

NEWS

for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for Gwinnett County homeowners

December 21, 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:

- County and state officials break ground on Rowen
- District 4 Commissioner-elect Matthew Holtkamp sworn in
- Commissioners to adopt a final 2023 budget in January
- Holiday messages from Board of Commissioners and County Administrator

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

Share your thoughts on the proposed 2023 budget

Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson [presented her proposed budget](#) on November 15 to guide County government spending for the 2023 fiscal year. The [proposed budget](#) totals \$2.26 billion. It consists of a \$1.77 billion operating budget and a \$488 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

Read more about the [proposed 2023 budget](#) and [share your comments online](#) through December 31 before commissioners adopt a final budget Tuesday, January 3, 2023.



2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

County offices closed for Christmas

All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **Friday, December 23 through Monday, December 26** for the Christmas holiday and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, December 27.

Trash and recycling collection will remain the same during



the Christmas holiday. For more information, visit GCSolidWaste.com. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during each holiday

Assist at a warming station this winter

The County has opened [five warming stations](#) for residents to receive temporary, overnight relief from long-term exposure to forecasted temperatures 35 degrees and below and is seeking part-time staff assistants.

When activated, the warming stations are available from 6:00pm to 7:00am, allowing residents to warm up, eat a meal, and get some rest. Staff assistants will be called on to help with organizing check-in materials, set up and breakdown, greeting participants, and other related station tasks. Apply online at GwinnettCountyJobs.com.



Recycle your live Christmas tree after the holidays



Want to be sustainable this holiday season? Between **December 26 and January 25**, drop off your live, undecorated Christmas tree at designated fire stations as part of the annual Bring One for the Chipper event! On January 28, Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful will chip the trees into mulch for use at County parks.

The [designated Gwinnett fire stations](#) will accept trees 24/7. For a list of all drop-off sites or to register as a volunteer for the chipping event at Bethesda Park, please visit GwinnettCB.org/Events.

Gwinnett Police accepting applications for Citizens Police Academy

Gwinnett Police is accepting applications for the next [Citizens Police Academy](#) cohort. The program will run from **March 7 through April 27** on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30pm to 9:00pm.

Residents who are interested in joining the academy can email a completed [application](#) to the Community Affairs Section at PDCommunityAffairs@GwinnettCounty.com or call 678.422.6520 to explore other program options.



Watch holiday performances from Gwinnett students



Student choirs from around the county spread holiday cheer at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center earlier this month. From December 2 to 13, students from Gwinnett County Public Schools sang holiday classics for employees and visitors to enjoy.

[Watch the performances](#) on TV Gwinnett to get in the festive spirit.

Be wary of fraudulent water testing claims

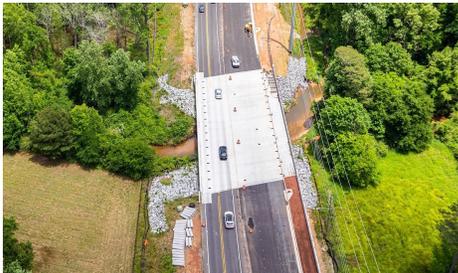
In recent weeks, residents have reported receiving phone calls from people claiming to be employees from Gwinnett County's water treatment lab offering to conduct water testing inside their homes. While the Department of Water Resources tests the County's water quality frequently, the County does not send employees to test tap water inside customers' homes.

If anyone claiming to be a Gwinnett County employee asks to take water samples from inside your home, do not let them in. As always, if you feel unsafe or if someone is trying to break into your home, call 911.

Residents can call Water Resources' 24-hour dispatch at 678.376.7000 with questions or concerns.



County wins award for road widening project



Gwinnett Transportation was awarded a Georgia Partnership for Transportation Quality Preconstruction Design Award in urban highway design. The award recognizes the [widening of Spalding Drive](#) from two lanes to a four-lane corridor with center turn lanes from Winters Chapel Road to State Route 140 and Holcomb Bridge Road.

Construction on the project began in spring 2020 and will be completed in spring 2023. The project is a regional partnership with funding from Gwinnett County, the State

Road and Tollway Authority, the city of Sandy Springs, and the city of Peachtree Corners. Funding in part was provided by Gwinnett's 2014 and 2017 [Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax](#) programs, known as SPLOST.

Commissioners approve one-time cost of living payment for County employees

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved a one-time cost of living payment for County government employees to support retention and to help mitigate the effects of inflation on the County workforce. On December 16, eligible full-time employees received a \$1,500 payment and regular part-time employees received a \$750 payment.

Chairwoman Hendrickson said the payments are needed as the County faces challenges with retaining first responders, utility workers and hard-to-fill positions across the organization. Funding for the one-time payment is possible due to budget savings realized during the 2022 fiscal year.



Gwinnett County Transit's holiday service schedule



In observance of the Christmas and New Year's Eve holidays, Gwinnett County Transit will run service on the following schedule:

- **Christmas Eve on Saturday, December 24:** Local and paratransit service will operate.
- **Day after Christmas on Monday, December 26:** No commuter service will run. Local and paratransit service will operate.
- **Day before New Year's Eve on Friday, December 30:** No commuter service will run. Local and paratransit service will operate.
- **New Year's Eve on Saturday, December 31:** Local and paratransit service will operate.

To learn more about GCT's bus service this month, read [News You Can Use](#) or call 770.822.5010.

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 or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) @GwinnettGov.



Gwinnett

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