



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • APRIL 2021



NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP & RECYCLING DAY APRIL 10, 2021

Shredding Event

Shred-it will be on-site with their shred truck. Watch on the video display as your materials are shredded securely. This event is open to the public and is FREE. Limited to 5 medium boxes or equivalent.

Location: Norcross City Hall, 65 Lawrenceville Street, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. or until the truck is full.

Clean-up Day

Get a jumpstart on your Spring Cleaning! Bring us anything that is not hazardous material. Open to City of Norcross residents (proof of residency required). This event is FREE.

Location: Public Works Facility, 345 Lively Avenue (just off Buford Hwy), 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Electronics Recycling

Get rid of old cell phones, computers and keyboards without guilt! eWaste ePlanet and City volunteers will help you unload. For a complete list of recyclables visit the City website and look on the flyer. This event is open to the public. This event is free except for some recycleable items - please see Electronics Recycling flyer for more information.

Location: Norcross City Hall Parking Lot, 65 Lawrenceville St NW, 9 a.m. -12 p.m.

For a list of accepted items at each event, visit norcrossga.net/926/Green-Events and select "Informational Flyers."

BOARD VACANCIES

The city is now accepting applications to serve on several city boards and commissions. These include:

The **Parks, Green Spaces and Trails Commission** was officially added as a city board by the Mayor and Council on March 1, 2021. The commission's primary purpose is to advise and provide recommendations to the city council regarding the best use, planning and development, maintenance and related projects for these spaces with the main objective of beautifying and preserving the city's natural resources through conservation measures.

The **Tree Preservation Board** was established to assist the Community Development Department in interpreting and enforcing the provisions of the Tree Protection, Buffers and Landscape Ordinance in the City's Unified Development Ordinance (Article V, Chapter 200). They also advise the Mayor and Council on matters pertaining to the preservation of trees and conservation of tree canopy cover within the city.

If you are interested in having an active role in the City of Norcross, please contact City Clerk, Monique Lang (monique.lang@norcrossga.net) to submit your application to serve. You can learn more, including meeting days, mission and list of other citizens serving on each board and commission on the city website under City Government tab.

HELP UPDATE HISTORIC NORCROSS CEMETERY RECORDS

In 1871, Gwinnett County experienced a fire that destroyed all burial and plot records for our Historic Cemetery. In an attempt to properly document ownership of unused plots, the City of Norcross is requesting that anyone with a deed or certificate of ownership present such information to the city by contacting Melissa Zeigler at **678.421.2069** or melissa.zeigler@norcrossga.net.



REMINDERS

Back in September, Advanced Disposal (the city's sanitation vendor), established a call center for common service requests. All requests for missed pickups or to schedule large bulk item pickups or cart replacements should be made directly to Advanced Disposal at **678-495-0058**. All requests for new businesses, to cancel a service, service increases or decreases, to start a new residential service, or to cancel a residential service should still be made to the city via gga@norcrossga.net or norcrossga.net/requesttracker.aspx.

As of December, all calls for Norcross Power should be directed to our new 24-hour number, 678-421-2069. After 5:00 p.m., calls will automatically transfer to Interactive Utility Communications (IUC) who are equipped to manage these calls (outages, cut-offs, interruptions of service). At 8:00 a.m., the calls will transfer back to the Public Works, Utilities & Parks Department. **For power outages or other issues, please do NOT call Norcross Police, as has been the custom in the past—instead, please call the 678-421-2069 number.**

Leaf vacuuming ended in January. As we prepare for the spring, please do not blow your leaves and yard trimmings down the storm drains. Storm drains (found on the street curbs) DO NOT go to wastewater treatment plants! Leaves and sediment (disturbed soil) are the number one stormwater pollutants in the country. Other pollutants include fertilizers, antifreeze and oil from cars, and pet waste. Protect our waterways by not dumping into the storm drains!

G.R.E.A.T. LITTLE MINDS BOOK EXCHANGE

As of February 23rd, a new little library is in town! The City of Norcross, Gwinnett Coalition for Health & Human Services, and Unite Us have collaborated to bring the G.R.E.A.T. (Gwinnett Reading Exchange & Art Transforms) Little Minds book exchange program to Norcross, in order to inspire the love of reading through art and community engagement.

In Thrasher Park you will find a newly installed book exchange box, painted by Renee McKay and already filled with books for children ages 0-8. Open to the public, anyone may contribute or take books from the box, completely free of charge. The exchange functions on the honor system; if one takes a book, one does not need to return that exact book but in order to keep the exchange full of good choices, we ask that everyone contribute to ensure there are always quality books inside.

For more information about the program, visit gwinnettcoalition.org/great-little-minds.



SUSTAINABILITY

TIP OF THE MONTH



EARTH DAY

First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day is held every year on April 22. The holiday is an opportunity for the world to recognize the progress made in preserving our Earth's resources, as well as to continue to take action to educate others and learn more ways to live sustainably and protect the planet. Earth Day may be only one day out of the year, but we can celebrate all month and all year long by researching ways to reduce waste, shopping local, recycling, donating unused items, or participating in a community clean up. Look out for more ways to be sustainable on the City of Norcross Facebook page and Come Clean Gwinnett Facebook Group.

Use the hashtag #EarthDayNorcross to show us how you celebrate Earth Day!

KUDOS KORNER

Congratulations, former City Manager **Rudolph Smith**, on earning the **Georgia Municipal Association's Lifetime Service Award!**

Rewatch the ceremony here: fb.watch/3_3yJrK9kb

The Lifetime Service Award recognizes elected city officials, city managers, city clerks and city attorneys who, upon leaving office or retiring, had completed 35 or more years of service. Last year Rudolph retired with 40 years of dedicated public service. He was indeed a faithful Public Servant.

Congrats to our very own **Paul Duke STEM High School** for being awarded the \$10,000 **McDonald's Golden Grants** prize from the Greater Atlanta McDonald's Owner/Operators Association!

Golden Grants is a grant program exclusive to the Atlanta area that launched in 2018 as a resource for teachers and other individuals who are committed to fueling and inspiring K-12 student learning.

The 2021 \$10,000 prize has been awarded to Paul Duke STEM High School for their BigMAC Driven Innovation in Electric Vehicles project. The program is designed to integrate technology and career readiness throughout all curricular tracks for both general and advanced learners. Ultimately, the program will create an incredible real-world learning lab for over 150 students per year for 5+ years, attract and engage students in STEM courses, inspire innovation and prepare students for challenging careers in the electric vehicle and robotics industries.

Congratulations to our **2021 Gwinnett Regional Science, Engineering, and Innovation Fair** participants and winners! Over 500 students participated in a virtual version of Gwinnett's annual science fair on Friday, February 19, 2021. Students presented virtually to judges across the county, state and country. Of these, 10 young scientists were from none other than our own **Summerour Middle School**.

Sharika Awasthi, Environmental Engineering (1st Place) and Broadcom Masters Winner

Gabriella Bartlett and Jasmine Delgado, Physics & Astronomy (2nd Place)

Andy Nguyen and Cristian Cubias, Physics & Astronomy (3rd Place)

Allena Nguyen and Katie Phan, Chemistry (3rd Place)

Alberto Bucio-Garcia, Erick Vega and Raifah Maruf, Earth & Environmental Science (3rd Place)



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

EARTH DAY

Earth Day may be April 22, but we attempt to celebrate and protect our environment every day here in Norcross. Check out some of our recent projects and accomplishments:



TREE PLANTING ON S. BARTON STREET

To honor Georgia's Arbor Day, the Norcross Tree Board planted two new black gum "wildfire" trees on S. Barton Street to replace the lovely old water oak that was recently removed due to a root fungus.



PINNACLE PARK/BEAVER RUIN CREEK CLEANUP

We frequently have volunteer groups out helping keep our water and green spaces clean, particularly at Pinnacle Park. On MLK Day, a group of 14 volunteers collected 66 bags of trash and 12 tires from the park's creek, plus some loose pieces of debris totaling 1,300 lbs. In February, a group of volunteers from Come Clean Gwinnett collected 28 bags of trash from the same area. We thank all volunteers, both from these cleanup projects and others, for their hard work and dedication to not only beautifying our community but also protecting our natural resources.

JOHNSON DEAN FOREST JOINS OLD-GROWTH FOREST NETWORK

In February, the Tree Board hosted a dedication to Johnson Dean Forest Preserve Park, celebrating the forest's becoming a member of the national Old-Growth Forest Network (a national nonprofit that recognizes urban forests with a Community Forest designation as a treasured community asset).

GLASS RECYCLING AT PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

If you didn't know you could drop your glass off at Norcross Public Works (345 Lively Avenue) to be recycled, now is the time to start collecting. With the help of our Norcross neighbors, we have recycled over 30 tons of glass since February 2019. For social distancing purposes, the collection bins are located just outside of the Public Works lobby, in the parking lot.



NORCROSS PROCLAIMED "MVP" OF SANITATION REPORTING

As part of the recertification process for our Platinum-level Green Communities Certification, we have participated for the last two years in the Municipal Measurement Program through Re-TRAC Connect. This involves reporting the tonnage of trash and recyclables that are collected in the city on an annual basis so that we understand our trends from year to year. This year, we were named an "MVP - Most Valued Participant!" Thanks to the Sustainable Norcross Commission for encouraging us to participate, and to Norcross Public Works and Advanced Disposal for helping us with our data tracking.



**IN THE
KNOW**

NORCROSS COMMUNITY MARKET

Local food on the go! In response to COVID-19, Norcross Community Market continues to operate as an online market with a drive-through pickup in order to keep connecting local farmers and food producers with their customers.

Visit their online store (www.NCMonlinestore.com) each week between Sunday - Thursday to place your order. Then collect your purchase on Saturday morning at City Hall (65 Lawrenceville Street) between 9-11 a.m.

**SNAP/EBT is accepted (and doubled!)
on qualifying purchases.**

**Follow Norcross Community Market
on Facebook for updates.**

SUMMER EVENTS

ARE BACK!

Stay tuned for details on these confirmed 2021 summer events!
We will be following CDC recommended guidelines for COVID-19.



**RED, WHITE & BOOM
3RD OF JULY FESTIVAL**



**SUMMER CONCERT
SERIES MAY - SEP**

“CLOTHES STORY: AN EXHIBITION”

“Clothes Story” is a family-friendly exhibition experience that celebrates women in their homes and communities. These stories showcase their resiliency, strength, fortitude and power as trailblazers and leaders. Highlighting ten women between the years of 1880-1950, the narrative is supported by the clothing that they wore. The clothing serves as a representation of the eras presented. This experience is curated to assist with providing an understanding and appreciation for the times and a look at the progress we can appreciate today.

Call 678-421-2049 for access. The exhibit is located at The Rectory, 17 College Street. Please remember to wear a mask; social distancing guidelines are being followed.



HEART OF NORCROSS EASTER PARADE & EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD

STARTING AT 11 A.M.

The Historic Norcross Business Association (Heart of Norcross) is hosting a social distancing-friendly Easter celebration in Downtown Historic Norcross! The parade, led by the Easter Bunny in the city's trolley, will begin at One Heart Church and come down N. Peachtree Street. Neighbors are encouraged to join the parade as it passes by. The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures until 4 p.m., and egg painting and other activities will be set up outside throughout the event. Eggs and candy will also be hidden throughout downtown by local businesses, so be sure to bring a basket for the little ones to hunt along! Please remember to wear a mask.



150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Details Coming Soon

While the pandemic meant we had to postpone our 150th anniversary festivities last year, we still plan to party! Stay on the lookout for more details coming soon about our community celebration.



JOIN OUR TEAM

Looking for a way to better impact your city? Come work for us! Keep an eye on our website for all job opportunities; we have many immediate positions available, including:

- Events Manager
- Business Development Manager
- Senior Planner
- Parks and Recreation Program Coordinator
- Parks & Recreation Maintenance Coordinator
- Storm Water Equipment Operator
- Planner
- Human Resources
- and more!

norcrossga.net/Jobs.aspx