



# A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • JULY 2025



## July 3 • 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. • Lillian Webb Park

Grab your crew and head to Lillian Webb Park for Red, White & BOOM!, Norcross' biggest Independence Day bash! We're talking live tunes, tasty food, bounce houses, face painting and all the festive fun you can handle.

Then stick around as the sky lights up at 9:40 p.m. with a jaw-dropping fireworks show that'll have you cheering with pride. Bring your chairs, your blankets and your best red, white and blue—this is your front-row seat to summer magic. Come celebrate what makes Norcross shine: community, good vibes and the stars and stripes.

### Event Reminders – Plan Ahead!

Friendly reminder! Scan the QR Code below for additional information and important details before attending the event. Explore topics below.

- Map
- Parking
- Road Closures
- Assistance & First Aid Shuttles
- Safety Dos And Don'ts
- And More!

### Firework Ordinance

Friendly reminder, Norcross! Planning to celebrate with fireworks? Please remember that fireworks are only permitted on July 3 and July 4, between 10:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. Let's all do our part to keep the holiday fun, safe, and respectful for our neighbors. Thanks for celebrating responsibly!



SCAN OR CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS:



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

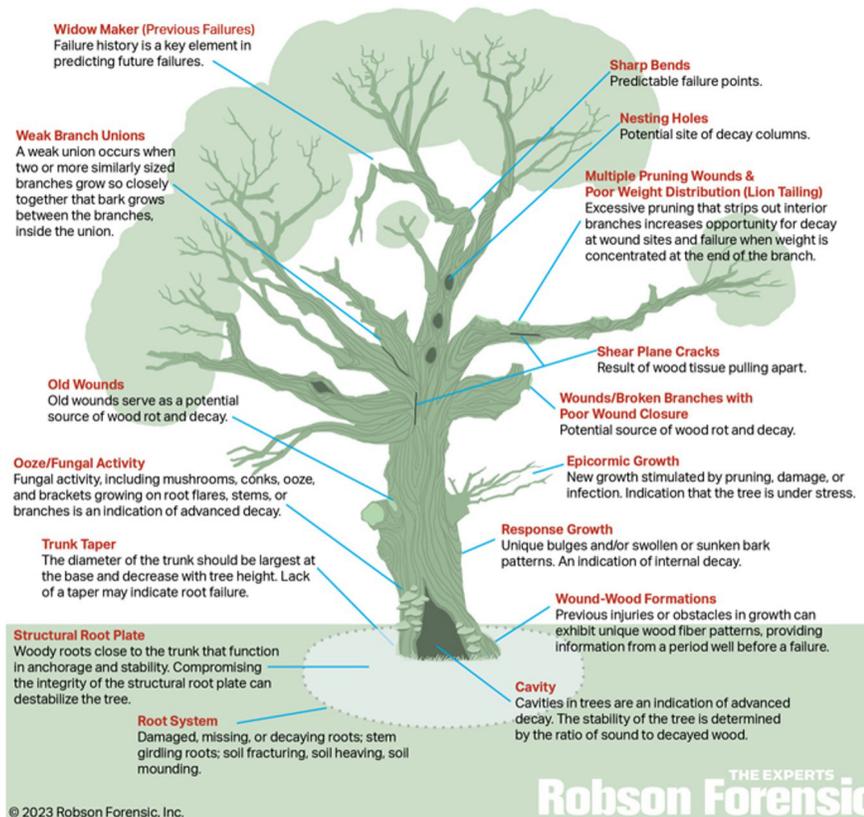
## HOW NORCROSS MAINTAINS TREE SAFETY

Norcross takes great pride in its beautiful urban forest. Our trees provide shade, improve air quality and add to the charm and character of our neighborhoods. But many of these trees have been part of our landscape for decades—some even longer than our homes—and like all living things, they age.

Our mature trees, or “senior citizens,” face age-related stress over time. They can experience internal decay, often caused by pests, disease or previous storm damage. This decay weakens their ability to support heavy branches or even their main trunks—yet the damage isn’t always visible from the outside.

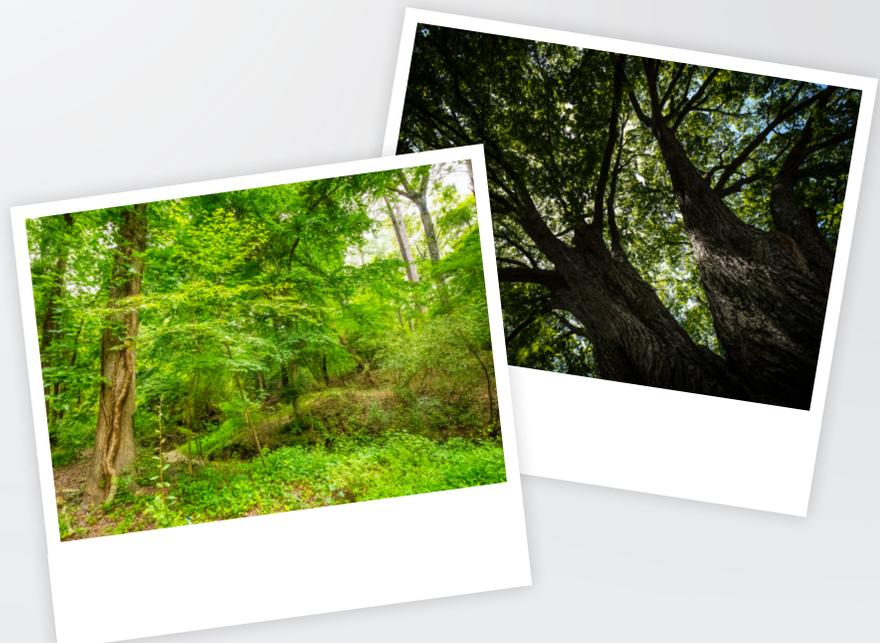
Even a tree that appears strong and healthy may pose a serious safety risk. When trees become hazardous, particularly when people, homes, cars or powerlines are within the potential fall zone called “targets”, it’s essential to take action. Tree hazards are a shared responsibility, but property owners carry final liability for any injuries, damage or loss caused by trees on their land.

### Hazard Tree Identification



To protect public spaces and reduce risk, the City of Norcross will be conducting tree maintenance and removal work over the next several months. If you notice a tree being removed, know that it's part of our proactive effort to ensure a safer community for all. The City of Norcross may also reach out to homeowners when dead or hazardous trees are identified on private property as a reminder to stay vigilant.

Caring for our aging urban forest takes teamwork. By staying informed, inspecting trees regularly and taking early action when concerns arise, we can preserve the beauty and safety of our environment for future generations. Let's continue to grow a greener—and safer—Norcross together.



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## NORCROSS PHOTO CONTEST

# FROM BEES TO TREES

A longtime champion of local creativity, Norcross Gallery & Studios has been a hub for the arts since 2006—when it was founded as Kudzu Gallery and gifted a home by the city. Today, it continues to showcase and support artists of all kinds.

The City of Norcross and the Norcross Public Arts Commission is proud to once again partner with Norcross Gallery & Studios for their annual photo competition! This year's theme, "From Bees to Trees," celebrates the natural beauty of Norcross—from buzzing pollinators to shady trails and treetop views. Whether you're a pro or just snapping shots on your phone, everyone is encouraged to join in.

Entry is totally free, so there's no reason to hold back! You've got until July 31 to submit your best shots. Renowned nature photographer Kathleen Kolb, founder of Atlanta's EcoAddendum and a passionate advocate for Old Growth forests, will serve as the contest judge—bringing her expert eye and deep appreciation for natural beauty to the selection process.

The lucky winners won't just get bragging rights — their photos will be showcased in a stunning exhibition from August 28 through September 27 at Norcross Gallery & Studios. Plus, ribbons and awards will be up for grabs, making this your chance to shine and take home some well-deserved recognition!

So, grab your camera, get outside and show us what "From Bees to Trees" means to you. Let's celebrate the beauty of nature and the power of creativity, together!

**SCAN OR CLICK  
HERE FOR  
MORE DETAILS:**



# REPORT EXCESSIVE NOISE

We all love a lively town, but loud cars and booming music can take away from the calm we cherish. These noises go against Norcross' noise control ordinance—and we could use your help! If you hear a loud vehicle, please call Police Dispatch right away at 770-448-2111. Share what you heard, where and when—even if the car is gone, it helps us track problem areas.

You can also email Traffic Sergeant Benny Pena at [benny.pena@norcrosspd.com](mailto:benny.pena@norcrosspd.com) or use SeeClickFix. Thanks for being a great neighbor and helping us keep Norcross peaceful and pleasant!



# COLORING OUR COMMUNITY

Get ready to unleash your inner artist—Norcross now has not one, but two Community Art Boxes designed to spark creativity and bring neighbors together through shared artistic expression!

Located on the South end of S Peachtree St, in the city parking lot by the Carlyle St. intersection, Art Box #1 is your go-to spot for free art supplies. Created and beautifully decorated by Paul Duke STEM School Art Students, this box is stocked with mini canvases, paintbrushes and more—all provided by the Norcross Public Arts Commission. Stop by, grab just what you need and let your imagination run wild. Whether you're painting, collaging with leaves and buttons or inventing your own masterpiece out of macaroni and magic, there are no rules—just creativity!

Once your masterpiece is complete, head to Art Box #2 in Betty Mauldin Park. There, you can participate in a "Take One, Leave One" art exchange! Display your work proudly and browse what other community members have created—maybe even take a favorite home. This box was donated by Norcross Public Arts Commission Board Member Yamily Mijes-O'Reilly and beautifully decorated by students from Norcross Elementary School under the guidance of Bobbie Adamczyk, Art Education Specialist.

This interactive public art experience is open to all ages and abilities. Whether you're a seasoned artist or just feeling inspired on your afternoon walk, we encourage you to join the fun.

Don't forget to snap a photo of your creation and tag us on social media—Facebook at [@cityofnorcrossga](https://www.facebook.com/cityofnorcrossga) and [@norcrossarts](https://www.facebook.com/norcrossarts), and Instagram at [@cityofnorcross](https://www.instagram.com/cityofnorcross). Use the hashtags [#norcrossartbox](https://www.instagram.com/norcrossartbox) and [#norcrosspublicarts](https://www.instagram.com/norcrosspublicarts) so we can celebrate your work! If you have questions or notice a box running low on supplies, email [npac@norcrossga.net](mailto:npac@norcrossga.net). Let's get creative, Norcross!



# NORCROSS WELCOMES NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



The City of Norcross is thrilled to welcome David Versel as its new Economic Development Director, bringing fresh energy and vision to the city's growth and prosperity efforts.

Versel steps into the role with over 20 years of experience in real estate, planning and public-private collaboration. His career has taken him to more than 250 communities across 30 states, partnering with city governments, developers, universities and nonprofits to foster strong, balanced economies.

"Norcross is a special community with opportunities for growth in its historic downtown, commercial corridors, and industrial areas," said Versel. "I'm excited to help lead the city into its next chapter."

Before joining Norcross, Versel founded a national consulting firm and held senior roles across the public and private sectors in Georgia, Virginia and Maine. He holds a Master of City Planning from Georgia Tech and a B.A. in Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis.

David lives in Alpharetta with his wife Maurisa and their four children, and he's an active youth sports coach. With his extensive experience and collaborative approach, Versel is well-positioned to support Norcross' economic goals while preserving the charm and character that make our city unique. We look forward to the progress ahead and the continued growth of a thriving, inclusive local economy.



**July 19 • 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thrasher Park**

Join us for a sizzling and delicious Cookout With Council! Enjoy complimentary mouthwatering food while you mingle with fellow community members. This casual gathering is your chance to connect directly with City Council members, ask questions, share your thoughts and learn more about what's happening in Norcross.

It's all about building stronger community ties and working together to shape the future of our city. Have questions? Reach out to [ahixson@norcrossga.net](mailto:ahixson@norcrossga.net). Let's grill, chill and envision an amazing Norcross together!

## SUSTAINABILITY



### TIP OF THE MONTH

Did you know construction debris can be recycled? When the old Gwinnett County Library located in Norcross was torn down, over 300 tons of concrete and more than 10 tons of metal were kept out of the landfill. Next time you tackle a home project, think twice before tossing materials.

Recycling or donating leftover wood, metal or concrete helps reduce waste and shrink our community's carbon footprint. Check out Lifecycle Building Center, SA Recycling or Metro Green for great local options! Together, we can build a greener Norcross, one project at a time.



# IN THE KNOW

## MOVIE MONDAYS



July 14

IF



July 28

Indian Jones And The Last Crusade

Lights, camera, action! Dive into the magic of cinema with Norcross Movie Mondays at the **Cultural Arts & Community Center**. Join us every 2nd and 4th Monday for a free movie screening and light refreshments.

With showtimes at **1:30 and 6:30 p.m.**, get ready for double the fun! Grab your popcorn and settle in for a reel good time!



July 18 • 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. • Thrasher Park

Dance the night away at the Summer Concert Series featuring The C.O.T. Band, Atlanta's Latin music powerhouse blending salsa, merengue, jazz, funk and Brazilian beats! Enjoy live tunes while dining at a local restaurant or picnicking in the park—it's the perfect summer evening.

These concerts are a great way to come together, celebrate community spirit, and create lasting memories with friends and neighbors.



Plus, each concert supports the CAN-Do Food Drive, helping stock local food pantries. Bring your moves and a can or two—we'll see you there!



**July 12 • 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. • Betty Mauldin Park**

Enjoy an unforgettable night at Jazz in the Alley with Karla Harris, a jazz vocalist whose rich, expressive style swings, soars and grooves with heart and soul. Whether lighting up the stage or mentoring young talent, Karla brings timeless sparkle to every note she sings.

Head to Betty Mauldin Park, pack a picnic or grab a local bite, and relax with friends and family as you soak up smooth sounds and soulful rhythms under the summer sky. It's the perfect way to celebrate community and great music!

# NORCROSS

gallery & studios

**June 12 - July 12 • 'All Creature Great And Small' Exhibit**

'All Creatures Great and Small' is a playful and heartwarming art exhibit that celebrates the beauty, charm and diversity of the animal kingdom. Featuring vibrant works by local artists, the show runs from June 12 through July 12 and invites visitors of all ages to enjoy these creative creature-inspired pieces.

**July 17 - August 23 • 'Drawing Attention' Exhibit**

Showcase your talent in 'Drawing Attention', a juried open exhibition by Norcross Gallery & Studios, running Thursday, July 17 through Saturday, August 23. Submit your drawings by Saturday, July 12 for a chance to win exciting prizes, including Blick Gift Cards! Visit the website for submission guidelines and details.

**For exhibit schedules and workshop, visit [norcrossgalleryandstudios.org](http://norcrossgalleryandstudios.org).**



## LIONHEART

THEATRE COMPANY

**July 17 - July 20 • 'A Year With Frog And Toad'**

Lionheart Theatre is excited to present the family-friendly musical, 'A Year With Frog And Toad'! Follow these beloved characters through the seasons in a delightful musical journey. Performances are Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are \$12 for all ages. Enjoy lemonade and cookies with the cast after the show! Don't miss this fun, heartwarming production for the whole family!

**July 27 • 'Senior Moments Tour 2025'**

Join Lionheart on Sunday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m. for an unforgettable evening of song and dance featuring The Paris Dancers and 2nd Act Performing Company. Celebrate talent, energy and entertainment for all ages. Tickets are \$15—don't miss this lively showcase of performance and passion!

**August 15 - August 16 • 'Bananarama IV'**

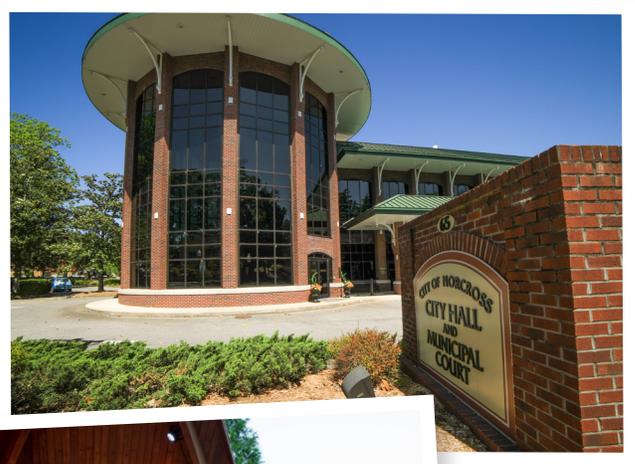
Don't miss 'Bananarama IV' at Lionheart on Friday, August 15 and Saturday, August 16 at 7:30 p.m.—a wild night of music, comedy and drag to support Project Chimps! Ages 16+ only. All proceeds benefit rescued chimpanzees living at a forested sanctuary in Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains. Laughter for a cause!

**For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [lionhearttheatre.org](http://lionhearttheatre.org).**

# HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

The City of Norcross will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. City Hall will resume normal operations on Monday, July 7.

Please also note that sanitation and recycling services will be delayed by one day, with no service on Friday and collection moving to Saturday instead. Thank you for your understanding and have a safe and joyful holiday celebration.



## JULY 3

Red, White & BOOM!, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Lillian Webb Park

## JULY 4

Independence Day Observance, City Hall Closed

## JULY 12

Jazz In The Alley: Karla Harris, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Betty Mauldin Park

## JULY 14

Movie Monday: IF, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center

## JULY 18

Summer Concert Series: C.O.T. Band, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

## JULY 19

Cookout With Council, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Thrasher Park

## JULY 28

Movie Monday: Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center



Scan to get the Spanish Newsletter!

¡Escanee para recibir le boletín en español!