

Parks & Recreation

ANNUAL REPORT
2010

Mission

In partnership with our citizens, Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation provides high quality, broad-based parks, facilities, programs and services creating a sense of community, enabling a safe and secure environment, and enhancing Gwinnett's quality of life.

Vision

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation pledges to sustain the delivery of the highest standard of excellence of parks, facilities, programs, and services by:

- Being responsive to the changing recreational needs of a diverse and growing community
- Continuing a citizen-driven and professional approach to provide safe, well designed and maintained facilities and programs
- Providing responsible stewardship of human, fiscal, natural, and historic resources
- Maximizing community resources

Values

- We believe in honesty, integrity and ethical conduct
- We are customer-oriented and both accountable and responsive to our citizens
- We believe in teamwork and collaboration with our community partners
- We promote safety, cost efficiency, innovation, and service excellence



gwinnettcounty
parks & recreation



About Parks and Recreation

Managing Staff

Division Director, Parks and Recreation Operations
Division, Director, Parks and Recreation Project Administration
Deputy Director of Park Operations
Manager, Aquatics
Manager, Recreation
Manager, Support Services
Manager, Grounds Maintenance
Manager, Development/Construction

Tina **Fleming**
Grant **Guess**
David **Clark**
Jim **Cyrus**
John **Register**
David **McGaughey**
Eric **Horne**
Don **Hafner**

In Gwinnett County there truly is something for everyone. With 43 open parks and facilities opened throughout the county, GCPR strives to provide Gwinnett residents with quality recreation and leisure opportunities, serving all ages, interests, and levels of physical ability. GCPR offers a wide variety of classes, camps, programs, and sports leagues to satisfy nearly every Gwinnett resident.

Gwinnett County's park system is home to 150 multi-purpose sport fields with three featuring an overlay football field, nine aquatic facilities housing 17 bodies of water including indoor competition, instructional, lap and leisure/water park pools and outdoor leisure/water park pools, community and senior recreation centers, gymnasiums and activity buildings, playgrounds, dog park areas, outdoor tennis, sand volleyball and basketball courts, skate parks, miles of multi-purpose trails, and historical and nature sites. In addition, the Board of Commissioners' successful greenspace preservation program, supported by the 1997, 2001, 2005, and 2009 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) allows Gwinnett residents the opportunity to enjoy the county's precious natural resources.

The Gwinnett County Recreation Authority is a legal advisory board comprised of nine members appointed by the Board of Commissioners, including two representatives from each of the four commission districts, plus one chairman-appointed member. The board typically meets on the second Thursday of the month.

District 4
District 2
District 3
District 1
District 1
District 3
Chairman Appointment
District 2
District 4

Lois **Allen**
Jack **Bolton**
Dr. Steven **Flynt**
Derek **Hart**
June **Hawkins**
Charlotte **Nash**
H. S. "Chip" **Randall**
Wayne **Sutor**
Charlie **Underwood**



*Tina Fleming
Division Director
Operations*



*Grant Guess
Division Director
Project Administration*

About Parks and Recreation

Two divisions make up Parks and Recreation, which falls under the Department of Community Services:

- Parks and Recreation Project Administration
- Parks and Recreation Operations

Parks and Recreation Project Administration Division

Charged with evaluating potential park sites, reviewing boundary surveys, and preparing feasibility studies, the Project Administration staff is responsible for environmental assessment reports, geotechnical analyses, park designs, oversight of renovation and capital improvements to existing parks and facilities, master planning parks and construction of new parks. Once land is purchased for a park, planning staff works with citizen steering committees to create a master plan. These committees consist of members of neighboring communities and park users.

2010 Project Administration Highlights

- Installed new artificial turf field at Duncan Creek Park to reduce operational expense and increase athletic field rentals
- Opened an expansion at Rabbit Hill Park that included a pavilion, playground and comfort station, a dog park, expanded parking and trails
- Freeman's Mill Park and Mill stabilization opened in the spring of 2010. The park includes a mill-themed playground, comfort station, parking and paved perimeter trail, The mill building was raised 5 feet to protect it from future flooding while maintaining its place on the National Register of Historic Places
- Completed the Master Plan for Vines Gardens. Citizen input shaped the plans for a future 90-acre passive neighborhood park. An interim renovation plan was also developed to solve existing maintenance issues



Parks and Recreation Operations Division

Charged with maintaining, operating, and public awareness and safety of the county's park system and recreation facilities, Operations staff is responsible for providing quality parks, programs, and services to meet the broad-based needs of the citizenry in Gwinnett.

Recreation Operations: Programming and Resources and Marketing

Recreation general programming staff and youth athletic facilitators provide county-wide services that are divided into four geographic areas: North, South, East, and West. Other county-wide specialized program areas include aquatics, heritage, seniors, cultural arts, adult athletics, and tennis. Recreation staff operates and maintain recreation facilities, schedule facility rentals, facilitate citizen meetings, plan and schedule classes, workshops, summer camps, adult athletic leagues and special events throughout the county. Recreation staff also fosters volunteer/community services in county parks and recreation facilities and in programs/service delivery.

The Resources and Marketing unit is responsible for creating awareness of the county's park system and the many recreation opportunities that GCPR provides for the community. This awareness is created through publications, the GCPR website, TVgwinnett (Gwinnett County's cable access channel), and media relations. Additionally, Resources and Marketing plans special events, prepares PowerPoint presentations on various aspects of GCPR, makes informative presentations to groups and other organizations, works closely with nonprofit organizations such as the Gwinnett Parks Foundation, prepares local, state and national award nominations, and creates invitations, flyers, advertisements, news releases, presentations, and brochures.

2010 recreation programming and resources and marketing highlights

- Grand Opening at Freeman's Mill Park (May 8, 2010)
- The Resources and Marketing Section distributed 78 news releases regarding park happenings to local media
- The Resources and Marketing Section had 13,658 e-alert subscriptions for Gwinnett LIFE and 20,511 website views for the Summer Camp Campaign
- Celebrated July as National Park and Recreation Month (NRPA) by hosting seven events with a Get Up, Get Out marketing campaign
- 288 seniors registered for the Gwinnett Senior Golden Games, a senior-managed and run nonprofit organization. Events included badminton, horseshoes, swimming, archery, walking, and many other events to help seniors stay physically fit, make friends, and compete in a healthy and friendly environment



Parks and Recreation Operations Division

- Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation had 45,595 athletes involved in Youth Sports through the partnership with Youth Athletic Associations. Two new Youth Athletic Associations were established, Brookwood Lacrosse and North Gwinnett Lacrosse, for a total of 27 active Youth Athletic Associations
- Two USTA National Open junior tennis tournaments with players from around the country were held at Hudlow Tennis Center at Best Friend Park. 12 other junior tennis tournaments, with an average of 64 participants per tournament, were held throughout the year
- Introduced a new Therapeutic Recreation program in partnership with Gwinnett Masters – Special Olympics for increased recreational, special events and sporting opportunities to the Special Needs community
- The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse held two Bridal Shows in 2010, the Winter Bridal Show (January 17) hosted 49 vendors and 137 attendees and the Spring Bridal Show (June 13) hosted 50 vendors and 280 attendees
- The 23rd annual Lighting of the Tree occurred on Thanksgiving Day, November 25 with over 7000 people on the grounds of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse on the square in downtown Lawrenceville for this traditional event
- Expanded the partnership with GUIDE (Gwinnett United in Drug Education) to offer scholarships, a Movie in the Park event and Healthy Living initiative
- Nearly 13,000 guests visited park facilities during Spring Break week, with Bethesda Park Aquatic Center leading the way with 4,300 admissions and 814 non-resident admissions.
- Partnered with Georgia Gwinnett College to offer Intramural Sports Program to eight new flag football teams for their student body
- Achieved 100 percent certification/training for over 250 summer seasonal staff members
- Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation held 154 camps in 2010 including general day camps, sports camps, tennis camps, art camps, preschool camps, and heritage/educational camps
- The Aquatic section received 522,322 visitors enjoying the pools with 42,910 swim team participants
- Partnered with the Mill Creek Athletic Association on the Grand Opening/Dedication of the Multi-Purpose Field at Duncan Creek Park. (August 14, 2010)
- Playgrounds were designated as “Tobacco Free Play Zones”
- Ten Senior Recreation Clubs met each month at various GCPR facilities to enhance the recreational, fellowship and educational experience for Gwinnett’s seniors, totaling 479 members
- Senior Health Fairs were sponsored by both the Bethesda Park Senior Center (October 30) and Prime Timers Pointe (September 9) that, combined, attracted thousands of Gwinnett seniors. The fairs offered medical screenings, fun activities, wellness programs, and demonstrations to help local seniors in leading a healthy lifestyle
- Number of scheduled facility use – 14,283
- Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation hosted 496 Adult sports teams playing 2,480 games
- The Aquatic Section had combined participation from 33,440 senior citizens in water exercise classes at Bethesda Park, Bogan Park, and Mountain Park Aquatic Centers
- 400 participants attend National Train Day at Vines Gardens in partnership with the Vines Garden Railroad volunteers. (May 1)



Parks and Recreation Operations Division

Park operations: grounds maintenance

Grounds Maintenance includes four districts: North, South, West and Conservation Parks is responsible for all the general/basic care and upkeep for all parks in the county's park system. Turf, trails and natural resource management, mowing and fertilization of passive and athletic sport fields, sports field game preparation, tree and shrub care, playground inspection and maintenance, grounds and buildings janitorial, and litter/refuse removal all are basic components of the scope of quality service afforded by the grounds maintenance staff.

Park operations: support services

Support Services includes six main units: Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Field Support, Contractual Services and Warehouse Operations. These units are involved in the maintenance of all facility systems (HVAC, plumbing, electrical, lighting, irrigation, building structural, painting, key locking system), fleet maintenance coordination, athletic/security lighting, site electrical/plumbing all covering community centers, activity buildings, aquatic centers, specialized facilities, athletic fields and all general park areas throughout the parks system.

2010 park operations highlights: grounds maintenance and support services

- Grounds Maintenance managed:
 - Over 102 miles of trails
 - 150 sports fields
 - 61 playground units
 - Over 600,000 square feet of renovated sod was planted
- Support Services received 2,973 service requests, with a 97 percent overall completion rate.
 - 741 plumbing
 - 510 electrical
 - 380 carpentry
 - 878 field support
 - 464 contract management
 - Managed 19 annual contract services agreements



Financial Summary

Parks and Recreation Capital History

Revenues	2008	2009
Recreation Tax*	\$15,110,561	\$865,740
Grants	\$200,000	\$0
General Tax/Other	\$35,587,257	\$26,817,271
Total	\$50,897,818	\$27,683,011

Expenditures	2009	2009
Capital Improvements and Equipment	\$41,976,471	\$48,001,183

*Funds receipted in operating fund and transferred to capital to be expense

2010 Parks and Recreation Revenue and Expenditures

Revenues	2010
General Fund	\$370,172
Recreation Tax	\$32,396,013
User Fees	\$4,942,983
Total	\$37,709,168

Expenditures	
Personal Services*	\$16,263,334
Supplies	\$8,848,501
Other Changes/Services**	\$8,746,662
Contribution Capital	\$3,855,707
Bonded Debt Service	\$2,583,025
Total	\$40,297,229

*Includes OPEB Transfer

**Includes Springbrook Payment

2010 at a Glance

Total park land acreage	9,282
Number of operational parks	43
Number of Recreation/Community Centers	12
Number of Senior Recreation Centers/designated area	2
Number of Tennis Courts	51
Number of Outdoor Basketball/Multi-use courts	31
Number of miles of bike/walking/hiking trails	102
Number of Competition and Leisure/Play Pools	17
Number of Skate Parks	7
Number of Cultural/Historic sites	6
Number of Playgrounds	61
Number of Dog Park Areas	6
Number of Special Needs Multi-use Sport fields	2
Number of classes, programs, camps, and events offered	6,581
Number of parks under development or renovation	2
Number of parks master plans completed	1
Number of groundbreaking for new parks	0
Number of parks and facilities opened	1
Number of parks/facilities renovated	1
Number of participants enrolled in recreation classes	84,608
Number of recreation and athletic summer camps offered	154
Total participation in summer camps	2,862
Number of Youth Athletic Associations (YAA)	27
Enrollment participation of children in YAA programs	45,595
Number of Pee Wee sports participants	1,280
Number of participants in adult sports leagues	7,613
Aquatics classes/lessons offered	1,600
Number of participants in aquatics classes/lessons	83,982
General attendance at county pools	522,322

2010 at a Glance

Tennis classes/camps offered	173
Number of participants in tennis facilities, classes/camps, tournaments	38,698
Tennis adult league participation	15,510
Tennis tournaments held/participants	14/4,812
Number of facility and specialized facility use	14,283
Facility rental participation	797,186
Acreage of developed parkland maintained by staff	2,368
Number of multi-purpose sports fields maintained by staff	150
Number of work orders for plumbing, electrical, carpentry, field support	2,973
Number of volunteer hours	113,264

Volunteers

- The Volunteer Resources Section coordinated 20 Scout projects
- The Volunteer Resources Section hosted a Volunteer Reception (February 10, 2011) to honor 2010 volunteers. Ten Gold, 18 Silver, and 38 Bronze Volunteer Presidential Awards were awarded
- The Volunteer Resources Section led the effort in 58 Volunteer Workdays/Events utilizing 11,436 volunteers for a total of 113,264 hours of service
- The Volunteer Resources Section secured \$173,178 in Grant Funding and/or Donations



Gwinnett Parks Foundation

The Gwinnett Parks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization established to support GCPR programs and services. Foundation volunteers advocate quality of life through citizenry awareness of the county's park system and recreational opportunities and assist GCPR in three core program areas: the Park Park'nership Program, the Commemorative Program, and the Gwinnett Corporate Challenge, which raises funds for youth and senior citizen recreation scholarships.

Community Partnerships

- Alpharetta-Johns Creek Kiwanis
- American Hiking Society
- Archer Athletic Association
- Atlanta Fire United Soccer Association
- Best Friend Club
- Bogan Gold Wing Club
- Brookwood Baseball/Softball Association
- Brookwood Football
- Brookwood Lacrosse
- Buford School System
- City of Duluth Recreation Department
- City of Lawrenceville
- City of Snellville Recreation Department
- City of Sugar Hill Recreation Department
- Collins Hill Athletic Association
- Collins Hill Stingrays
- Dacula Athletic Association
- Dacula Dolphins
- Dacula Rainbow Senior Recreation Club
- Dacula Soccer Club
- Duluth Youth Athletic Association
- Evergreen Club
- Georgia Futbol Club
- Get Up and Go Senior Recreation Club
- Good Age Senior Recreation Club
- Grayson Athletic Association
- Greater Lilburn Athletic Association
- Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
- Gwinnett County Board of Education
- Gwinnett Disc Golf Association
- Gwinnett Federal Swim League
- Gwinnett Historical Society
- Gwinnett Humane Society
- Gwinnett Master Gardeners
- Gwinnett Masters Special Olympics
- Gwinnett Medical Center
- Gwinnett Parks Foundation
- Gwinnett Rose Society
- Gwinnett Senior Golden Games
- Gwinnett SenioR Learning Center
- Gwinnett Sports Commission
- Gwinnett United in Drug Education (GUIDE)
- H2U
- Johnsonville
- Lanier Athletic Association
- Lawrenceville Fun Time Senior Recreation Club
- Lawrenceville Tourism and Trade Association
- Lawrenceville Woman's Club
- Lawrenceville Youth Association
- Liberty National Volunteer Match
- Metro Atlanta Senior Softball Association
- Mill Creek Athletic Association
- Mountain Drifters Senior Recreation Club
- Mountain Park Athletic Association
- Mountain Park Sharks
- Mountain View Athletic Association
- Norcross Baseball Softball Association
- Norcross Soccer Association
- Norcross Youth Athletic Association
- North Gwinnett Baseball/Softball Association
- North Gwinnett Football Association
- North Gwinnett Lacrosse Association
- Nothing But Fish
- Peachtree Boosters Club
- Peachtree Ridge Athletic Association
- Ricoh Electronics
- SafeKids Gwinnett
- Senior Recreation Council
- Shiloh Athletic Association
- Shorty Howell Hi-Steppers Senior Recreation Club
- South Gwinnett Athletic Association
- Suwanee Goodtimers Senior Recreation Club
- Trout Unlimited
- Vines Garden Railroad

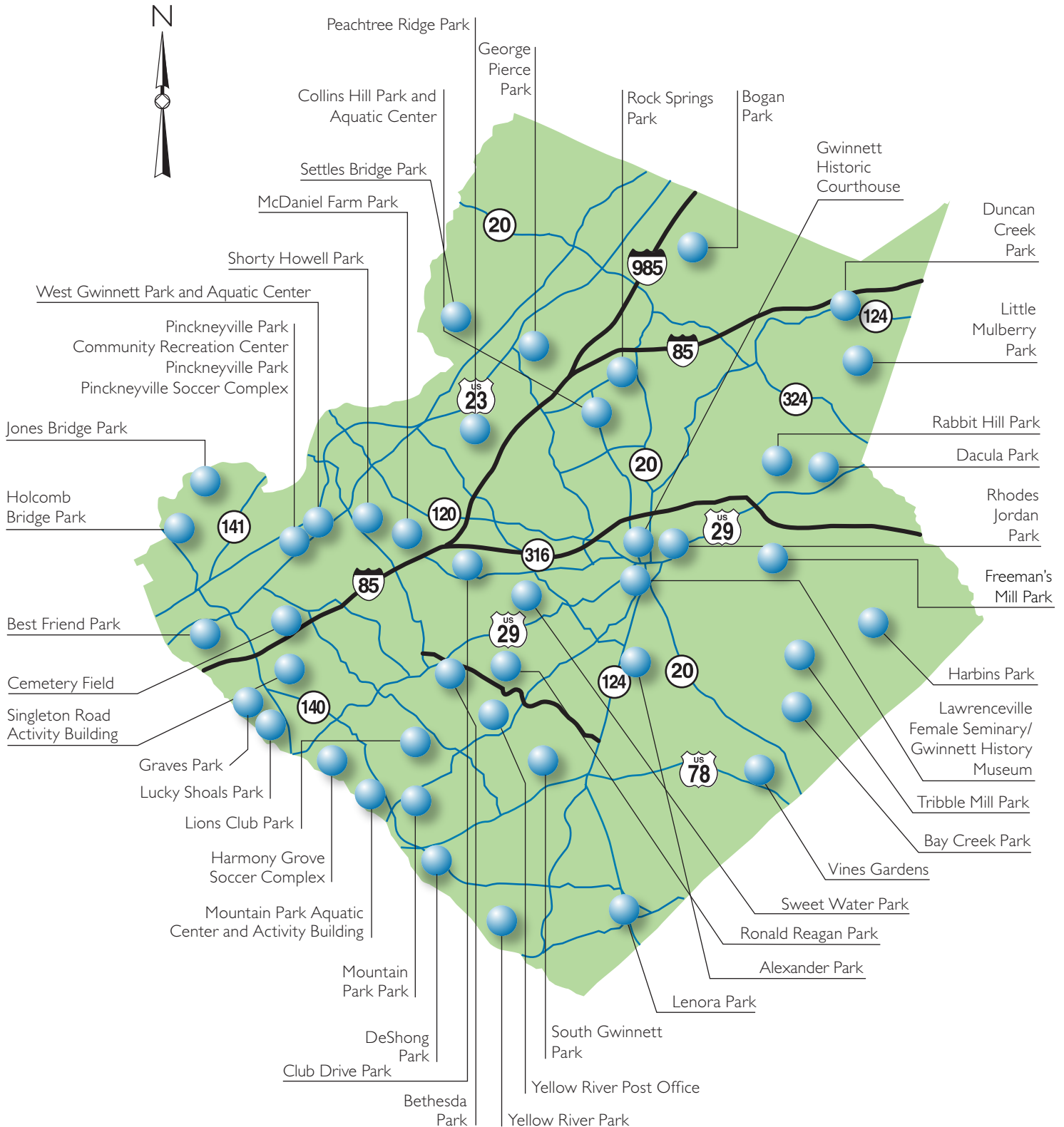
2010 Award Highlights

- Georgia Recreation and Park Association
 - Agency of the Year
 - Innovative Program Award
 - July is Recreation and Park Month
- Georgia Recreation and Park Association – District 7
 - Grant Guess, Administration – Distinguished Professional
 - Marcie Diaz, Outdoor Section – Distinguished Professional
 - Jason Duncan, Facilities and Grounds – Distinguished Professional
 - Stacy Fowler – Programmer of the Year, “A” Agency
 - Vicki Jacob – Volunteer of the Year
- Gwinnett Convention and Visitor’s Bureau
 - Sports Partner of the Year
- Gwinnett Magazine
 - Best Place for a Wedding – Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
 - Best Facilities Maintenance and Service



2010 Park Inventory

With 43 parks, residents are just minutes away from enjoying a day at the park and the many activities offered by Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation.





Please consider the environment before printing this report.