



NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner
Matthew Holtkamp



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December 2024



Greetings!

Advent and Christmas remind us of renewal, hope, and the profound role that faith plays in our lives. It's a season filled with moments that inspire us to reflect on what matters most—our faith, our love for one another, and the gratitude we feel for the blessings in our lives.

I hope this time of year fills your heart with peace and brings many blessings to you and your loved ones.

Earlier this month, I had the privilege of reading to a few students that are part of the B2 Afterschool program at Freeman's Mill Elementary School. Moments like these remind me that the light of the season encourages us to share kindness, nurture connections, and take in the beauty all around us.

The spirit of giving and the magic of the season fill our hearts with happiness and make the world a brighter place.

I'm wishing you and your family a joyous holiday season and hope you take a moment to reflect on all your achievements this year!



Happening Around Gwinnett



Join us for the Career From Here Hiring Event

Attend the annual Career From Here Hiring Event on **Friday, January 10, 2025 from 9:00am to 2:00pm at the Gas South Convention Center**, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth.

Gwinnett County Government offers impactful career opportunities in a variety of fields including accounting and finance, building, grounds cleaning, maintenance, food services, facility operations, information technology and more.

[Preregister](#) to attend the event and check GwinnettCountyJobs.com to see the list of available jobs with Gwinnett County Government.

2025 Gwinnett Library Student Film Festival submissions are open

The Gwinnett County Public Library is now accepting submissions for the Student Film Fest for the 2024–2025 school year. Students age 11 and up, from middle school to college, are invited to submit their own films of any genre. Winners will be awarded prizes in various categories, including Best Picture.

Entries will be accepted from students of any qualifying institution



worldwide, but you must have a representative who is able to attend the awards ceremony for your film to be eligible for prizes.

Submissions close on **January 15, 2025**. The festival and awards ceremony will be held on **Saturday, March 29, 2025** at the **Gwinnett County Public Library —Snellville Branch**, located at 2245 Wisteria Drive in Snellville.

For more information about the festival and how to enter visit the [Gwinnett County Public Library website](#).



Provide feedback to help Gwinnett's tree canopy

As Gwinnett continues to grow, we want to ensure that we are not just adding buildings but also growing and preserving our green spaces.

The revised Tree Ordinance aims to balance progress and preservation, create healthier neighborhoods, foster sustainability, and enhance public spaces. The Tree Ordinance revision process will take about a year, with completion set for August 2025.

You can help by sharing your input in the [Tree Ordinance Survey](#) through **Friday, January 31**. Your feedback will help shape how we balance growth with the care of our tree canopy. Through research, community input, and thoughtful planning, we can ensure Gwinnett County remains a vibrant, green place to live, work, and play.

What's New in District 4

Officials cut the ribbon on the Western Gwinnett Pathway

Gwinnett officials unveiled a new segment of the Western Gwinnett Pathway on Thursday. As a part of the 2018 Gwinnett Countywide Trails Master Plan and spanning 5 miles between Rogers Bridge Road and Suwanee Dam Road, the pathway — with the vision to connect the Loop Trail — extends 17 miles. It connects Shorty Howell Park, the Gwinnett Place Mall area, the Gas South District, and the cities of Duluth and Suwanee. Approximately \$7 million of the total \$14 million project was funded by the County's SPLOST program.



Learn more about how your pennies work in Gwinnett at [GwinnettSPLOST.com](#).



Help shape the future of Gwinnett Police

Gwinnett Police is inviting all Gwinnett residents to take a survey about various aspects of the Gwinnett County Police Department's performance and to help identify areas in need of improvement.

Responses will be used to analyze and enhance the way Gwinnett Police delivers services and measure the perception of safety in our community. All responses are confidential, and no identifying information will be shared.

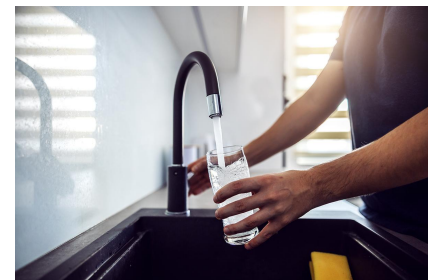
Residents can [take the survey online](#). If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Gwinnett Police at 770.513.5044.

Water and sewer rate to increase January 2025

In October 2020, the Board of Commissioners approved the Gwinnett County 2021 Water and Sewer Rate Resolution. This 10-year rate resolution sets a 4.5% rate increase every other year in odd years. Based on this resolution, water and sewer rates per thousand gallons will increase by 4.5% on January 1, 2025.

For an average household usage of 5,000 gallons per month:

- A water-only bill will increase by approximately \$1.25 per month.
- A combined water and sewer bill will increase by about \$3.30 per month.



There will be **no increase** in the water and sewer base charges.

Gwinnett Water Resources offers the Water Resources Assistance Program to eligible homeowners using American Rescue Plan Act funds dedicated for home plumbing repairs. Customer advocates can assist residents with their applications for this program and set up bill payment plans. To apply for WRAP, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/WRAP](#).

Visit GwinnettCountyEvents.com or follow the County's social media channels to learn about more upcoming events.

Small Business Collective

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

This collective offers comfortable and confidential environment for small business entrepreneurs to share ideas, network, and discuss the challenges they face. The 90-minute peer-to-peer gatherings offer a convenient opportunity for busy individuals to collaborate. [Sign up online](#). Coffee and water will be provided. Feel free to bring your breakfast. Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center, 405 North Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

Gingerbread Cookie Decorating

Monday, December 23 from 10:00am to 11:00am

Decorate holiday cookies with your family and friends! Materials will be provided. An adult must accompany a child. All Ages. [Register online](#). The fee is \$5.00 for non-Gwinnett residents, free for Gwinnett residents. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

Stop 'N' Play: Christmas Crafts

Friday, January 3 from 10:00am to 11:00am

Have fun getting the wiggles out with your little one! Explore activities, games, and more. Parent/guardian participation is required. Ages 5 and under. [Register online](#). The fee is \$4.00 for Gwinnett residents and \$8.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

Winter Adventure Club: Scouting for Skunks

Tuesday, January 14 from 10:00am to 11:00am | Free

Learn all about skunks—beyond their famous scent— through stories, hands-on activities, and fun songs. Ages 2 to 5. [Register online](#). Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford.



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Gwinnett County

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