



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2020

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NEWTON

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As restrictions for going to work and moving about society have lessened with the expiration of various executive orders from the Governor's Office, we must remember that this does not mean the pandemic is no longer a concern. We still need to be careful and limit our exposure to others if we are able. It is our responsibility—all of us—to ensure safety practices are in place, so that we may move forward into the next phase on our path to recovery and normalcy.

As of May 18th, the following restrictions have been ordered by Governor Kemp:

1. The elderly and medically fragile are still required to shelter in place through June 12.
2. While certain businesses are allowed to resume limited operations (note, LIMITED), they may ONLY open if they meet specific, mandatory social distancing and sanitation rules to keep customers and employees safe, including the use of masks and appropriate distancing. ALL businesses, even those deemed "essential" in previous orders, must follow these requirements. Bars, night clubs, amusement parks, live performances venues and public pools remain closed at this time.
3. All Georgians are to continue to maintain social distancing, limit their travel and use best practices. Gatherings of more than 10 people will not be allowed unless it is possible to maintain 6 feet of distance.

The Governor's Office has provided guidance on what we each should be doing in this new phase, whether a business, citizen, employee, etc. Please take the time to peruse those documents relevant to you at norcrossga.net/COVID19. If you have any questions or concerns, the Governor's Office is available at gov.georgia.gov, covidcomments@georgia.org or 404-656-1776.

I am thrilled to see so many businesses in Norcross able to reopen, and take this all as an encouraging sign that brighter times are on the horizon. However, let's not get ahead of ourselves and set things back by not staying vigilant. If it is possible to work from home, please work from home. If you have to go out, I urge you to take precautions. If you are reopening your business, do so under the government-mandated restrictions.

We are a community, and to get through this we must work together—mayor, council, citizens, staff and businesses. It is on all of us to ensure Norcross continues to be a safe, welcoming place to live, work and play—"a place to imagine."

Faithfully yours,
Craig Newton, Mayor



STAY UP TO DATE!

Visit NORCROSSGA.NET/COVID19
for the latest resources,
information & to sign up for alerts!

REMINDER

NEW RECYCLING CHARGE EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2020

On January 1, 2020, our solid waste provider began charging the City of Norcross a recycling fee for recycling services. This is due in part to multiple factors: 1) an increase in the processing charge for residential single-stream curbside recycling due to contamination, 2) recycling commodity markets are down on a global basis, and 3) China has a new policy in which they will no longer accept recyclables from the United States. Faced with this issue, a lot of municipalities have elected to eliminate a recycling service to their community all together. The City of Norcross, however, as a Platinum-rated Green Community, is invested in providing sustainable services to its residents. To help share the burden of this new expense, all residents will be charged \$0.72 per month for this service on the resident's tax bill, effective in September 2020.

DON'T POUR FATS, OILS AND GREASE DOWN THE DRAIN

It is imperative to keep fats, oils and grease (F.O.G.) out of our pipes and sewer system. When washed down your kitchen sink, F.O.G. sticks to the walls of your pipes and over time can completely block your plumbing or the sewer system, leading to costly sewage backups in your home or spills into nearby rivers and streams. F.O.G. continues to be the number one cause of sewer system blockages in the metro Atlanta region.

Remember, anything oil or dairy-based is considered a F.O.G., including meat greases, cooking oils (olive and coconut), dairy products (yes, ice cream and yogurt!), sauces, dressings and marinades. You can help by remembering to:

- Cool F.O.G. and place liquids in a container. If grease recycling is not an option in your area, please put your F.O.G. container into the trash when it is full.
- Scrape any solids into the trash.
- Wipe plates and dishes completely.
- Follow F.O.G. prevention protocol even if you have a garbage disposal. Disposals won't eliminate F.O.G.; they merely chop it up into smaller pieces.

This message is provided by the city's Stormwater Management team. For more tips and resources, visit the education section of their webpage: norcrossga.net/stormwater.

REMINDER

BURNING BAN IN EFFECT

A Burning Ban has been in effect since March 23rd and will continue through September 30th. Please refer to the Gwinnett Fire Department for more information. The outdoor burn line is 678-518-4979.

Congratulations, GRADUATES!

The city would like to recognize and congratulate Norcross' Class of 2020 graduates! You have faced obstacles no other graduating class has had to endure, and your achievement is all the more meaningful because of it. We are so proud of you—your hard work, dedication and resilience is inspiring! We wanted to do a little something special for you all, so please enjoy the billboards in your honor and go forth to conquer your dreams!!





INTRODUCING THE NEW NORCROSS TROLLEY

Earlier this year, the city received a grant from the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Tourism Division to purchase an electric trolley. It has just arrived—complete in its new wrap—and while we can't conduct tours just now, we are so excited to introduce it to the community! The new trolley runs on electric energy (supporting our green initiatives) and has heat, air conditioning and wheelchair accessibility.

2020 CENSUS: GET COUNTED!

Respond now to the 2020 Census online, by phone or by mail. Ten minutes will impact the next TEN years! The census is 100% safe—your data is protected and it's confidential. Federal law protects your responses, which cannot be shared with law enforcement, immigration agencies or housing authorities. Getting an accurate count of Norcross' population and demographics is extremely important—each person who responds to the 2020 Census helps their community secure its fair share of over \$675 billion dollars in federal funding for roads, schools, healthcare services and more.

So please, help us help you! Respond now at my2020census.gov.



NOW A DRIVE-THROUGH!

Each Saturday this summer, you can pick up online orders from local market vendors in the City Hall parking lot between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. You must have a prepaid online order to participate—this will be a “drive-through, pick-up” only event in order to safely and efficiently accommodate the demand.

ORDER

Order weekly online between 9 a.m. Sunday and 5 p.m. Thursday.
norcrosscommunitymarket.com

PAYMENT INFO

Pay by credit card online. NCM also accepts SNAP and doubles buying power on qualified food purchases. SNAP shoppers must pay in person upon arrival for order pick-up according to USDA requirements. Contact norcrosscommunitymarket@gmail.com or 404-229-7077 for more SNAP info.



PICK-UP

Customers will receive instructions at the top of their invoices for CDC compliant pick-up.

LOOKING AHEAD

The online drive-through market will be in effect until circumstances allow reconsideration. While we miss the social aspects of Norcross Community Market, we want to provide a safe alternative. Creating the online store for drive-through pick-up enables us to continue to provide a place for our community and local businesses to support each other and provide food security.

STAY CONNECTED

Subscribe to the Norcross Community Market newsletter to keep up with the latest info.
bit.ly/3fPYdty

RETURN TO NORMAL OPERATIONS

AS OF JUNE 1, 2020

While the Governor's shelter in place order expired April 30th at 11:59 PM, that does not mean the pandemic is no longer a concern nor that health and safety precautions may be lessened. We are entering the first phase on the road to recovery and normalcy—it will not happen overnight. Assuming further directives are not provided by the Governor, the following is an outline of actions the City of Norcross plans to follow in order to resume normal operations.

- **Municipal Court** will remain closed to the public for in-person services until July 1st. Regular court arraignments only will resume June 9th at 9 a.m., however only defendants will be permitted on the premises; guests/general public may tune in virtually.
- **City Council Meetings** will continue to be held virtually, and the decision to return to in-person meetings will be reviewed July 1st.
- **Public Hearings** will continue to be held virtually, and the decision to return to in-person meetings will be reviewed July 1st.
- **City Facilities** will remain closed to the public until July 1st.
- **Norcross Parks and Restrooms** will remain open to the public.
- **Opening Park Playgrounds** will be reviewed on July 1st.
- **Future City Events** will be assessed August 1st for possible scheduling.

Please Note:

Conditions are constantly being evaluated and these dates are subject to change. CDC Social Distancing will be enforced in all city facilities/spaces.

As businesses are opening back up and you are returning to work, please remember to stay vigilant and continue to practice CDC guidelines for preventing the spread.



WASH
HANDS



SOCIAL
DISTANCE



AVOID
TOUCHING FACE



COVER
COUGH/SNEEZE



150th Anniversary
MEMORABILIA

ON SALE NOW!



Commemorative tea towels are now available celebrating Norcross' 150th Anniversary! Whether for use in your kitchen or in a framed display, this 19"x 26" towel makes a great gift at just \$14.99. Limited quantities are available, so get yours today from A Taste of Britain, The Crossing, Carolee's, V.S.O.P, and Norcross Community Market.

www.aplacetoimagine.com