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April 26, 2013

In this issue:

- Adopt a pet
- Thank you volunteers
- Town Hall Meetings
- Notice of assessments
- Controlling mosquitoes

Dear Emily,

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.

 Forward to a Friend

Adopt a pet today!

If you are looking for a companionable addition to your household, you will find lots of adorable cats, dogs, puppies, and kittens at the Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center.

Visit www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com to see photos of all the critters currently up for adoption, drop by the shelter located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville, or call 770.339.3200. To prevent pet overpopulation, all cats and dogs are spayed or neutered before adoption.



Volunteer Gwinnett celebrates National Volunteer Week



Volunteer Gwinnett is celebrating National Volunteer Week, April 21 - 27, 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 keep 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, watch this video or visit www.volunteergwinnett.net.

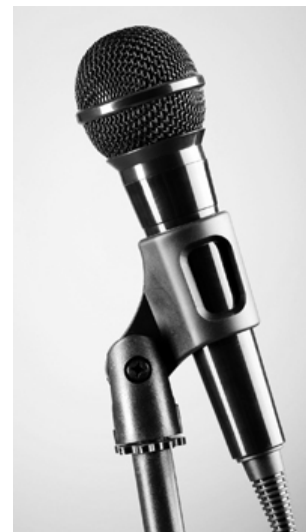
Commission hosts Town Hall Meetings around Gwinnett

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners is hosting a series of Town Hall Meetings in April and May. The evening begins with an open house at 6:15pm followed by questions and comments at 7:00pm. Representatives from County departments will be at the open house to answer your questions and talk about the different services they provide. Beginning at 7:00pm, the commissioners will invite you to share your thoughts and ideas about County government services.

Tuesday, April 30 from 6:15pm - 8:30pm
George Pierce Park Community Center
55 Buford Highway in Suwanee

Wednesday, May 1 from 6:15pm - 8:30pm
Grayson High School
50 Hope Hollow Road in Loganville

Thursday, May 9 from 6:15pm - 8:30pm
Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center
4651 Britt Road in Norcross



2013 assessment notices will not accurately reflect 2013 tax billing



The Gwinnett County Tax Assessor's office has begun issuing 2013 Notices of Current Assessment to residential and commercial property owners. The purpose of the assessment notice is to inform the property owner of the appraised value of the property that will be used later in the year to bill ad valorem (property) taxes. Once you receive your assessment notice, be sure to review the current value; appeals must be filed within 45 days of the notice date. Instructions on how to appeal will be included on the notice.

Tax estimates based on prior year's millage rate, current assessed value

State law requires counties to send a Notice of Current Assessment to every property owner annually, whether or not the value of the property has changed. The assessment notice is not a tax bill. However, state law also requires the assessment to include an estimate of the ad valorem tax bill (property taxes) based on the prior year's millage rate and the current year's assessed value. The notices will include estimates of 2013 property taxes that may not accurately reflect what property owners in Gwinnett County will owe, depending on the location of the property.

New service districts will change 2013 millage rates

Because the law requires the use of the prior year's millage rates, Gwinnett County's property tax estimates cannot reflect the new 2013 service districts that will substantially change how property taxes will be billed this year. As a result of the new service districts, your actual tax bill may be more or less than this estimate. For example, someone who owns property inside a city that provides its own police service will not see the reduction in County taxes associated with county police services reflected on this notice.

What will my millage rate be?

Commissioners will set the millage rate for property taxes this summer, after assessments and the majority of appeals are completed. A millage rate will be associated with each of the new service districts; rates will depend on a property's location, which determines what services are provided by the County. Property taxes will be billed in early August with payment due 60 days following the billing date.

For more information

For a detailed explanation of how service districts will affect service delivery and property taxes for services, including a brief video explanation, please visit www.gwinnettservicedistricts.com.

Control mosquitoes in your yard

The best way to control mosquitoes is by eliminating their breeding sites. Be sure to clean out your gutters, replace the water in birdbaths, dump flowerpot saucers, and remove all sources of standing water.

If you have water gardens, use mosquito dunks, which contain a natural pesticide to control mosquito larvae.

For more landscaping tips, visit www.gwinnettextension.com.



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