



September 10, 2015

Our city is celebrating again. Our **Fall Festival is on Saturday, October 3 from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM**. There will be bouncy houses, children’s games, food, boat and train rides, and live music, so I look forward to seeing you there. If you’d like to help in any way, please let me know. We had a great time last year, as you can see here.



It’s not too late to join your Berkeley Lake Conservancy in learning how to invite some butterflies into your yard.



Our special invited guest Ron Smith will speak about **"Planting a Pollinator Garden" on this Saturday, September 12 at 1:00 PM in City Hall**. His talk will be followed by a walk to nearby Henderson Nature Sanctuary to see the pollinator plants that our Conservancy members have planted there. Ron is one of the leaders of the Georgia Native Plant Society and the [Greater Atlanta Pollinator Partnership](#). I hope to see you there.

As you know part of our Berkeley Lake Conservancy’s job is to advise and support the city in caring for its greenspaces. Our largest tract of **greenspace is also protected by the Georgia Piedmont Land Trust**. It is reassuring to know that this group, which protects and supervises lands not only in Georgia but northwards into the various Blue Ridge ecosystems, has been accredited by the nationally respected Land Trust Accreditation Commission. It is also reassuring that the GPLT is led by our own Rebecca Spitler who serves as their Board President. You can read more about both groups [here](#). For more information about the mission of the GPLT, click [here](#).

I recently invited our Police Precinct Commander to arrange a visit in our city so you can talk with officers about whatever is on your minds. She is **sending officers to our local Berkeley Lake Starbucks (Peachtree Industrial Blvd. and South Old Peachtree) on Friday, September 25 for “Coffee with a Cop” from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM**. Come and visit with them for a conversation on your own agenda.

I’m sure you’ve noticed the closure of Berkeley Lake Road on the southeast side of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. It will be closed to through traffic until around November 9 for a **sewer**



**project** that I and some of our business owners have been working with the county to get for quite a while now. It will be a big help to our businesses and I hope the inconvenience will not be a hardship for you.

I have been talking with our Police Precinct Commander about **removal of dead animals** which we discover from time to time. You can call the **police nonemergency number (770) 513-5700** or email to [PDDeadAnimalRemoval@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:PDDeadAnimalRemoval@gwinnettcountry.com). They need very specific information, such as street and cross street (or street numbers), specific location of where the animal is on the side of the road, any landmarks and a phone number/name in case they need more details. This email address will be checked on regular pick up days - each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Deceased animals are picked up from the curb of the roadway or right of way, only. The Animal Control Officer is not permitted to go onto any private property to remove animals, even with the owner's permission and cannot go into wooded areas. This is due to the large truck used to pick up animals potentially damaging landscaping. If the animal is small enough, it can be placed into a plastic bag and left curbside to be removed. For more information about deceased animal removal, please visit the Animal Control Unit [website](#).

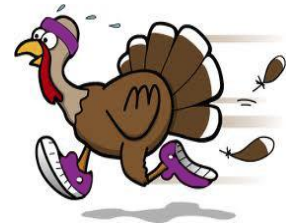
I also spoke with the Precinct Commander about what to do if we see a **severely injured deer or other animal**. The best information I can get from wildlife experts is that, although it may be heartbreaking to see, sometimes these animals can adjust to injuries and continue to live with their disability. But if you see one that is obviously terminal and suffering, the Commander tells me that she will send an officer to end its misery. Police officers are the only ones authorized to discharge firearms in our city in a case like this, so if you need them, do call the Police.

Nobody other than incumbents signed up to run for **city office** recently so Bob Smith, Rebecca Spitler, and I will continue in office. I hope that means that you’re happy with our service to your city, but it may be part of a trend. There are many cities in Gwinnett but the only ones that will have mayoral elections are Norcross and Snellville; and very few will have council elections.

This year our **Citywide Garage Sale will be October 9 and 10 from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM, a week in advance of Earth Day**. That way you can clean out your house and sell or donate things you no longer need and bring acceptable items that are left over to Earth Day for disposal. The city will place newspaper ads and put up signs. Individual homeowners who choose to participate can mark their house as a place for customers to stop with signs and balloons, etc.

**Earth Day will be Saturday, October 17 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM.** Staff will be on hand at City Hall along with vendors and volunteers to assist in the disposal of unwanted items and recycling of others. Iron Mountain will be providing secure paper shredding. Advanced Disposal will be accepting yard waste and large household items such as desks, mattresses, box springs, etc. Crawford Metal Recycling will be accepting scrap metal, appliances, lawn mowers, grills, car and truck batteries, and other metal items. Touch the Future will be collecting donated used cell phones, computers, cabling and other electronics as well as wheel chairs, walkers, shower chairs and other small durable medical equipment and technology items. Donation receipts will be provided. There is a \$5.00 recycling charge for each CRT monitor. Please remember that this service is provided by the City of Berkeley Lake at no cost to only our residents, and you will need to bring proof that you live here.

The **Turkey Trot for Berkeley Lake Elementary School is Saturday, November 7.** Many of you enjoy this fun run every year, and the school appreciates the support. This community event is sponsored by the BLES PTA, the City of Berkeley Lake, and the Berkeley Lake Chapel. You can choose from either a 4 mile run around the lake or 1.5 mile fun run/walk. Sign up [here](#).



I recently attended a meeting in Sugar Hill with other Gwinnett mayors where the discussion was on environmental concerns. We have for years been very proud of how many types of items our city provides recycling for, but Connie Wiggins, the very knowledgeable and trusted leader of Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful, spoke to us about the **problems associated with glass recycling.**



Basically, it breaks and makes it difficult to salvage other types of recyclables. So the new dictum is, “When it comes to glass, we need to pass.” Please read this [update](#) on how to recycle things. Help our Advanced Disposal folks do a good job of recycling and keep our costs down as well.

**Our city has a truly amazing tradition of helping others.** We want to continue that as always in the fall by collecting nonperishable food and household items for the **Norcross Cooperative Ministry** and financial support or dog food for the **Animal Companion Rescue Foundation.** Please bring needed items or a check for one of these charities to the Fall Festival or Earth Day. We’ll get them delivered. We also expect to have some adoptable dogs available to visit with you again this year at our Fall Festival. You may find a new friend to take home and thereby save a life. Many thanks and Happy Fall, y’all!



*Lis D. Salter*