

# NEWS

## for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for Gwinnett County homeowners

February 28, 2024

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](#) appreciates 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 adopt the Gwinnett 2045 Unified Plan
- United Way of Greater Atlanta presents Gwinnett County State of the Children
- Designated e-commerce spaces available at Police headquarters and precincts
- Applications open for Empower Gwinnett Government Internship Program

Check out more videos on TV Gwinnett [Video on Demand](#).

### Vote in advance through March 8

Voters are not limited to Election Day to cast their ballot for the **March 12** Presidential Preference Primary. Registered voters can vote advance in person every day, including weekends, through **March 8 from 7:00am to 7:00pm** at [the Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Office in Lawrenceville and nine advance voting locations around the county](#).

Voting by mail is another option available for voters. You can request an absentee by mail ballot for the March 12 election now through Friday, March 1. Please complete the absentee ballot application form online or call the Voter Registrations and Elections Office at 678.226.7210 to request an application. To check the status of your voter registration, see a sample ballot, and find your polling location, visit the [Secretary of State's My Voter Page](#).



### Vota por adelantado hasta el 8 de Marzo

Los votantes no están limitados al día de las elecciones para emitir su voto para las Primarias de Preferencia Presidencial del **12 de Marzo**. Los votantes inscritos pueden votar por adelantado en persona todos los días, incluidos los fines de semana, hasta el **8 de Marzo de 7:00am a 7:00pm** en la [Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones de Gwinnett en Lawrenceville y en nueve lugares de votación adelantada en todo el condado](#).

La votación por correo es otra opción disponible para los votantes. Puede solicitar una boleta de voto

ausente por correo para las elecciones del 12 de Marzo desde ahora hasta el Viernes 1 de Marzo. Complete el formulario de solicitud de boleta de voto ausente en línea o llame a la Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones de Gwinnett al 678.226.7210 para solicitar una aplicación. Para verificar el estado de su inscripción de votante, ver una boleta de muestra y encontrar su lugar de votación, visita [Mi página de Votante de la Secretaría de Estado](#).

## Attend a joint district townhall



Next month, District 1 Commissioner Kirkland Carden, District 3 Commissioner Jasper Watkins III, and District 4 Commissioner Matthew Holtkamp will host town halls to speak about district accomplishments and discuss the Board of Commissioners' intent to call for a transit referendum.

The first joint townhall with Commissioner Watkins and Commissioner Holtkamp will be held on **Monday, March 18 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. Commissioner Carden and Commissioner Holtkamp will host another joint

town hall on **Thursday, March 21 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** at Suwanee City Hall.

## Affordable Housing Development Fund reaches significant milestone

During a presentation to the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners on February 20, Housing and Community Development Division Director Matthew Elder highlighted several [significant milestones](#) for the Affordable Housing Development Fund. The funding, backed by \$18 million in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, aims to support projects providing affordable housing units for households at or below 65 percent of area median income.



In August 2023, the County announced the Affordable Housing Notice of Funding Availability receiving 26 proposals by October 23, requesting more than \$74 million in funding. After a comprehensive review, 12 projects were recommended for a total of \$18 million in funding. These projects will develop a total of 999 housing units, with 780 units designated as affordable housing and 219 market-rate units. Notably, 122 of these units will be for homeownership, while 877 will be for rental.

## Apply for the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy



Get the inside scoop on how and why Gwinnett County Government operates by enrolling in the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy! During this 12-week program, participants get a behind-the-scenes look at County operations, meet local leaders, and tour County facilities. The academy, held twice a year, aims to develop and nurture informed and engaged residents, students, and business owners in Gwinnett. To be considered for the spring term, apply at [Gwinnett101.com](https://Gwinnett101.com) by **March 1**.

## Become a lifeguard

Looking for a rewarding job opportunity this summer? Become an American Red Cross-certified lifeguard for Gwinnett County's award-winning park system. Not only will you learn lifesaving skills and boost your fitness level, but you can also enjoy flexible hours in a fun team environment with ample growth opportunities.

Pay starts at \$17.32 per hour, plus the training is free! Part-time and seasonal positions are available at our five year-round aquatic centers and four seasonal pools. Learn more at [GwinnettCounty.com/Lifeguard](https://GwinnettCounty.com/Lifeguard).



## Sign up for the Citizens Fire Academy



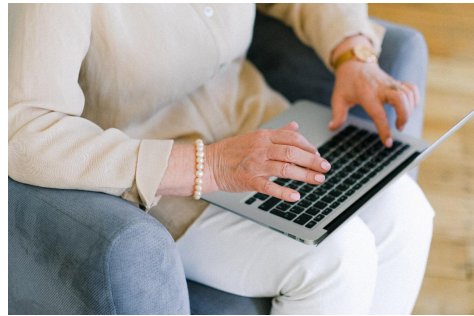
Here's your chance to get a firsthand look at saving lives and protecting property with Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services! [Online applications](#) for the next Citizens Fire Academy are now being accepted until **March 8**. The nine-week program offers a behind-the-scenes look at department operations and specialty teams like Swiftwater Rescue, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and Mass Casualty response.

English and Spanish-speaking instructors will lead the classes, which begin April 11 and meet every Thursday at 6:00pm. The average class lasts three hours. For more

information, call the Fire Education section at 678.518.4845 or send an email to [FirePrograms@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:FirePrograms@GwinnettCounty.com).

## Seniors may qualify for a tax exemption

Residents who are 65 or older as of January 1 with Georgia taxable income below \$116,728 might qualify for the Senior School Tax Homestead Exemption. Qualifying residents must own and occupy their home as of January 1 and must apply by April 1 to receive the exemption on this year's tax bill. If they're not required to file taxes, seniors can provide other proof of income to qualify. Learn more and apply at [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Seniors](https://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Seniors).



## Apply for a homestead exemption by April 1



Reduce your property tax bill by applying for a homestead exemption! Owners who occupied their home as their primary residence as of January 1 may qualify for an exemption this year. If you already have an exemption in place, you do not need to reapply. For more information and to apply, visit [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Apply](https://GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Apply).

## Visit our website, social media for latest news

To stay updated with the latest news from the County, visit our website [GwinnettCounty.com](https://GwinnettCounty.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) @GwinnettGov.



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