

# NEWS & EVENTS



in District 3 with  
**Commissioner Watkins**

September 2024



Hello Silvia,

Happy September! We have had another busy month.

I am deeply honored to be nominated to the Health Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties. I also recently completed the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy, which is another honor I take pride in. These opportunities allow me to bring the concerns and needs of Gwinnett to a national platform where we can work together to shape policies that directly impact the health and well-being of our communities.

I will host **three town halls** in September. The first town hall will focus on mental health and available resources and will take place on **Monday, September 9 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm** at the **Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium in Lawrenceville**. This town hall will be a follow-up from our July town hall that focused on the dangers of fentanyl.

In addition, I will also hold two State of the District town halls later this month. Topics of these town halls include transportation, the millage rate, crime, parks and recreation, water resources, and more. The first one will occur on **Monday, September 23 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm** at the **Dacula Park Activity Building located at 2735 Auburn Avenue in Dacula**. The second will take place on **Monday, September 30 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm** at **Snellville City Hall**. I hope to see you and look forward to engaging with the residents of District 3 and Gwinnett County.

Keep reading below for some more exciting news and events around Gwinnett.

## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Construction to begin on Gwinnett's first-of-its-kind Human Services facility

The Gwinnett Board of Commissioners voted to move forward with the construction of a **78,000-square-foot, three-story Human Services building**. This first-of-its-kind facility in Gwinnett and the tri-county area will be located on the same site as the new Gwinnett County Records Management and Storage facility on Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville. Construction will begin in January 2025.

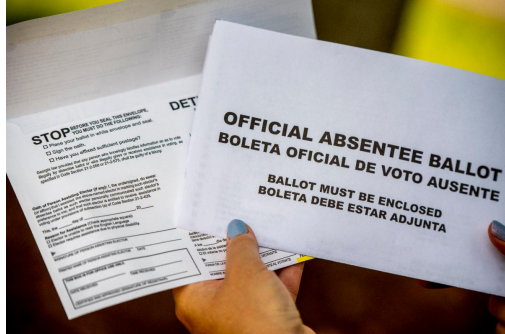
OneStop Gwinnett will serve as a central hub for the County's human services and offer vital resources, including veteran and family services, workforce development programs, and various community and partner spaces for classes and training. It will also

serve as the command center for the County's Community Navigator Team. In partnership with View Point Health, OneStop Gwinnett will address the County's growing need for mental and behavioral health services with a 30-bed inpatient stabilization unit and a 23-hour temporary observation day center capable of accommodating up to 15 individuals.

### Public Safety Fall Festival returns to Coolray Field

Gwinnett Police will host the 15th annual [Public Safety Fall Festival](#) on **Saturday, September 7 from 10:00am to 2:00pm** at **Coolray Field** in Lawrenceville. This event is free and open to residents of all ages.

For the first time, the event features the Peach Street Rodeo, which involves highly trained motorcyclists from across the country performing different challenges. There will also be giveaways, food trucks, demonstrations, and touch-a-truck experiences with SWAT vehicles, fire trucks, and more! For more information, contact Corporal Tebin Clack at [Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Tebin.Clack@GwinnettCounty.com).



### Request an absentee ballot

Are you registered to vote in the 2024 General Election but aren't able to vote in-person on Election Day? Beginning **Monday, August 19**, registered voters can request an absentee by mail ballot for the November 5 General Election through **Friday, October 25**.

For more information about absentee ballot applications, visit [GwinnettElections.com](http://GwinnettElections.com). To check your registration status, download a registration application, view sample ballots, and locate your polling place, visit [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](http://MVP.SOS.GA.gov).

### Solicita una boleta de voto ausente

Solicita una boleta de voto ausente ¿Está inscrito para votar en las Elecciones Generales de 2024 pero no puede votar en persona en el Día de las Elecciones? A partir del **Lunes 19 de Agosto**, los votantes inscritos pueden solicitar una boleta de voto ausente por correo para las Elecciones Generales del 5 de Noviembre hasta el **Viernes 25 de Octubre**.

Para más información sobre las solicitudes de boleta de voto ausente, visita [GwinnettElections.com](http://GwinnettElections.com). Para verificar el estado de tu inscripción electoral, descargar una solicitud de inscripción, ver boletas de muestra y ubicar tu lugar de votación, visita [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](http://MVP.SOS.GA.gov).

### Share your input for the Gwinnett Disparity Study

Gwinnett County Government is seeking your feedback as we embark on the County's first disparity study. We have partnered with Griffin & Strong, P.C., to evaluate potential disparities or barriers in government contracting and purchasing for small and/or underrepresented businesses.

Register for one of the informational meetings:

**In-person: Wednesday, September 18 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm**

George Pierce Park Community Room, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee. [Register on Eventbrite](#).

**Virtual option: Thursday, September 19 at 2:00pm** [Register via Zoom](#). Comments from participants will be recorded and potentially used in the study.



## What's New in District 3



### Free food distribution

[Free food distribution](#) will take place at **Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville on Tuesday, September 10 from 3:00pm until supplies last**. Get fresh and shelf-stable foods with drive-thru and contactless distribution. No ID is required.

For more details, visit [VolunteerGwinnett.net](http://VolunteerGwinnett.net) or email [VolunteerGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:VolunteerGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com).

### Recycle your glass and paper

Gwinnett residents are invited to drop off glass and paper for recycling across four days in September. Residents can stop by

**Lenora Park in Snellville on Thursday, September 12 from 11:00am to 1:00pm** to recycle their glass and paper.

All glass and paper must be in separate containers. Glass will be placed in purple recycling bins on-site and paper will be shredded on-site. All paper must be placed in disposable containers that will not be returned, with a limit of five. This is a rain-or-shine event. For more information, contact Gwinnett Solid Waste Management at 770.822.7141 or email [GCSolidWaste@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:GCSolidWaste@GwinnettCounty.com). [Click here](#) for a full list of locations for this recycling event.



## **Businesses can apply for Incumbent Worker Training Program**

The Atlanta Regional Workforce Development Board is seeking applications from Gwinnett County businesses to participate in the [Incumbent Worker Training program](#), a dynamic initiative aimed at fortifying the skills of the region's workforce and bolstering the competitive edge of local businesses.

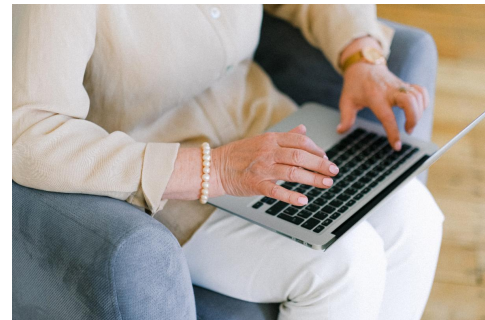
The federally funded program is available to businesses with five or more employees operating for a least a year in one of seven counties, including Gwinnett. The program provides a maximum of \$25,000 per employer and \$7,000 per participant each year to

provide tailored solutions. Employers are required to contribute 50 percent of the total training costs. [Applications are now being accepted](#) and awards will be granted on a competitive basis.

## **Gwinnett County website adds Facebook and Google sign-on options**

To enhance the user login experience, the **Gwinnett County website has introduced a new single sign-on option through Facebook and Google accounts**. Now, residents accessing county services, including water bill payments, can conveniently log in via these widely used platforms.

For those with existing accounts, ensure your profile has a Google email address or an email address associated with a Facebook account to use the single sign-on options. If your account lacks this email address or you use a different email address to log in, simply update your contact information. For technical support, please [review these instructions](#). Should you require assistance with the new sign-on options for water bill payment, contact customer care at 678.376.6800. For any other assistance with the new sign-on options, email [Webmaster@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Webmaster@GwinnettCounty.com).



## **Special Events and Happenings**

Visit [GwinnettCountyEvents.com](http://GwinnettCountyEvents.com) or follow the County's social media channels to learn about more upcoming events.

### **Pickleball Play & Grandparents Day**

**Saturday, September 7 from 10:00am to 1:00pm**

Celebrate Grandparents Day and bring out the grandkids to learn the game of pickleball and have some fun. Lunch will be provided. Resident fee: \$10. Non-resident fee: \$20. [Register here](#). Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

### **4-H Farm Friends at the Gwinnett County Fair**

**September 12 to September 22**

Learn about life on the farm inside the Big Red Barn at the 4-H Farm Friends exhibit at the Gwinnett County Fair at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds in Lawrenceville. Visitors can pet rabbits, goats, and sheep; see ducklings and fluffy baby chicks; play barnyard trivia; and even "milk" Daisy, the wooden sawhorse cow. Discovery Day for toddlers and homeschool families will take place from 11:00am to noon on Friday September 20 for \$2 or \$1 per person on nights and weekends. Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville.

### **Splish Splash Doggie Bash**

**Saturday, September 14 from 11:00am to 2:30pm**

Bring your pup to make a splash in the waterpark. Splashing/swimming with your pup is not allowed. Dogs must arrive on a leash and be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older, with one dog per adult. Proof of spaying or neutering and vaccinations are required. **Small dogs (20 pounds and under): 11:00am to noon; medium dogs (21 pounds to 50 pounds) 12:15pm to 1:15pm; large dogs (50 pounds and up): 1:30pm to 2:30pm.** Resident fee: \$10. [Register here](#). Lenora Park Leisure Pool, 4315 Lenora Church Road, Snellville.



Jasper Watkins III, District 3 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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