

News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcountry homeowners

December 11, 2013

In this issue:

[What's new on TVgwinnett](#)

[Have a green holiday](#)

[Low-cost vaccine clinic for pets](#)

[CPSC meeting December 16](#)

[Bring a pet home for the holidays](#)

[Project AWARE keeps seniors warm](#)

[County offices closed for Christmas](#)

[2014 budget comments welcome](#)

Dear Resident,

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:

- 2014 budget update
- SPLOST update
- Mobile water bill payment
- Sweetwater Creek cleanup
- America Recycles Day



Have a green holiday at the Environmental and Heritage Center



The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center's Green Your Holiday festival will be held on **Saturday, December 14** from 10:00am to 3:00pm. The event will include "upcycled" crafts and games, science with Santa, a holiday tram ride around the GEHC campus, and much more.

Guests will also have the chance to do some holiday shopping from local vendors in the gift shop. There is a fee to attend this event so please call 770.904.4500 or visit www.gwinnettehc.org for more information.

Low-cost vaccine clinic benefits Operation Second Chance Jail Dog program

The [Society of Humane Friends of Georgia](#) is hosting a low-cost vaccine clinic for pets at **Metro Thrift Store**, 134 South Clayton Street in Lawrenceville on **Saturday, December 14** from 11:00am to 2:00pm.

Vaccines are \$10. Dogs must be on a leash and cats must be in carriers. Proceeds from the clinic will benefit the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office [Operation Second Chance Jail Dogs](#) program. Visitors will have a chance to meet some of the dogs from the program at this event.



Citizen Project Selection Committee meets December 16

The next meeting of the Citizens Project Selection Committee will take place on **Monday, December 16 at 6:00pm** in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Conference Room A. An overview presentation will cover the school safety project category. There will also be a vote on the previously presented category: bridges, culverts, and transportation drainage.

The Citizens Project Selection Committee was established to assist the Gwinnett County Department of Transportation in recommending projects for the 2014 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) based on 10 categories. Representatives for homeowners, businesses, civic leaders, environmental concerns, schools, and senior citizens make up the committee. The purpose is to review and prioritize the projects included in the 2014 SPLOST program. Members are also responsible for sharing information with their interest groups and facilitating open communication between Gwinnett County Government and citizens.

All Citizens Project Selection Committee meetings are open to the public and include an opportunity for public comment. For more information, visit the [Citizens Project Selection Committee webpage](#).

Bring a pet home for the holidays



Pets are a wonderful gift for the holidays! Adopt a dog or cat from the Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center for just \$30 and ensure that a shelter pet has a loving home by Christmas Day.

Take the CAN challenge and save even more!

For an even bigger discount, bring five canned goods to the Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center now through December 31 and receive a \$10 voucher, good for fees at the shelter. Your donation will help fill the shelves of Gwinnett County area food banks. For a list of needed items and for more information about the CAN Challenge, visit the [Animal Welfare Center's website](#) or view the attached [flier](#).

Project AWARE keeps Gwinnett seniors warm during the winter

The Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services in partnership with Gwinnett County Senior Services are once again collecting portable electric heaters until **February 28, 2014**. You may drop off your donation at any Gwinnett fire station. Only new, UL-tested heaters will be accepted.

Donated heaters will be distributed to seniors through Project AWARE (Added Warmth Assistance for Residences of our Elderly), which is led by Gwinnett County Senior Services.



Your donation is tax-deductible by nonprofit partner Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services. Monetary donations are also welcome and can be mailed to Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services, P.O. Box 1680, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.

Criteria must be met by seniors who wish to receive a heater from this program. For more information on the requirements, please contact the Senior Services Helpline at 678.377.4150.

County offices closed Christmas, New Year's

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **December 24** and **December 25** for the Christmas holiday and reopen on **December 26**. Offices will also be closed **January 1**, for the New Year's holiday and reopen **January 2**. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day are trash and recycling holidays in unincorporated Gwinnett County. If your normal collection day takes place on one of these holidays, your collection will be delayed. Please click [here](#) to view the detailed delay schedule. If you live within city limits, please contact your city hall for your trash and recycling schedule.

2014 proposed budget comments accepted until December 31



Gwinnett Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash formally presented a [proposed \\$1.5 billion budget](#) for fiscal year 2014 to the Board of Commissioners during a [briefing](#) on November 19, 2013. After a public hearing and period for public comment, commissioners will vote on the budget proposal on **January 7, 2014**, during their first meeting of the year.

Four county residents and business people served on Nash's budget review committee.

After hearing [presentations from elected officials and department directors](#) in September, the group studied departmental business plans, budget needs, and revenue projections to make recommendations for the 2014 budget. Despite millions of dollars in justified requests, the proposed budget includes funding for only a small number of new resources and initiatives. [Read more about the proposed budget.](#)

The **budget public hearing** was held on Monday, December 9, 2013. Residents may **submit comments online** via a [comment form](#) on the county's website through Tuesday, December 31, 2013.

gwinnettcounty
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