



September 28, 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 emails and by talking to your friends and family. Click on *forward this email to a friend* below to share this newsletter!

Register to vote in the General election by October 9

The 2012 General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 6. The deadline to [register to vote](#) and be eligible to cast a ballot in the election is Tuesday, October 9. To register to vote in Georgia, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- A legal resident of Georgia and of the county in which you wish to vote
- At least 18 years old by Election Day

Those currently serving any sentence imposed by the conviction of a felony or judicially determined to be mentally incompetent are not eligible to register to vote.



Registered voters may [request an absentee ballot](#) by mail up to 180 days prior to any election; ballots will be mailed beginning September 21. Voters may cast their ballots in person from October 15 to November 2, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm at the Gwinnett County Elections Office, located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville. Saturday voting will also be available at the elections office on October 27 from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

For the convenience of voters, [satellite offices](#) will be open October 27 from 9:00am to 4:00pm and October 29 - November 2 from 9:00am to 7:00pm at the Centerville Community Center in Snellville, George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center in Suwanee, Dacula Park Activity Building in Dacula, and Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center in Norcross.

To view a consolidated ballot for the November 6 General Election, visit the [Sample Ballots](#) Web page. For more information about voter registration and advance voting, visit [www.gwinnettelelections.com](http://www.gwinnettelelections.com).

2012 property tax bills due: October 15

Tax Commissioner Richard Steele has mailed the 2012 property tax bills, which are due on October 15.

Taxpayers who prefer to pay in two installments may choose to make an earlier partial payment as long as the total due is paid by October 15. There are several options for property tax payment:

- Pay online by check or credit card at



[www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com](http://www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com) (Paying by check is free; convenience fees apply for credit card transactions.)

- Mail payments to P.O. Box 372, Lawrenceville, GA 30046
- Pay by check using drop boxes 24 hours a day at all Tax Commissioner offices
- Pay in person during business hours at all Tax Commissioner offices

For property owners with an escrow account, tax information will be made available to the mortgage company; however, it is ultimately the responsibility of the property owner to ensure taxes are paid by the due date. If there are questions about who will pay the taxes, homeowners should contact their mortgage company directly, especially if their mortgage company has recently changed.

For more information, contact the office at [tax@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:tax@gwinnettcountry.com) or 770.822.8800.

### Public Safety Fall Festival: October 6

Gwinnett County Police and Fire and Emergency Services are hosting the third annual [Public Safety Fall Festival](#) on Saturday, October 6 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves.

Fire trucks, motorcycles, and a helicopter will be on display for everyone to see. With events such as safety demonstrations, kids' activities, pet adoptions, a yard sale, and a softball game between police and firefighters, the festival will be fun for the whole family. Admission is free, but be sure to bring canned food items to help fill local food bank shelves.



### Diverging Diamond Interchanges are coming to Gwinnett

Gwinnett County is working with the Gwinnett Place and Gwinnett Village Community Improvement Districts (CID) to bring Diverging Diamond Interchanges (DDI) to I-85 at Pleasant Hill Road and I-85 at Jimmy Carter Boulevard. Construction has already begun on Pleasant Hill Road.



The DDI's innovative design relieves congestion, improves safety, and is less expensive than replacing or widening the bridge. A DDI shifts traffic to the opposite side of the road, making left turns onto the interstate easier and improving the flow of traffic across the bridge. Find out more about the projects at [www.gwinnettddi.com](http://www.gwinnettddi.com).

### Seminar offers tips on cyber safety

On Thursday, October 4, the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Office will host a Cyber Safety Summit. The intent of this free training is to educate the community on how to protect Gwinnett's youth in today's technological world.

The seminar will be held in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. Registration is at 6:00pm, and the seminar begins at 6:30pm. If you are interested in participating in this seminar, please RSVP to [victimwitnesses@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:victimwitnesses@gwinnettcountry.com) or call 770.822.8396 on or before October 1.

## What do you think about widening SR 13?

The Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) and the city of Buford invite the public to attend an open house to discuss the proposed widening of SR 13/Buford Highway/Atlanta Highway from Sawnee Avenue in Buford to south of SR 347/Friendship Road in Hall County. The open house will be on Thursday, October 4 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm at Buford City Hall, located at 2300 Buford Highway in Buford.

Georgia DOT engineers will be available to discuss the proposed project; there will be no formal presentation. Anyone unable to attend the public information open house may send comments on the project to Glenn Bowman, Georgia DOT, 600 West Peachtree Street, NW, 16th floor, Atlanta, GA 30308. All comments will be considered in the development of the final project design and must be received by October 18, 2012. After the open house, plans can be viewed at the Georgia DOT District Office, located at 2505 Athens Highway in Gainesville. The plans will be also available on [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov) the day of the open house meeting.

## Sales tax holiday for WaterSense products

The first weekend in October is a good time to commit to saving water in Georgia. That's because purchases of WaterSense-labeled products that cost \$1,500 or less will be exempt from state and local sales taxes October 5 - 7.

WaterSense-labeled toilets, showerheads, faucets, irrigation controllers, and other products use at least 20 percent less water, and perform as well as or better than conventional models. Independent, third parties certify that WaterSense-labeled products meet U.S. E.P.A. criteria for water efficiency.

In addition, Gwinnett County residents can bring old or broken porcelain toilets to the Water Resources Central Facility located at 684 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville for recycling. All toilet seats and plastic parts must be removed, including handles. The facility accepts toilets for recycling between 7:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. After business hours and on weekends, access is available only from the Hosea Road entrance.

To learn about other ways to save water and money in Gwinnett County, register to attend the Homeowner H2O Water Conservation Workshop on Saturday, October 13 from 10:30am to noon at the Centerville Community Center, 3025 Bethany Church Road in Snellville. Residents who attend will receive indoor and outdoor water efficiency kits and a do-it-yourself home water audit guide. To register, send an email with your name, address, and phone number to [dwrconserve@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:dwrconserve@gwinnettcountry.com) or call 678.376.6722.



## Save your stuff for America Recycles Day: November 17

Come celebrate America Recycles Day with the Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division on Saturday, November 17 from 9:00am to noon at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves.

This free event will feature paper shredding, electronics recycling, and tire recycling (limit eight tires per vehicle, no dealer tires) kids' activities, and more!



**gwinnettcounty**  
**Communications Division**  
770.822.7180

[www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com)

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