

News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

November 22, 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 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!

County offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of the County, will be closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. County offices will resume normal business hours on Monday, November 28. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center.

Thursday, November 24 is a trash and recycling holiday. Pickups scheduled for that day will be rescheduled for Friday, November 25 and Friday pickups will be rescheduled for Saturday, November 26. Only Thursday and Friday pickups will be affected. Please note that the trash schedule will not change for Christmas Day and New Year's Day since both holidays fall on a Saturday.

Chairman proposes 2012 budget

On Tuesday, November 15, Gwinnett County Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash unveiled the proposed fiscal year 2012 budget to the Board of Commissioners. The proposed budget totals \$1.3 billion, compared to \$1.5 billion for 2011.

The proposed operating budget (daily operations) for fiscal year 2012 totals \$901 million, while the proposed capital budget is \$430 million. Operating expenses are expected to be lower in 2012 compared to 2011, and capital investments have been limited to those that do not require significant additional operating costs. The Board is expected to consider the 2012 budget for adoption during the first meeting of the year on January 3, 2012. [Click here](#) if you are interested in reading more.



Water Resources issues call to end manhole cover theft

The problem of metal thefts has made news lately, including a recent investigation by the FOX 5 Atlanta I-Team. In light of these incidents, the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources urges all residents to be on the lookout for manhole cover and other metal thefts happening around the county. Copper thefts have been a major issue for businesses and residents, and thieves have resorted to stealing Gwinnett County-owned manhole and drop inlet covers from sanitary and stormwater sewers as



well as cast iron water meter covers.

If you see anyone who is not a Water Resources staff person in a Gwinnett County vehicle removing manhole or drop inlet covers or if you notice a missing cover, call Gwinnett Police at 770.513.5100 or Water Resources at 678.376.7000. Both lines are staffed 24 hours a day. County vehicles are clearly marked and Water Resources employees wear uniforms. Also, please take pictures of alleged thieves and their vehicles and to send them to Boss at jeff.boss@gwinnettcountry.com.

24th Annual Lighting of the Tree

Gwinnett County [Parks and Recreation](#) will host the 24th Annual Lighting of the Tree at 5:00pm Thanksgiving night at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse on the Lawrenceville square.

Join them for this free Gwinnett tradition, featuring live music, kid's crafts, and visits with Santa.



Be safe this holiday season

The Gwinnett County [Police Department](#) will activate its Holiday Task Force on Friday, November 25 through Saturday, December 31. This initiative provides additional visible police presence throughout Gwinnett County's shopping districts. The task force will be available for any calls for service, but the Police Department wants to remind you to be safe while you are out shopping and travelling during the holidays. Here are some helpful tips:

- Don't shop alone and when offered, let retail employees assist you with taking your merchandise to your vehicle
- Don't carry large amounts of cash; use secure forms of payment when purchasing items
- When possible, use a cell phone to take a picture of the serial number of any high dollar items before leaving a store
- If you are heading out of town, be sure to secure your home and designate someone you trust to collect your newspapers and mail
- Don't announce on answering machines or social networking sites when you will be traveling away from home

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Safe cooking this holiday season

The Thanksgiving holiday is typically a time when family and friends gather to share a meal and give thanks. As preparations for the busy holiday get underway, firefighters want to encourage safe cooking practices. Unsafe cooking practices are the leading cause of residential fires. [Fire and Emergency Services](#) and the National Fire Protection Association are calling on all cooks to include the following fire safety tips in their recipes:

- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, remember to check it regularly; use a timer to remind yourself that something is on the stove or in the oven
- Keep anything that could catch fire, such as oven mitts, wood utensils, food packaging, towels, or curtains away from your stovetop, oven, or any other heat producing appliance in the kitchen



Never wear loose clothing or dangling sleeves while cooking; remember to stop, drop, and roll if your clothes catch on fire and cool a burn injury with water until the pain goes away

- Never attempt to cook if you are extremely tired or if you have consumed alcoholic beverages
- Keep children and pets at a safe distance away from the oven or stove when cooking
- Install and maintain smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home

If you're planning to deep-fry your holiday bird, please remember to follow proper fire safety precautions. Be sure to read the instructions for your fryer and completely thaw your turkey or chicken before frying it. Watch the video to see a first-hand demonstration of what can happen if you don't follow all instructions.

gwinnettcounty
Communications Division
770.822.7180
www.gwinnettcounty.com

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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

 **SafeUnsubscribe**[®]

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

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