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September 2024



Greetings!

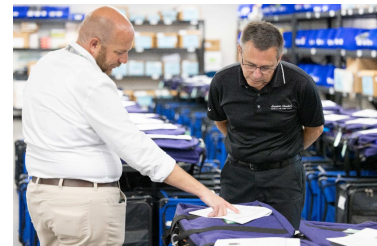
September marks the start of fall, but it also reminds us of the events of September 11, 2001. This day is a lasting memory for many of us, and my thoughts are with the families affected.

Throughout the month, we honor this day with two special locations in Gwinnett: the Fallen Heroes Memorial in the [Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center](#) parking lot, and the Veterans' Memorial at Suwannee Town Center Park. Gwinnett County also created [a special remembrance video dedicated to 9/11](#) featuring the Board of Commissioners and public safety leaders to honor that day.

One of my goals in District 4 is to enhance resident outreach. Over the next few months, I'll be speaking at several pop-up community meetings to be sure voters are informed on the upcoming transit referendum. If you are interested in learning more about the 1% transit tax referendum, send us an email for a list of several times and locations.

Speaking of resident outreach, I'd love to come speak to your group – whether it's your HOA, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, or any other group you can gather! Let me know what Gwinnett County subject matter you would like me to touch on. You can contact my office at Matthew.Holtkamp@GwinnettCounty.com or 770.822.7004.

In preparation for the upcoming elections, I toured the Voter Registrations and Elections Division last week. I visited their large warehouse, which stores the machines, paper, printers, flags, and other equipment used during elections. With 156 precincts, Gwinnett County relies on temporary staff and poll officials to make each election run smoothly. You can imagine the scale of this operation! A special shoutout to Elections Supervisor Zach Manifold and his team for successfully managing this effort each time.



Special note: Check out the story further below to find out how to become a poll official!

Happening Around Gwinnett



Advanced voting for the General Election starts October 15

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. Registered voters can vote advance in person every day, including weekends, from October 15 to November 1 from 7:00am to 7:00pm [at the Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections office in Lawrenceville and 11 advance voting locations around the county.](#)

If you prefer voting by mail, you can request an absentee ballot now through Friday, October 25. Please complete the absentee ballot application form online or call the Voter Registrations and Elections Office at 678.226.7210 to request an application.

The voter registration deadline for the General Election is October 7. To check your voter registration status, view a sample ballot, or find your polling location, visit the [Secretary of State's My Voter Page.](#)

La votación adelantada para las elecciones generales comienza el 15 de Octubre

El Día de las Elecciones es el Martes 5 de Noviembre. Los votantes inscritos pueden votar por adelantado en persona todos los días, incluidos los fines de semana, desde el 15 de Octubre hasta el 1 de Noviembre de 7:00 am a 7:00pm [en la oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones de Gwinnett en Lawrenceville y en 11 lugares de votación adelantada en todo el condado.](#)

Si prefiere votar por correo, puede solicitar una boleta de voto en ausente desde ahora hasta el Viernes 25 de Octubre. Completa el formulario de solicitud de boleta de voto ausente en línea o llama a la Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones al 678.226.7210 para solicitar una aplicación.

La fecha límite para inscribirse como votante para las Elecciones Generales es el 7 de Octubre. Para verificar su estado de inscripción de votante, ver una boleta de muestra o encontrar su lugar de votación, visita la [página Mi Página del Votante del Secretario de Estado.](#)

Gwinnett residents help shape county spending for 2025

A team of four residents weighed in on County government priorities before Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson proposes the 2025 budget.

Representatives from departments and agencies presented their business plans and proposed budgets to Commission Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson and members of the budget review team, which includes several Gwinnett residents and County staff.



On-demand videos of the budget presentations are available [on the County's website](#). The business plans will also be available on the County's government access channel [TV Gwinnett](#). The Chairwoman's proposed 2025 budget will be available to the public and news media when presented to board members in November. Per County ordinance, the Board of Commissioners must adopt the annual budget during its first meeting in January.



Gwinnett County Police Headquarters is getting an upgrade

The County will use Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax funds for the redesign of our Gwinnett Police headquarters. The upgrades will address current and future space requirements, consolidating offsite teams and sections into a single facility. Originally built in 1977, the existing headquarters was expanded in 1988 and has undergone several reconfigurations over the years to adapt to the evolving needs of the county and the department.

Precision Planning Inc. was awarded a \$5.8 million contract for design and construction, funded by SPLOST. Construction on the project,

totaling approximately \$86 million, is slated to begin in 2026. To learn more about how your pennies work in Gwinnett, visit [GwinnettSPLOST.com](#).

Gwinnett 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. The federally funded program is available to businesses with five or more employees operating for at least one year in the seven-county area, including Gwinnett.

The program provides a maximum of \$25,000 per employer and \$7,000 per participant yearly to provide tailored training solutions. Employers are required to contribute 50 percent of the total training costs. Awards will be granted on a competitive basis. [Learn more about the Incumbent Worker Training program](#) and how to apply.



What's New in District 4



Share your input for the Gwinnett Disparity Study

Gwinnett County Government is seeking your feedback for the County's first disparity study. The County has partnered with Griffin & Strong, P.C., to evaluate potential disparities or barriers in government contracting and purchasing for small and/or underrepresented businesses. Comments from participants will be recorded and potentially used in the study.

In-Person Meeting

The in-person informational meeting takes place on **Wednesday**,

Community Room, located at 55 Buford Highway in Suwanee. Please [register on Eventbrite](#) before attending.

Virtual Meeting

The virtual informational meeting takes place on **Thursday, September 19 at 2:00pm**. Please [register on Zoom](#) before attending.

Apply to be a poll official

Get involved in the electoral process and give back to your community! The Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Office is seeking citizens of all backgrounds, especially bilingual Spanish speakers, to become poll officials for upcoming elections. It's a great opportunity to see how elections work, gain valuable work experience, and earn up to \$440 per election. Interested citizens are encouraged to apply at [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](#).



Aplica para ser trabajador electoral

¡Participa en el proceso electoral y retribuye a tu comunidad! La Oficina de Inscripción de Votantes y Elecciones de Gwinnett está buscando ciudadanos de todos los orígenes, especialmente hispanohablantes bilingües, para que se conviertan en trabajadores electorales para las próximas elecciones. Es una gran oportunidad para ver cómo funcionan las elecciones, obtener una valiosa experiencia laboral y ganar hasta \$440 por elección. Se anima a los ciudadanos interesados a aplicar en [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](#).



Volunteer for Great Days of Service

Volunteers across Gwinnett will be rolling up their sleeves for the annual Gwinnett Great Days of Service volunteer weekend October 18 through October 20!

This initiative brings together thousands of individuals, corporations, schools, civic organizations, and communities to lend a hand with critical needs around the county. See the full list of service projects and register at [VolunteerGwinnett.net](#).

Keep your gutters clear and our water clean

As autumn approaches and leaves begin to fall, it's important to keep them out of storm drains, which lead directly to our local waterways. Leaves blocking storm drains can contribute to flooding in the street, increasing the risk of damage to property and infrastructure. When leaves decompose in a waterway, they release nutrients that can pose a threat to the underwater ecosystem.



Avoid these issues and keep our water clean with these helpful tips:

- Avoid raking or blowing leaves into the street
- Compost fallen leaves for free fertilizer to use in your garden
- Use fallen leaves as mulch in your landscape

To learn more, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](#).

Special Events and Happenings

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

Small Business Collective

Wednesday, September 18 from 7:30am to 9:00am | Free

Join us at the Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center for a Small Business Collectives. It provides a comfortable and private space for small business entrepreneurs to share ideas, network, and discuss business challenges. These peer-to-peer gatherings last for 90 minutes, providing a convenient opportunity for busy individuals to come together and collaborate. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center, 405 North Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

EHC Film Series: Clear Day Thunder

Saturday, September 21 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Watch the Clear Day Thunder: Rescuing the American Chestnut at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center. After the film, join the discussion with a representative of The American Chestnut Foundation. Light refreshments will be served. All Ages. [Register online](#). Fee: \$6.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$8.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford.

Bogan Kids Club: American Legends

Friday, September 27 from 6:00pm to 9:30pm

Enjoy an evening celebrating tall tales and American Hero's like John Henry, Johnny Appleseed and Sacajawea, along with a delicious dinner! Bring a swimsuit, towel, and a change of clothes. Ages 6-13. [Register online](#). Fee: \$8.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$15.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Bogan Park Aquatic Center, 2723 North Bogan Road, Buford.

Murder Mystery Dinner

Saturday, October 12 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm

Put your detective skills to test at our Murder Mystery Dinner! Price includes live entertainment, catered dinner, and one drink ticket. Additional drinks are available for purchase. Ages 21 and up. [Register online](#). Fee: \$51.00 for Gwinnett resident and \$71.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.



Matthew Holtkamp, District 4 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

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