

# News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

July 8, 2011

## 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 information below 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!

## Join the recycling initiative

Gwinnett residents are working hard to reduce their impact on the environment by recycling their waste. Gwinnett residents have recycled more than 17,000 tons of waste, or about 12 percent of the total waste stream, from the County's solid waste program's start in July 2010 through March 2011.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Gwinnett's efforts to reduce the impact on the environment by increasing recycling. The countywide trash program allows residents to recycle more items than ever before. To view a list of the many items you can recycle curbside in unincorporated Gwinnett County, [click here](#).



## Register for your Peach Pass

The Georgia Department of Transportation received \$11.7 million for the conversion of 16 miles of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes in Gwinnett and DeKalb counties, known as the I-85 Express Lanes.

The HOV to HOT project includes the installation of tolling technology and equipment, new guardrail signs, and sign structures along I-85 between Shallowford Road and Lawrenceville Suwanee Road and along State Route 316 between its intersection with I-85 and Riverside Parkway. The HOT lanes will span from Chamblee Tucker Road to Old Peachtree Road on I-85 and along SR 316 between its intersection with I-85 and Riverside Parkway.



The I-85 Express Lanes will offer more choices to all motorists, including single occupant vehicles, and more reliable trip times in the corridor. Transit buses, motorcycles, alternative-fueled vehicles, and **vehicles with three or more passengers will be allowed to use the I-85 Express Lanes for free**, while single- and double-occupant vehicles will be allowed to use the lane if they choose to pay a variably priced toll.

**All vehicles must pre-register to ride in the I-85 Express Lanes through the Peach Pass program.** This technology will allow the tolling of vehicles without stopping on I-85 and the GA-400

toll. I-85 Express Lane toll rates will vary based on the number of vehicles using the lane to keep the lane free-flowing and provide reliable travel time.

Construction is expected to be completed by September 2011, and construction times and road closings will be posted on [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com). For real-time traffic updates, visit [www.511ga.org](http://www.511ga.org). For more information on the project, visit [www.dot.ga.gov/I85Expresslanes](http://www.dot.ga.gov/I85Expresslanes).

### Free water quality and home garden workshops

Rain gardens, detention pond maintenance, composting, and low-pesticide lawn care are only some of the workshop topics offered by the [Department of Water Resources](#). These workshops cover gardening and home care techniques that promote better water quality and a healthier environment. Participants may even be eligible to [receive a 5 percent credit](#) on their stormwater utility fee. For a complete schedule of workshops for 2011, [click here](#).

For more information, or to register, send an e-mail to the [Stormwater Management Division](#) at [dwrswreg@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:dwrswreg@gwinnettcountry.com) with your name, address, and telephone number, or call 678.376.7126.

### Back-to-School Drive

Gwinnett County agencies need your help! Back-to-School time is just around the corner, and many of Gwinnett's agencies are gearing up for another academic year in Gwinnett. They are collecting the following school supplies for families who cannot afford them:

- Book bags
- Pens
- Pencils
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Ruled paper
- Composition books
- Markers
- Colored pens and markers
- Highlighters
- Three-ring binders
- Glue sticks
- Index cards
- Lunch boxes
- Graph paper
- Calculators
- Erasers
- Crayons

Contact any of the following agencies to donate any school supplies you can offer. All of these groups are actively involved, year after year, in meeting the needs of less fortunate families here in Gwinnett.

[North Gwinnett Co-operative Ministry](#)  
[Gwinnett Department of Family and Children Services](#)  
[Trinity Life Church](#)  
[Lilburn Co-operative Ministry](#)  
[Centerville Community Center](#)  
[Day of Hope Foundation](#)

### Gwinnett County Human Relations Commission monthly meetings

The [Gwinnett County Human Relations Commission](#) is made up of 13 diverse Gwinnett citizens appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The Human Relations Commission works closely with the Board to encourage, promote, and develop fair and equal treatment and opportunity for all Gwinnett residents.

The Human Relations Commission's meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. Upcoming meetings will be held at 7:00pm at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville, in the Human Resources Training Room (second floor) on the following dates: July 14, August 11, and September 8.

If you have any questions, e-mail [gwinnetthrc@gmail.com](mailto:gwinnetthrc@gmail.com).

### Do you have leftover fireworks from Fourth of July celebrations?

Store any leftover fireworks in a cool, dry place that is out of reach for small children and pets and away from open

flames. When discarding used or unwanted fireworks, remember to soak them in a bucket of water for several hours before discarding them in the trash.

For additional fire safety tips, visit the Gwinnett Fire Community Risk Reduction website at [www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com](http://www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com) or contact the Community Risk Reduction Education Section at 678.518.4850.



**gwinnettcounty**  
**Communications Division**  
770.822.7180  
[www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

[Forward this e-mail to a friend](#)



This email was sent to emily.fehn@gwinnettcounty.com by [gccommunications@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:gccommunications@gwinnettcounty.com) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Gwinnett County Communications | 75 Langley Drive | Lawrenceville | GA | 30046