

News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

May 25, 2012

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

Memorial Day Ceremony | May 28

The public is invited to Gwinnett County's **Memorial Day ceremony** on **May 28 at 1:00pm** at the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Lawrenceville. This event is held each year to celebrate and honor our county's military heroes and public service personnel.

This ceremony will mark the ninth anniversary of the dedication of the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Gwinnett County, and members of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and honor guard units from the Gwinnett County Corrections, Fire and Emergency Services, Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and the Lawrenceville Police Department will take part in this event.

The Fallen Heroes Memorial is located on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville.

For more information about the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial, visit www.gwinnettfallenheroes.com.



County offices closed, trash schedule for Memorial Day

Please note that all offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of Gwinnett County, will be closed Monday, May 28, 2012, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours on Tuesday, May 29.

Haulers will follow normal trash schedule on Memorial Day. The Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recycling Call Center will be closed that day, but hauler call centers will be open. Visit www.sustainablegwinnett.com to find your hauler's contact information.

Foreclosure Prevention Workshop

A free foreclosure prevention workshop will take place on **June 1** from 1:00pm to 8:00pm and **June 2** from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The workshop will be held at the Georgia International Convention Center - Exhibit Hall B located at 2000 Convention Center Concourse in College Park. For more

information, please [view the attached flyer](#).

Local candidates qualify for July 31 primary

Republican, Democratic, and nonpartisan candidates completed the qualifying process for the July 31 General/Nonpartisan Primary. The qualifying period for the offices closed at noon on Friday, May 25.

Select the following links for a list of the qualified local candidates:

[Democratic](#)

[Republican](#)

[Nonpartisan](#)

To view the qualified candidates for the nonpartisan Gwinnett state offices, visit the [Secretary of State's website](#).

Summer is here - jump into pool safety!

Summer is almost here and we know what that means: the opening of neighborhood pools! All [Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation](#) pools open this Saturday, May 26, but before you take that first dive, refresh yourself on these pool safety tips!

- Lock all gates and doors to limit access to swimming pools
- Be sure to use a pool cover when the pool is not in use
- All children should be supervised in pool area
- Separate the deep and shallow ends of the pool with a float-line
- Be sure all rescue equipment is stored in reach
- Post emergency numbers by the telephone
- Cover all drains and vents to prevent entangling of the hair or body
- Designate an adult to watch the children during gatherings
- Teach children to swim at a young age and remind them of the dangers of swimming unsupervised



Wireside Chats: Learn about the transportation referendum

A regional 1 percent sales tax that will fund \$8.5 billion in transportation improvements will be on the ballot for voters to consider on July 31. The Atlanta Regional Commission will host a series of 12 Wireside Chats over six evenings in June to help residents understand what projects are on the list and how the penny tax would impact their community. Local officials will be on the phone to answer questions during each chat.



How to register

In order to participate, simply register your name and phone number at www.wiresidechats.com and be available at the designated time on the phone number you provide. With more than 150 projects on the list, you won't want to miss this opportunity to learn the facts and make an educated decision on July 31.

The Gwinnett Wireside Chat with Gwinnett County Board Chairman Charlotte Nash and Norcross Mayor Bucky Johnson will take place on **June 7 at 6:15pm**.

Hurricane season is here - are you ready?

The arrival of Tropical Storm Alberto meant the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season started early. It usually starts in June and lasts until November, with the peak season from mid-August to late

October.

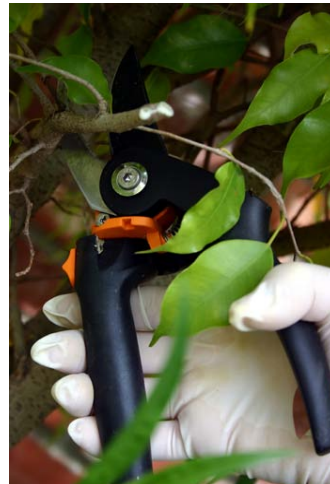
But what's the big deal? Metro Atlanta shouldn't worry too much about hurricanes, right? Wrong. Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland, so while Gwinnett is not a coastal county, hurricanes can still cause damage to the area. Wind damage and inland flooding are two large threats when these storms pass through.

While hurricanes or other disasters can't be prevented, we can be better prepared for them. Take some time this week to ensure that you are ready this season. Visit the [Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale County Health Department's webpage](#) for tips on how to be prepared.

3 must-do summer yard tips

With the summer heat approaching fast, gardener Tim Daly with the Gwinnett Cooperative Extension Service has some tips on how to beat the heat and keep your garden and yard beautiful all summer:

1. Summer-flowering shrubs, including gardenias and hydrangeas, will need pruning after fully flowering. Be sure to lightly prune any overgrown hedges and shrubs
2. Quit swatting! Eliminate mosquito breeding areas to reduce their population around your home by cleaning gutters, regularly replacing the water in birdbaths, and draining flowerpot saucers and all other sources of standing water
3. Be sure to water your hanging baskets and container plants on a regular basis. These plants tend to dry out quickly since they are above ground and are exposed to more heat and air flow



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

Two County buildings earn LEED® Gold

Gwinnett County announced two LEED® Gold certifications for its Gwinnett Senior Services Center and the new Operations Center at the Yellow River Water Reclamation Facility.

LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. The U.S. Green Building Council establishes criteria and the Green Building Certification Institute verifies them.



The Yellow River Operations Center won all possible points for water efficiency and design innovation. It reduces indoor water use by more than 62 percent compared to a typical building.

The Senior Services Center, at 567 Swanson Drive in Lawrenceville, opened in December 2010. It's a one-story facility on 6.4 acres with convenient parking where seniors' needs are matched with available resources such as information and assistance, counseling, and care management. The \$1.6 million building was funded through the federal stimulus program and Community Development Block Grants.

Smog season is here!

What is smog?

Vehicle and industrial fumes release pollution into the air. These pollutants react with sunlight in the atmosphere to produce additional pollutants. During the summer, we have an increased level of sunlight and ozone, and in turn, an increased level of air pollution or smog. This can be hazardous for senior citizens, children, and people with heart and lung conditions such as emphysema and asthma.

How can you find out when smog levels are high?

The Clean Air Campaign issues smog alerts on days when the concentration of pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels. Smog season is from May 1 to September 30, and you can find your daily Gwinnett smog forecast at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

What can you do?

As a Gwinnett County resident, when smog levels are forecasted as high, carpool, ride transit, work from home, or use another commute alternative. Visit www.cleanaircampaign.org to discover how the Clean Air Campaign can help you improve the air quality and save money.

gwinnettcounty
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