

# News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

November 13, 2013

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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.

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## 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 voters approve SPLOST extension
- Veterans Day honors Gwinnett's military heroes
- GIS hosts open house



### Missed the Veterans Day ceremony?

If you missed this year's Veterans Day Ceremony, you can [check it out on TVgwinnett](#). This year's ceremony included a special tribute to Gwinnett County's Vietnam veterans.

## Special Election results

The November 5 special election was held from 7:00am to 7:00pm at all precincts in Gwinnett County. To view the results of the November 5 Special Election, [click here](#). Municipal elections were also held on November 5; for results, [contact your city hall](#).

## Voters approve SPLOST renewal

On November 5, Gwinnett County voters approved the renewal of the one-cent SPLOST sales tax. The three-year program will start when the current program expires next March. It will raise an estimated \$498 million for capital projects. To learn about the planned uses, please read the [2014 SPLOST fact sheet](#).

Officials from Gwinnett County and all 16 cities agreed to share the 2014 SPLOST, with the County receiving 78.9 percent of the proceeds and the cities getting 21.1 percent. A [formal signing ceremony](#) for the [intergovernmental agreement](#) between the entities took place in August.

The County will dedicate 70 percent of its share, or an estimated \$275 million, to transportation projects such as roads, bridges, intersection improvements, and sidewalks, including \$25 million for

joint city/county transportation projects. County Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash said, "Local government leaders agreed that transportation infrastructure is our biggest need and that everyone who uses our roads should help pay the cost of improvements."

The SPLOST program also includes funding for other purposes such as public safety, parks, library relocation and renovation, and senior facilities.

### Celebrate America Recycles Day in Gwinnett County: November 23

Come celebrate America Recycles Day with the Gwinnett County Solid Waste and Recovered Materials Division on **Saturday, November 23** from **9:00am to noon** at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves. This free event will feature batteries, electronics, and tire recycling (limit eight tires per vehicle, no dealer tires), kids' activities, and more! Please bring your old sneakers to be donated to those in need or recycled into reusable surfaces for playgrounds and running tracks.



Volunteer with us during the America Recycles Day event. Volunteers will be assigned to serve from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Please visit [www.volunteergwinnett.net](http://www.volunteergwinnett.net) to sign up as a volunteer for this event.

### Take the CAN challenge with Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center

The Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Services is joining the Gwinnett CAN Challenge, a food drive initiated by Holtkamp Family Foundation.

The goal is to collect at least 10 tons of food, but they can't do it without your help! **Please bring your canned food donations** to the Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center between November 1 and December 1. If you bring five items, you will receive a **\$10 voucher** good for a discount on shelter fees for adoptions, claims, and rescues. For more information, including a list of items to donate, visit the [Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center webpage](#).

### Citizen Project Selection Committee meeting: November 25

The next meeting of the Citizens Project Selection Committee will take place on **Monday, November 25, at 6:00pm** in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Conference Room A. An overview presentation will cover the project categories of Capital Project Rehabilitation and Resurfacing, Residential Speed Control, Transportation Planning, and Unpaved Roads.

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](#).

### The tradition continues with the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Lighting of the Tree

Continue the tradition this holiday season with Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation and the Lawrenceville Tourism and Trade Association as they host the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Lighting of the Tree on Thanksgiving Day, **November 28 at 5:00pm** at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, located at 185 Crogan Street in downtown Lawrenceville.

The tree lighting ceremony will begin at 6:00pm, illuminating 30,000 lights on the 30-foot Norway spruce. The evening's festivities also will include visits and photos with Santa Claus, Class Act Band leading carols, choreographed dance routines by Southern Ballet Theatre, and



singer Katie Wolf performing holiday "cup" songs. For kids, there will be face painting, Whoville hair, and crafts starting at 5:00pm. If you didn't get enough turkey and stuffing, food vendors will offer sweet treats and warm beverages. For details about this and other holiday events, visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com).

### Timely landscaping tips for fall

The Gwinnett Cooperative Extension offers these tips for your fall landscape:

- To establish or renovate fescue lawns, aerate or till the soil and then apply fertilizer and seed. Cover bare areas with wheat straw and re-seed areas that have had poor seed germination.
- If chickweed, henbit, annual bluegrass, and other winter weeds overtook your lawn last year, apply a pre-emergent herbicide on lawns that will not be overseeded this fall.
- Begin to plant fall vegetables such as broccoli, collards, cabbage, kale, carrots, onions, and others.
- Remove plant debris, like leaves, fruits, seeds, and the like. Debris left on the ground can harbor pests that may over winter and re-infest the plants the following year. Dispose of the material.
- Observe houseplants for spider mites. They thrive on warm dry conditions in the house. If observed, isolate the plant. Several thorough washes with plain water may bring them under control. Use soap to control.

For more landscaping tips, visit the [Gwinnett Cooperative Extension](#) webpage.

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