



May 10, 2017

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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:

- Gwinnett honors its volunteers
- Multicultural festival draws hundreds
- GDOT to spend \$730 million in Gwinnett
- Wetlands cleanup yields tons of trash

**Learn about aging this May during Older Americans Month**



Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation, Health and Human Services, and Live Healthy Gwinnett are honoring our seniors as part of Older Americans Month in May.

Led by the Federal Administration for Community Living, this annual observance offers an opportunity to learn about, support, and recognize our nation's older citizens. Throughout the month, the Parks and Recreation Division will highlight how older adults in our community are redefining aging through recreation interest and taking charge of their health.

In keeping with this year's theme, "Age Out Loud.," the County is offering several activities throughout the county. For more information, visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com).

### Most outdoor burning prohibited through September 30

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has imposed an Outdoor Open Burning Ban through September 30.

The EPD has imposed the ban to comply with federal clean air regulations. During the summer months in Georgia, outdoor open burning is a significant contributor to unhealthy levels of the ozone in the air we breathe.



According to the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the following types of outdoor open burning are banned:

- Burning of yard and land clearing debris
- The use of air curtain destructors, also called FireBoxes, for land clearing

However, certain types of outdoor open burning are still allowed, provided the proper permits are obtained, including:

- Fires for agricultural practices zoned RA-200/residential agricultural or a Forestry Service-prescribed burn
- All bonfires for activities sponsored by educational, civic, religious, or other groups for celebrations, but they must be permitted
- Fires for training firefighting personnel

Residential grilling for outdoor cooking is allowed and does not require a permit. For more information, visit [www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com](http://www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com), [www.georgiaair.org](http://www.georgiaair.org) or call 678.518.4980+3.

### Board of Commissioners approves land purchase for new interchange at I-85, SR 324

Gwinnett County Commissioners recently executed an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to acquire right of way for a new interchange at Gravel Springs Road/State Route 324 at I-85.

Adding an interchange onto I-85 at four-lane State Route 324 will relieve congestion on the overloaded two-lane connectors east of the Mall of Georgia between State Route 20 and Hamilton Mill Parkway. These ramps will change the traffic dynamic in the northeast quadrant of the county, which will help drive economic development.

GDOT and Gwinnett County are partnering on the project, which GDOT is expected to manage. The state anticipates the project will begin construction by late 2018 and take about 18 months, weather permitting. For additional information about road improvements in Gwinnett County, please visit the website at [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com).

### Shoal Creek Filter Plant Open House highlights fun, science, engineering

On **May 20**, come to the Shoal Creek Filter Plant Open House and check out this engineering marvel that produces 75 million gallons of drinkable water every day.

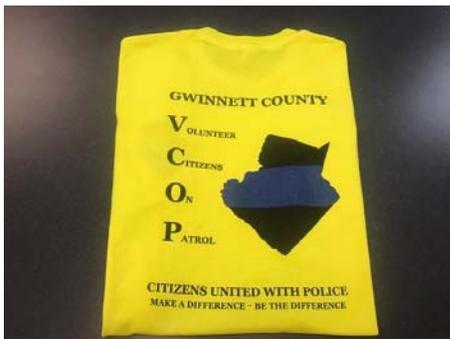
The free event, which runs from **10:00am to 2:00pm**, will feature tours of the facility, crafts and games for kids, festival activities, and free fairground food. Gwinnett County water professionals will be on-hand to answer any other questions you may have about water in Gwinnett.

The plant recently won the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Plant of the Year Award for flawless operation, the fourth time it has earned the honor since 2007. Shoal Creek Filter Plant is located at 1755 Buford Dam Road. For more information, call Jackie Valett at 678.376.6722.



### Gwinnett PD, Parks and Rec kick off volunteer park patrol program

Gwinnett County Police Department, with the Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation Division, is establishing a volunteer park patrol program that allows people to act as observers and report suspicious or illegal activities.



Called Volunteer Citizens on Patrol, the program gives police additional eyes and ears in the County's parks and recreation areas and helps promote the safety of park visitors. The program began May 8.

Participants will not be sworn officers, will not be armed, and must complete the Police Department's Citizen Police Academy as well as additional training specific to the VCOP program. They will be identifiable by a yellow T-shirt with the VCOP logo.

For more information about volunteering with the Gwinnett County Police Department, click [here](#).

### National Kids to Parks Day events promise family fun on May 20

Put on your play clothes and come out to Rhodes Jordan Park on **May 20** as part of National Kids to Parks Day, and enjoy kids' activities, a race, and a movie under the stars.

From **5:00pm to 11:30pm**, Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation and Live Healthy Gwinnett a series of events with kids activities, races, and a movie under the stars.

The first event, Spring into Summer, features health and wellness exhibitors, fitness demonstrations, kids activities, giant lawn games, inflatables, and food vendors. The second event is 1, 2, 3k GLOW & Show, a race from **8:00pm to 10:00pm** that welcomes all ages, strollers, and dogs are welcome. Runners, joggers, and walkers are eligible for a glow-in-the-dark t-shirt and two glow bands. The cost is \$10 per person. Packet pickup will be at 5:00pm.

The evening culminates with B at the Movies with B98.5, a free showing of the animated film SING! from **9:15pm to 11:30pm**. Bring a blanket and some snacks. For more information, call 770.822.8869. Rhodes Jordan Park is located at 100 East Crogan Street in Lawrenceville.

### Gwinnett library system launches mobile WiFi Hotspot lending program

To help expand access to technology and information, the Gwinnett County Public Library has launched Connect Gwinnett, a new and innovative initiative that allows customers to check out mobile WiFi hotspots from the library.

Customers can now check out a Connect Gwinnett WiFi kit, which includes a T-Mobile 4G LTE wireless hotspot, USB cable, and wall charger. Each kit requires a Full Access or Branch Out library card and may be checked out for three weeks at a time. The hotspots do not renew.

Up to 30 percent of households in the County lack access to the internet at home. As envisioned, the program provides a high-speed, reliable broadband connection that could give students access to online resources, and give entrepreneurs the connectivity required to develop business plans for new high-tech jobs to Gwinnett.

For more information about Connect Gwinnett, visit [www.gwinnettpl.org/connect](http://www.gwinnettpl.org/connect).

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