett County celebrates health this April

Gwinnett County celebrates National County Government Month during the month of April to highlight county government programs and services to the public. We are observing this year's theme of *Healthy Counties, Healthy Families* with many [free and fun events](#) throughout the month of April. Most of the activities are designed to help residents learn about healthy living choices.

In addition, we will host a supply drive throughout the month to collect [hygiene and cleaning items](#) for Gwinnett seniors and children. You can find collection bins in the lobbies at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville, and Water Resources Central Facility, 684 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.



## General Primary/Nonpartisan candidate qualifying period | May 23 - 25

The qualifying period for political party and nonpartisan candidates for the General Primary/Nonpartisan Election ballot will begin on Wednesday, May 23 at 9:00am and end on Friday, May 25 at noon. For more information, visit the [Elections webpage](#).

## County mails assessment notices

Gwinnett County property owners will get the official assessment of their property's value soon. Chief Appraiser Steve Pruitt said the County mailed approximately 257,000 residential and 14,000 commercial annual notices of current assessment on April 6.

Overall, approximately 80,000 of the residential notices will show a decrease in value, with an average decrease of 22 percent. The sum of these downward adjustments total \$2.5 billion of residential market value. The general review of commercial properties resulted in more than 300 properties receiving increases in value totaling almost \$625 million in market value. New property growth, fairly equally split between residential and commercial property, totaled approximately \$400 million in market value.



The County planned for an 8.3 percent decrease equaling \$2.1 billion of taxable value for both residential and commercial property when the 2012 budget was adopted. Officials remain cautiously optimistic that this projection will align with the actual results of these residential adjustments, plus any additional changes occurring from residential and commercial appeals. Every drop in assessed value reduces the homeowner's property tax bill, but also reduces the amount of property tax revenue available to fund County operations.

## Filing an appeal

Property owners have 45 days from the date of the notice to file an appeal by using the statewide uniform appeal form (PT311A). The deadline for appeals is May 21. People who choose to appeal may submit appeals by U.S. mail or in person. Appeal information, interactive appeal forms, and FAQs are located on the Tax Assessor's website at [www.gwinnett-assessor.com](http://www.gwinnett-assessor.com). Taxpayers also can track the status of their appeal online this year.

The Tax Assessor's Office is prepared to answer questions about the notices or the appeal process through e-mail at [assessor@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:assessor@gwinnettcountry.com), by phone at 770.822.7200, or in person at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville.

## Friends hosts 10<sup>th</sup> annual Silent Auction

[Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services](#) is hosting its 10th annual Silent Auction on April 26 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at Delmar Gardens of Gwinnett, located at 3100 Club Drive in Lawrenceville. This Olympic-themed event will be a world-class celebration featuring great food, live entertainment, and some fantastic auction items you won't want to miss.



Support Gwinnett's seniors and purchase your tickets in advance for \$25 or for \$30 at the door. To donate an item for auction, participate as an event sponsor, or purchase tickets, call Friends board member Jennifer Thilo at 770.923.3100 or Charlene Barr at 678.377.6715.

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