January 8, 2024

Hello Suleica.

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.

<u>Gwinnett County Government</u> 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:

- Gwinnett's leaders take oath during swearing-in ceremonies
- Recycle your live Christmas tree
- Expansion coming to the Dacula Park Activity Building
- Warming stations open on nights when temperatures drop

Check out more videos on TV Gwinnett <u>Video on Demand</u>.

Board of Commissioners adopts budget for 2025

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved a \$2.67 billion budget to fund County operations and projects for the year. The approved budget consists of a \$2.11 billion operating budget and a \$555 million capital improvements budget, which includes funds from the County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax program.

The adopted budget allows Gwinnett County Government to address local needs such as public safety, community health, and high-quality infrastructure while balancing increasing costs of labor, materials, and services facing the County and residents alike. The budget also



includes the approval of organizational changes, including the creation of the Parks and Recreation Department, which was previously part of the Department of Community Services. The adopted 2025 budget resolution and supporting documents are available online at SwinnettCounty.com/Budget.

Attend Gwinnett's annual hiring event this Friday

Explore impactful career opportunities and interview to join the Gwinnett County Government team during the annual Career From Here Hiring Event. This year's event will be this **Friday**, **January 10 from 9:00am to 3:00pm** at the Gas South Convention Center, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth.

Come participate in resume review and editing, meet with current



employees to learn how you can thrive in a variety of fields, and interview with County representatives. Interviews will be held on a first-come, first-served basis. Register to attend Career From Here.

Help shape the future of the Park Place district!

Residents are invited to share their vision for a thriving Park Place district! Join us on **Tuesday**, **January 14** for the Design Workshop at the Country Inn and Suites, located at 1852 Rockbridge Road in Stone Mountain. From **6:00pm to 7:30pm**, learn about the Park Place Master Plan project recommendations and share your ideas on how the community could improve.

The Park Place district generally surrounds the intersections of Park Place Boulevard and Stone Mountain Highway. As an important southern gateway to Gwinnett, this corner of the county is commonly known as Mountain Park, Snellville, or Stone Mountain. This area



has been identified as prime for redevelopment based on planned future transit, proximity to major thoroughfares, and ongoing public investment. For more information, visit <u>GwinnettCounty.com/ParkPlacePlan</u>.

Share your input on the future of Gwinnett's tree canopy



Share your thoughts about tree protection in your area! Gwinnett County is updating its tree ordinance, and we need your input. Help shape the future of our county's tree canopy by taking a quick survey at GwinnettCounty.com/TreeOrdinance.

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.

Apply for mortgage assistance

Gwinnett homeowners can apply for up to \$50,000 in mortgage assistance through the Georgia Mortgage Assistance program. The funds assist homeowners facing financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs is responsible for distributing these funds, which were allocated to the state through the American Rescue Plan Act by the U.S. Treasury.

Three types of assistance are offered in the form of a grant. Homeowners must meet eligibility requirements and fill out an application. Visit the <u>Georgia Department of Community Affairs</u> for more information.



County offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day



All Gwinnett County Government offices, apart from operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **Monday, January 20** in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 21.

Trash and recycling collection will not be impacted during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. For more information, visit GCSolidWaste.com. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during each holiday.

Want to make this holiday season sustainable? Drop off your live Christmas tree at designated fire stations **now through January 22**. As part of the annual Bring One for the Chipper event, we will chip the trees into mulch for use at County parks on Saturday, January 25. The designated Gwinnett fire stations will accept trees 24/7.

For a list of drop-off sites or to register as a volunteer for the chipping event at Bethesda Park, visit <u>GwinnettCB.org</u>.



Plant your own veggie garden



Gardeners of all skill levels are invited to reserve a raised plot for the 2025 growing season at one of Gwinnett's 11 community gardens. Individual plots are available on a first-come, first-served basis with an annual \$35 fee.

To learn about exciting programming from Harvest Gwinnett, visit LiveHealthyGwinnett.com or email HarvestGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com.

Visit our website, social media for latest news

To stay updated with the latest news from the County, visit our website, <u>GwinnettCounty.com</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> @GwinnettGov.



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