

# News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

July 20, 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!

## Gwinnett commissioners leave millage rate same

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners set the 2012 millage rate on Tuesday, leaving the rate unchanged from last year. The current millage rate of 13.02 mills is the same as last year when commissioners lowered the rate by .23 mills after paying off a 1986 bond issue for roads and libraries.



The tax digest is 5 percent lower than last year's final number, yielding about \$14.8 million less revenue for the County's general fund this year. Nearly 26,000 property owners appealed their assessments in 2012, which is one of the factors that contributed to the loss in the tax digest.

Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash said, "We're not out of the woods yet from a general economic standpoint, but I'm proud of County elected officials and staff for working so hard to balance the 2012 budget with the same millage rate as last year without any major reductions in services."

The Board's action allows the tax commissioner to mail property tax bills as scheduled in mid-August, with payment due in mid-October. Property owners or mortgage lenders can make payments by mail, online, by phone, at the main tax office in person, or by using one of the special drop boxes located at tax and tag offices. [Read more.](#)

### Do you know **Where Your Property Taxes Go?**

Check out Gwinnett's interactive property tax analysis tool. Simply enter your address or a fair market home value and find out where every penny of your property taxes goes. The [Where Your Property Taxes Go](#) tool can be found under *Your Money* on [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).

## General primary election advance voting through July 27

The 2012 General Primary/Nonpartisan election will take place on Tuesday, July 31 at your regular voting precinct. To find your voting precinct or view a sample ballot, visit the Georgia Secretary of State's [My Voter Page](#).

Registered voters may [request an absentee ballot](#) by mail or cast their ballot in person from July 9 to July 27, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm at the Gwinnett County Elections Office, located at 455 Grayson Highway in



Lawrenceville.

There are several other options to cast your ballot in advance of the July 31 election:

Saturday voting: July 21 at the elections office from 9:00am to 4:00pm

Satellite voting: July 23 - 27 from 9:00am to 7:00pm; visit the [Polling Place Locator webpage](#) for locations

For more information about advance and satellite voting, visit the [Elections webpage](#). Voters will be able to view the results of the July 31 elections on the [Secretary of State's Georgia Elections Results webpage](#) on election night.

Poll officials needed for elections

Be a poll official! Gwinnett County Elections would like to add more dedicated people to serve as paid poll officials for the 2012 elections.

Poll officials earn \$110 - \$250 per day, depending on their position. Applications are available at [www.gwinnettcountyjobs.com](http://www.gwinnettcountyjobs.com). For more information, visit [www.gwinnettelelections.com](http://www.gwinnettelelections.com).

### Celebrate National Hot Dog Day and Bark for Life™

July is National Parks and Recreation Month, so *Get Up, Get Out, and Explore Your Parks!* Your next chance to do that is Saturday, July 21 at 9:00am at Pinckneyville Park.



Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation in partnership with American Cancer Society's Bark for Life will

celebrate National Hot Dog Day and Bark for Life™ at Pinckneyville Park's Medlock Pavilion, located at 4758 South Old Peachtree Road in Norcross. Join them for a dog walk, games, contests, DJ, inflatables, and a doggie fashion show. Visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com) for more information.

### Animal Welfare hosts an adoption explosion

Are you looking for a new furry family member? Visit the Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center through Saturday, July 28 and adopt an animal for a reduced rate of \$30. The discounted fee pays for vaccinations, spaying or neutering, and a microchip.

The event will conclude with a block party on July 28, so be sure to bring the whole family.

For more details, please call 770.339.3200 or view the [event flyer](#).



### Beware of utility bill scams

There is currently a scam circulating throughout the nation where scammers are claiming that the president or the federal government will provide credits or apply payments to utility bills. Residents may be contacted by email, U.S. mail, social media, text, or direct phone calls. The scammers

request Social Security numbers and other personal information, and then give victims fraudulent banking information to use to pay their utility bills.

The Department of Water Resources offers the following tips to prevent becoming a victim of these scams:

- Please do not provide your personal or financial information to anyone you do not know
- If you suspect you have been contacted by one of these scammers, contact your local police department
- Do not attempt to make payments for utility bills using financial information from someone else

### Commissioners reject airport privatization proposal

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners moved to reject a public-private partnership for the lease, operation and improvement of Gwinnett County Airport - Briscoe Field during its June 5, business session. The board also moved to withdraw the preliminary application to the Federal Aviation Administration pursuant to the FAA's Airport Privatization Pilot Program. In a letter dated July 5, the FAA confirmed the removal of Briscoe Field from the privatization program.



These actions cease all efforts for potential privatization and commercialization of the Briscoe Field airport. More information about Gwinnett County Airport - Briscoe Field is available on Gwinnett County's website, [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com).

### School supply drive benefits local families

Back-to-school time is just around the corner, and Gwinnett County agencies are calling on the help of residents. These agencies are collecting school supplies for families who cannot afford them. Residents can help by donating any of the following items:



Wide ruled notebook paper	Dry erase markers
Composition books	Highlighters
Three ring binders	Pens
Glue Sticks	Scissors
Pencils	Colored pens and markers
Graph paper	Calculators
Rulers	Index cards
Crayons	Book bags
Markers	Lunch boxes
Erasers	Pocket folders with brads

Contact any of the following agencies to donate school supplies. Any and all donations are gratefully received. All of these groups are actively involved 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](#)
- [Overcomers House Incorporated](#)
- [Streetwise Georgia](#)
- [For My Sisters](#)
- [Norcross Human Services Center](#)

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