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October 29, 2014

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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.

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

What's new on TVgwinnett?



Gwinnett County brings you the latest news and happenings about your community through Eye on Gwinnett, our bi-weekly news program.

What you'll see in this episode:

- New Ivy Creek trail section opens
- A very old house welcomes visitors
- Parks and Recreation gets national notice
- Join us for Veterans Day
- Great Days of Service recap

Be safe this Halloween

Halloween is coming up, and the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services wants to remind you to be safe. Here are a few tips to keep in mind as you have fun on Halloween night.

At home, only use decorations that are tested by an independent laboratory and never overload electrical outlets with holiday lighting or special effects. To ensure fire safety, keep paper and dry decorations such as leaves, cornstalks, and hay bales away from open flames or any other heat source. Using flashlights in jack-o-lanterns instead of candles will help prevent fire hazards.

Avoid using decorative candles at Halloween festivities and parties, especially around pets and small children. Help your neighbors and family stay safe by eliminate tripping hazards on your porch or



walkway to the front door; light the path for a safe entry and exit for children.

Keep kids safe by making sure costumes fit properly. Baggy sleeves or billowing capes pose a tripping hazard as well as a fire hazard. Use soft or flexible props for costumes and avoid those that have sharp points or jagged edges. If kids are carrying toy weapons as part of their costumes, make sure they do not look authentic; use only soft or plastic toy replicas to prevent injury.

Make a flashlight or glow stick part of the costume. You can make your trick-or-treater more visible to motorists by adding reflective tape to costumes and candy bags. Finally, choose costumes that are brightly colored and made of flame-resistant materials. Look for a fire-retardant label on any store-bought costume. [Click here](#) to see a special Halloween safety message from Safe Kids Gwinnett, Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services, and the Gwinnett County Police Department.

Now is the time to change your smoke alarm batteries



While you're "falling back" one hour for Eastern Standard Time this weekend, Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services wants remind you to change the batteries in your smoke alarm. Your alarms should be checked monthly and the batteries changed out twice a year. Use Eastern Standard Time as a reminder to keep your home safe.

Part of your regular maintenance is to keep your smoke alarm dust free and test it monthly. At least one smoke alarm should be placed on each level of the house, especially outside of bedrooms and at the top of staircase landings. These areas give you the earliest alert about a possible fire in your home. Smoke alarms have manufacture dates printed on them, so replace the unit based on the manufacturer's recommendation. If the alarm is older than 10 years, it's time to change it out.

If you need to replace a smoke alarm, keep in mind that there are two different types. Ionization smoke alarms are more responsive to flaming fires like grease fires on the stove. Photoelectric smoke alarms are more responsive to fires that begin after a long period of smoldering, such as a fire started by a cigarette discarded in a trash can or dropped on the cushion of a couch. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the best way to keep your home safe is to use both types of smoke alarms.

Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services offers free information and classes about smoke alarms and emergency planning. Contact us at fireprograms@gwinnettcounty.com.

Time is running out for advance and absentee voting

Registered voters have until Friday, October 31 to vote in advance or request an absentee ballot for the November 4 General Election. To find your voting precinct or view a sample ballot, visit the Georgia Secretary of State's [My Voter Page](#). For advance voting locations and information, visit the [advance voting webpage](#).



Registered voters may [request an absentee ballot](#) by mail or cast their ballot in person now through October 31 at the Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Office or at one of the satellite locations.

Please note that no voting will take place Monday, November 3. If you do not vote advanced or absentee, you must cast your ballot on election day in-person at your voting precinct. For more information about [advance voting](#) or how to request an [absentee ballot](#), visit the [Voter Registrations and Elections webpage](#) or call 678.226.7210.

See the wait times for advance and satellite voting locations

Visit the [advance voting webpage](#) for wait times at advance and satellite voting locations. Wait times are updated hourly. Please note that if you are standing in line at closing time, you will be allowed to remain until you've voted.

Voters will be able to view the results of the November 4 election, including advance voting results, on the [Secretary of State's Georgia Elections Results webpage](#) on election night.

For more information, visit www.gwinnettelections.com.

Veterans Day Ceremony celebrates Gwinnett's military heroes

Make plans to attend Gwinnett County's annual Veterans Day Ceremony, which will be held Tuesday, November 11 at 11:00am at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. This event is held each year to celebrate our county's military veterans and public service personnel.



Gwinnett County Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash and other officials will provide remarks. Major General Jim Butterworth, the Adjutant General for the state of Georgia, will be the keynote speaker for this year's ceremony. In addition, honor guard units from the Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services and Police departments, the Gwinnett County 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.

America Recycles Day event returns to Coolray Field



On Saturday, November 22, 2014, Gwinnett County will host its fifth annual America Recycles Day celebration, a nationally recognized initiative dedicated to encouraging people to recycle more at home, at work and on the go. This event is hosted by the Gwinnett County Solid Waste Division and will run from 9:00am to noon at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves.

This celebration is free to the public and includes tire recycling (limit 8 tires per vehicle, no dealer tires), electronics recycling (\$10 cash fee per TV), paint collection (eight, one-gallon cans), toner/printer cartridge recycling. Please bring your old sneakers to be donated to those in need or recycled into reusable surfaces for playgrounds and running tracks. There will also be kids' activities, giveaways, and refreshments while supplies last. For more information, visit www.sustainablegwinnett.com.

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