

# City of Gainesville E-Newsletter

12.19.07



## A Word from Mayor Hamrick

I never get use to how quickly time passes. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Mayor for the past two years. As Council Members we often get the credit when a project comes together, but it takes the support and effort of our entire community and our City employees each year to make the best even better. 2007 has been another banner year for Gainesville. Significant construction was completed on the Frances Meadows Center, [The Chattahoochee Golf Course](#) opened after major renovations, the new state of the art Linwood Wastewater Treatment facility neared completion and in 2008 will offer the highest level of wastewater treatment in the state. Our toughest challenge this year was watching the drought reach historic proportions and trying to find ways to conserve. This is a task that will surely continue for the next several years and one we will have to work on together.



There is so much more information we would like to share with you. Look for all the City's accomplishments in the 2007 Annual Report and 2008 Calendar which will be available at the end of the month at all City facilities, on-line at [www.gainesville.org](http://www.gainesville.org), or by calling 770-531-6598. On behalf of the entire [Gainesville City Council](#), Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

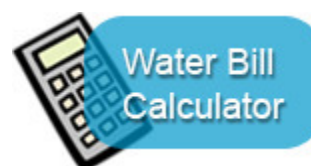


## Tax Deadline Nearing

Wednesday, December 26th is the final day to pay City of Gainesville tax bills without a penalty. Tax Coordinator [Dee Dee Stephens](#) says payments have been pretty steady, but she's expecting a very busy week this week. The tax office does accept postmarks on the bills. If your payment is postmarked by December 26 you will not be penalized. The charge for a late payment is one-percent each month and a 10% penalty after 90 days.

## Water Conservation Rate Effective January 1

Even before north Georgia was caught in the middle of an historic drought, the City of Gainesville [Public Utilities Department](#) recognized the need to maximize its water resources through a



conservation rate structure. The new rates take effect January 1 and are based on the amount of water you use every month. The new conservation rate structure is designed to give you more control over your water bill - saving water saves money. It's up to each of us. Together we can do our part to make sure there is water for the future. To give you a better idea of how you will be affected by the new conservation rates, check out the city's [water calculator](http://www.gainesville.org) at [www.gainesville.org](http://www.gainesville.org). You can calculate your water rates based on previous usage.

The website also contains useful information on the Top 10 Ways to Save Water and [Water Conservation Resources](#). For more information on the water calculator call [Tina Wetherford](#) at 770-538-2401.



## Mayors' Motorcade Better than Ever

The Gainesville leg of the Mayors' Motorcade was a huge success thanks to a very giving community. More than \$2900.00 was donated to the motorcade. A check for \$2200.00 was presented to AVITA Community Partners in Gainesville-Hall County. The money is being shared with PEER , formerly Pathways, and Parkway Enterprises. In addition to the remaining money, hundreds of gifts were

taken to Northwest Regional Hospital in Rome, one of Georgia's behavioral health hospitals. The 49th annual Mayors' Motorcade included singing by the City Celebration Singers and dozens of students from Fair Street Elementary. And the motorcade wouldn't be complete without Santa. The Mayors' Motorcade is sponsored by the [Georgia Municipal Association](#) and the Gainesville-Hall County [Community Service Center](#). Special thanks to the following contributors: America's Home Place, Inc., Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Virgin, Mrs. Jo-Ann Adams, The Gainesville Area Employers' Committee, Fair Street Elementary School I B World School, Mar-Jac Poultry Inc., Mingleddorff's Inc., Greene Ford Company, Mr. and Mrs. Paul LaMonica and Mr. Gregory Leach.

## Bring One for the Chipper

When Christmas is over and you're looking for some place to dispose of your tree, what better way than to return it to the earth during the annual [Bring One for the Chipper](#)? Drop your tree off Saturday, January 5th at any Hall County compactor site or the [Hall County Recycling Center](#) on Chestnut Street from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and receive a seedling in exchange for your tree. You can also drop your tree off at the City of Gainesville Alta Vista Complex mulch and compost bins, but seedlings will not be available at this location. Since its inception, the Bring One for the Chipper Program has recycled over 4.8 million trees.



## Calling all Brides to Be

The Bridal Event of 2008 is just around the corner! The 16th annual Bridal Expo will be held Sunday, January 27 from 1pm-4pm at the Gainesville Civic Center. Make plans now to attend this one of a kind event where brides to be will find the most stylish and unique vendors in



Northeast Georgia from caterers, bridal shops and formal Wear to wedding cakes, flowers, music and entertainment, photography, reception and wedding facilities, spas and salons, honeymoon ideas and more. A fashion show by Unforgettable Bridal and Formal Wear featuring the latest designs and trends in attire for the entire bridal party will begin

at 3:30 in the Grand Ball Room. Throughout the afternoon, participants can register, browse the exhibits, sample hors d'oeuvres, and win fabulous door prizes. Brides will receive a gift at the time of registration.

The event is sponsored by [Gainesville Parks and Recreation](#), the Wedding Knot and Unforgettable Bridal and Formal Wear. For more information call (770) 531-2680 or visit [www.gainesville.org/recreation](http://www.gainesville.org/recreation).

### Auditions for HONK!

Children ages 6-12 can audition for the Children's Musical Theatre Workshop featuring HONK Monday, January 14 from 4:00pm – 6:00pm at the [Gainesville Civic Center](#).

Callbacks will be held on Wednesday, January 16th from 4:00pm-6:00pm. The performance will be held in mid-June. For more information call 770-531-2680.



### Eye on Gainesville

Don't miss the January edition of Eye on Gainesville featuring the 2008 Gainesville City Council. Host Catiel Felts talks with the new Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem and Council Members about their plans for the New Year. Eye on Gainesville airs Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 12:30pm, 7:00pm and 11:30pm. And be sure to watch Good Morning Gainesville January 16-21. TV 18 will be broadcasting from one of the specialty stores on the square.

### Holiday Garbage Pick-Up

City offices will be closed December 24 and 25th. Curbside pick up will take place as usual on December 26. Back door garbage pickup will resume December 27. Recycling will be closed on December 25 and resume on the 26th with all routes one day off schedule. City offices will also be closed January 1. Tuesday garbage and recycling routes will be picked up on Wednesday. For more information, contact Solid Waste Superintendent [Danny Owen](#).

## Calendar of Events

### City Council Work Session 12.20.07

9:00am 300 Henry Ward Way, Suite 303

**Downtown by Candlelight 12.20.07**

5:30pm Gainesville Square

**City Offices Closed 12.24/25.07**

**City Offices Closed 1.1.08**

**City Council Meeting 1.2.08**

9:00am Georgia Mountains Center  
Mayor and Council Members installed

**City Council Work Session 1.10.08**

9:00am 300 Henry Ward Way, Suite 303

**Citizen's Involvement Advisory Roundtable 1.12.08**

10:00am Community Service Center

**Gainesville Parks and Recreation Board Meeting 1.14.08**

5:30pm Gainesville Civic Center Board Room

**Children's Musical Theatre Workshop Auditions 1.14.08**

4pm-6pm Gainesville Civic Center

**Planning and Appeals Board Meeting 1.15.08**

5:30pm Georgia Mountains Center

**City Council Meeting 1.15.08**

5:30pm Georgia Mountains Center

**Bridal Expo 1.27.08**

1pm-4pm Gainesville Civic Center

**City Council Work Session 1.31.08**

9:00am 300 Henry Ward Way, Suite 303



**City of Gainesville Newsletter**

[gainesville.org](http://gainesville.org) | 770-297-5499

Gainesville City Council: Mayor Robert L. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Myrtle W. Figueras, Council Member Ruth Bruner, Council Member George Wangemann, Council Member Danny Dunagan



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