



December 21, 2016

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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.



**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:**

- Fire Marshal lifts outdoor burn ban
- Buford senior center renovations approved
- Library expands self-access hours
- Police welcomes new K-9

**County offices closed for Christmas and New Year's holidays**

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **December 23** and **26** for the Christmas holiday and reopen on **December 27**. Offices will also be closed **January 2** for the New Year's Day holiday and reopen on **January 3**. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Trash and recycling collections are scheduled as normal during the County's Christmas and New Year's holiday closings. In addition, hauler call centers will be open. Residents can [search for their solid waste hauler](#) to find their hauler's contact information. Residents who live in a city should contact their trash and recycling provider to find out if collections will be delayed due to the holiday.



**Drop off your Christmas tree for recycling**

Once the holidays are over, don't forget to recycle your Christmas tree. You can drop off your live, undecorated tree at one of the convenient locations between December 26 and January 15 in

Gwinnett County.



The trees will be chipped at Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful's Bring One for the Chipper event on January 21 at Bethesda Park located at 225 Bethesda Church Road in Lawrenceville, near the soccer fields. The mulch will be used for County parks, roadway landscaping, and facilities.

For a list of drop-off sites or to volunteer for the chipping event, visit [www.gwinnettcg.org](http://www.gwinnettcg.org).

### Bring a pet home for the holidays

The Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center is having a Home for the Holidays adoption special. For \$30, you can adopt a dog or a cat or for \$10 more, adopt two cats or kittens. Adoption fees include the first round of vaccines, microchip and spay/neuter.



Visit the Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville from 11:00am to 4:00pm, Monday through Saturday. You can also visit [www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com](http://www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com) or follow us on Facebook [@Gwinnett Animal Shelter](https://www.facebook.com/GwinnettAnimalShelter) to see adoptable dogs, puppies, cats, and kittens, get details on upcoming events, and learn helpful tips on how to care for your shelter pet.

### There's still time to comment on the 2017 budget proposal



December 31 is the last day to [submit your online comments](#) about the proposed 2017 budget.

Gwinnett Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash presented a proposed \$1.56 billion budget for fiscal year 2017 to the Board of Commissioners during a [briefing](#) on November 15. Six county residents and business people served on Nash's budget review committee. After hearing presentations from elected officials and department directors in late August and early September, the group studied departmental business plans, budget needs, and revenue projections to make recommendations for the 2017

budget. The Board expects to adopt the 2017 budget on January 3. Read more about the 2017 budget proposal [here](#) or watch a video on the proposed budget [here](#).

### Remember fireworks safety during New Year's celebrations

Gwinnett County's firefighters encourage residents to attend a professional show instead of using consumer fireworks during the New Year's celebration. The improper use of fireworks could cause significant bodily harm and property damage. The following are important safety tips to remember when choosing to include fireworks to help ring in the New Year:

- Always purchase fireworks from a licensed and reputable vendor.
- Read the directions carefully and inspect the fireworks device for any defects.
- Keep a bucket of water, garden hose, and portable fire extinguisher close at hand. Be prepared to use the fire extinguisher or garden hose to douse small fires.
- Ignite fireworks outdoors in an open area away from buildings, vehicles, vegetation, or any other combustible material.
- Ignite only one fireworks device at a time and use a grill (punk) lighter or fireplace lighter. Remember to keep a safe distance between yourself and the fireworks device.
- Always ignite fireworks on a firm, flat surface.



- Never give fireworks to a child, no matter the age. Children should be kept away from any fireworks area.
- Never attempt to fix or re-ignite a malfunctioning fireworks device. Instead, discard them safely by soaking them in a bucket of water.
- Before going to bed at night, remember to inspect the area where fireworks are used.
- Store unused fireworks in a cool, dry place out of the reach of small children or pets and away from open flame.

For more tips to keep you safe throughout the year, visit [www.gwinnettsafety411.com](http://www.gwinnettsafety411.com).

**gwinnett**county  
**Communications Division**  
770.822.7180  
[www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com)

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