

# NEWS

## for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for Gwinnett County homeowners

August 24, 2022

Greetings!

As a resident of Gwinnett County, you know there is always a lot going on in the community. Read this newsletter to stay up-to-date on the latest news from your County government.

[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 TV Gwinnett?

Gwinnett County brings you the latest news and happenings about your community through Eye on Gwinnett, our weekly news program.



What you'll see in this episode:

- Commissioners approve plan for redeveloping Gwinnett Place Mall
- Work begins on Piedmont Pathway Trail
- Two aquatic centers receiving SPLOST-funded upgrades

Find other Eye on Gwinnett episodes on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages, or watch them on [TVGwinnett.com](#).

### County amends solid waste contract

As a result of rising fuel and labor costs, worker shortages, supply chain issues, and a higher volume of trash and recycling, the County amended its contract with residential solid waste haulers. Changes to the agreement will increase payments to haulers and provide them with the resources needed to deliver better services, while holding them accountable for services that are not provided – like missed routes.

Residential property owners in unincorporated Gwinnett County will see a \$22.44 increase in their annual solid waste fee for 2023. In addition to the increase, residents will receive a \$6.06 credit that will be applied to the annual solid waste fee from liquidated damages assessed to haulers last year. With the credit applied, the annual increase will be \$16.38, or \$1.37 per month. The 25 percent senior discount will continue for qualifying accounts, and the County will continue to assess how to best use liquidated damages to benefit residents. Learn more about the [agreement changes and performance requirements haulers must meet](#)



### Find your new best friend for free during the Clear the Shelters adoption drive

For the fifth year, Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement is joining shelters and rescues across the nation to find homes for shelter pets during its Clear the Shelters adoption drive. Join us for the Clear the Shelter celebration on **Saturday, August 27 from 11:00am to 4:00pm** for free pet adoptions, music, pet vendors, face painting, and more.

During August, all adoptions are free and adoptable animals are spayed or



neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. Most pets can go home the same day as adoption. Those interested in adoption can find available pets on Facebook [@GwinnettAnimalShelter](#) or visit [GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](#) and complete the application before coming to the shelter for a meet and greet. The Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center is located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

## County gains new Housing and Community Development Division

Gwinnett has a [new Housing and Community Development Division](#) led by Matt Elder, who has nearly a decade of experience in housing and community development and served the last four years as the director of HomeFirst Gwinnett.

The division was created as a response to one of the recommendations in a housing study requested by the Board of Commissioners. Initially, the division will consist of 11 employees who will be responsible for administering grant funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through HOME, Community Development Block Grant, and other programs. Their roles, along with Elder's, will develop over time as new initiatives and policies are established.



## Grant application deadline for nonprofits extended to September 9



Local nonprofits that serve critical needs now have three more weeks to apply for Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery funds to be allocated by Gwinnett County and United Way of Greater Atlanta. The \$4.25 million in funds — provided to Gwinnett County by the U.S. Department of the Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act — will be used to address needs identified or worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impact. Nonprofits can apply for funding through **Friday, September 9** using [United Way's Grant Portal](#).

## County to hosts its first-ever Welcoming Week Festival

Gwinnett is proud to host its first-ever Welcoming Week Festival at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center on **Saturday, September 10 from 10:00am to 2:00pm**. Welcoming Week brings together neighbors of all backgrounds to build strong connections and affirm the importance of a welcoming and inclusive community. The festival will include arts and crafts, games, food trucks, community resources, and more! The event is free and open to everyone. [Register to attend](#).



## County to use storage volume in Lake Lanier



The Board of Commissioners [voted on a Water Storage Agreement](#) with the State of Georgia to allow the County to use storage volume in Lake Lanier for water supply. Early last year, Georgia entered into a Master Storage Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Army to secure water supply for multiple jurisdictions, Gwinnett County included. While Gwinnett and others have used water in the lake for many years, this contract for the first time grants long-term rights to storage volume in Lake Lanier to meet Gwinnett County's water supply needs. The contract remains in effect for a minimum of 30 years.

## Gwinnett mobile food distribution program earns awards

Gwinnett's mobile food distributions have earned the

[National Association of Volunteer Programs in Local Government's 2022 Innovative Program Award](#), which recognizes excellence in volunteer management in city and county governments.

The County partnered with the Atlanta Community Food Bank to deploy a weekly mobile food strategy in April 2020. Each week, families in need can pick up a box with 40 to 50 pounds of food per household. Food security volunteers can assist in mobile food distributions, WIC farmers markets, and other initiatives by visiting [VolunteerGwinnett.net](http://VolunteerGwinnett.net) or emailing [VolunteerGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:VolunteerGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com).



## SPLOST: Learn about the Gwinnett Bay Creek Police Precinct



In 2019, the Bay Creek Police Precinct opened as the County's sixth police precinct to serve Gwinnett's growing southeastern region. The precinct includes command staff offices, an officers' squad room, fitness center, and evidence storage. It also holds a community classroom where crime prevention officers can teach residents about safety and emergency preparedness.

The project was funded by the 2009, 2014, and 2017 SPLOST programs and totaled \$12 million. To see more of your pennies at work, visit [GwinnettSPLOST.com](http://GwinnettSPLOST.com).

## Visit our website, social media for latest COVID-19 news

To stay up to date on the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit our website, [GwinnettCounty.com](http://GwinnettCounty.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) @GwinnettGov.



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