

# Pennies make a difference



## SPLOST helps fund infrastructure, recreation, transportation projects in Loganville

City officials have finalized a list of projects that will be part of the upcoming SPLOST to be voted on by Gwinnett County voters in November.

SPLOST, or Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, is a 1 percent sales and use tax applied to all purchases made inside a given area. The City of Loganville benefits from a portion of proceeds from both Walton and Gwinnett counties, with proceeds based on population inside each jurisdiction.

The projects for Loganville include allotting \$1.1 million to benefit Destination Park. City officials hope to create a Memory Garden featuring a walking area with benches and pavers along the trail dedicated in memory of those who had a family member impacted by Alzheimer's or other demen-

tia-related illnesses as well as facts from history. The money will also include creating dual restrooms near the pavilion and additional shade throughout the park.

City leaders are also proposing using \$500,000 to install sidewalks along Old Loganville and Tuck roads as well as \$1.2 million for the next phase of the sewer plant expansion, with the first phase nearing completion.

If approved this fall, the six year collections, projected to bring in about \$900 million, will be the 10th voter-approved special tax for Gwinnett residents. The county was among those that took advantage of the tax when it was first created by the state

See SPLOST Page 3

### Proposed Gwinnett SPLOST Projects for Loganville

#### **\$1.1 million**

Create memory garden with walking area, benches and concrete pavers at Destination Park; create dual restrooms near pavilion; add shade throughout

#### **\$500,000**

Installation of sidewalks along Tuck, Old Loganville roads

#### **\$1.2 million**

Phase II of sewer plant expansion

# LPD urging residents to lock car doors

Loganville Police Department officials are echoing sentiments of law enforcement across the area in asking residents to make sure they lock their car doors.

Law enforcement report each summer an increase in the number of car break-ins, highlighted locally in Loganville by a number of cars entered into in one night back in June in the Fox Chase subdivision. An outdoor home security camera provided limited pictures of the suspects and the matter is still under investigation but no arrests have been made.

LPD officials, addressing attendees recently at the monthly Triad meeting at Southern Plantation, noted that the doors of each of the cars entered was unlocked. Officials noted that the criminals typically go through a neighborhood, trying car doors to see which ones are unlocked because breaking a window draws too much attention.

And they continue to have

great success because a significant number of the car break-ins reported in Loganville are the result of car doors being unlocked, according to LPD officials. That is why they are asking residents to first and foremost lock their car doors not only each night but every time you leave your car unattended.

Another key tip in preventing car break-ins is to never leave valuables in your car. These criminals are finding success in stealing not just loose change but electronics, wallets, credit cards and in some instances, guns. Don't leave any potential bait visible that might pique interest of a passer-by.

Also consider completely closing all windows and sunroofs and the lighting around your car. If a car is parked in the shadows, it makes for an easy target. Streetlights and outdoor house lights utilizing motion sensors can serve as deterrents.

In addition, being nosy

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Loganville Police Department Officer Stan Swisher was recognized at last night's council meeting for going beyond the call of duty. On May 18th, circumstances left a 1-year-old child without its mother. It was going to take some time to locate the next of kin, and the residence was lacking many of the necessities for the child. Officer Swisher, a father himself, left the home and bought formula, diapers and a bottle for the child. He returned, changed the child's diaper, prepared a bottle and showed the temporary caretaker the proper way to feed the child.

neighbors can go a long way toward preventing a crime as well. If you see something or someone out of the ordinary in your neighborhood, call the police. It is

better to be safe than sorry.

Make sure to like the Loganville Police Department on Facebook for information about criminal activity in the community.

## fond farewell

The City of Loganville celebrated the retirement of two employees. Doris Frierson began her career 22 years ago as one of three employees back when City Hall was on Main Street. She retired in June as the administrative assistant for the Public Utilities Department. Lt. Darin Boozer also recently retired after working five years with the Loganville Fire Department. He had also retired from the Walton County fire department as well and enjoyed a firefighting career that spanned more than three decades.



# More than \$10M received by Loganville in SPLOST proceeds

## SPLOST from Page 1

legislature in 1985. In 2005, state leaders mandated that cities directly receive a share of SPLOST revenues.

The current Gwinnett SPLOST was approved by 58 percent of voters in November 2013, with collection dates from April 2014 to March 2017. Anticipated collections are \$453 million, of which \$25 million was divvied up between the municipalities. Collections are trending about 2.5 percent below projections of \$12.2 million a month.

Loganville is projecting almost \$1.3 million in receipts from the current Gwinnett SPLOST, with a significant portion allocated for the intersection improvements at Highway 78 and Brand Road. As the project nears completion this fall, and costs finalized, city officials will vote later this year on how to allocate the remaining funds, which are earmarked for water and sewer capital improvements by way of upgrading lines on the Gwinnett side of town.

The previous Gwinnett SPLOST, approved in 2009, resulted in more than \$1.8 million for the city which was spent on a new fire truck and fire station on the west side of town.

Walton County is currently in the middle of its most recent voter-approved SPLOST, which is expected to run through 2019. To date Loganville has received more than \$3.1 million, which has been earmarked for transportation and water and sewer infrastructure improvements. City officials are projecting collections of more than \$5.8 million. Walton County officials have indicated that SPLOST collections are trending about 4.36 percent behind projections - averaging about \$797,037 a month. This is due in part to no longer receiving sales tax from the purchase of vehicles and slow retail sales.

The previous Walton SPLOST, approved in 2007, resulted in more than \$4.7 million for the city.

# Holiday celebration



The City of Loganville celebrated the birth of the U.S. with its Independence Celebrations on July 2nd. The day started with residents lining Main Street for the annual parade, which also served as a fundraiser for the local food bank of the nonprofit Shepherd's Staff Ministries. The day culminated with the city's first fireworks show, sponsored by a number of local businesses.



## How fast can YOU renew?



- 1 SCAN**
  - Georgia Driver License
  - Renewal Notice
  - Optional Manual Entry
- 2 PAY**
  - Credit/ Debit
  - Cash
- 3 PRINT**
  - Vehicle Tags

Did you know that you could renew your car tag at our local Kroger? Learn more at <http://dor.georgia.gov/mvd-self-service-centers>

# SAVE the DATE

## August

19 - Groovin' on the Green, 7:30 p.m., Town Green, featuring The Embers

## September

16 - Groovin' on the Green, 7:30 p.m., Town Green, featuring the Haley & Alexis Band

## October

15 - Autumn Fest, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Town Green  
21- Groovin' on the Green, Town Green, featuring Presley Sullivan at 7 p.m. and Jordan Rager at 8 p.m.



### ANNOUNCEMENT:

A concert featuring The Sock Hops has been added to City of Loganville events calendar. They will perform Dec. 2 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Rock Gym.

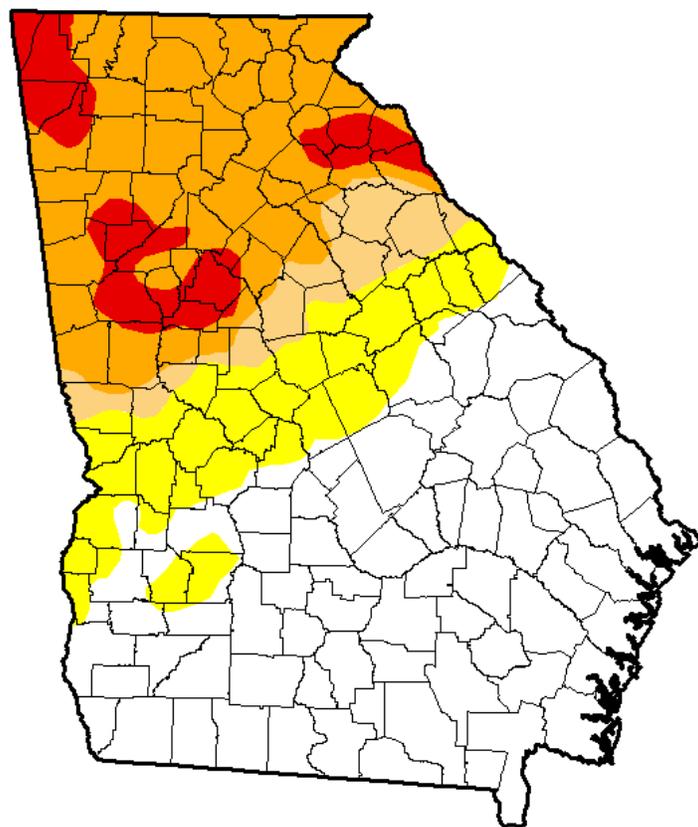
# Drought persists in Loganville

The recent spate of pop-up summer storms have been welcomed by many residents as respite from hot temperatures. But with temperatures consistently in the 90s, most of that welcomed moisture has evaporated as the state continues to endure varying stages of drought.

This has been a hot summer, as at the half-way mark the region has endured 34 days above 90 degrees and is on pace to easily surpass last year's total of 49 days. This has contributed to about half of Georgia, including Loganville, being classified as being in a drought.

In fact, both Walton and Gwinnett counties are classified as D2-severe drought, having received only about 70 percent of the normal rainfall for the area. And according to the seasonal outlook, drought conditions are expected to persist likely through the end of September for most of north Georgia.

Despite the possible dire outlook, the region and state are nowhere near drought levels endured in 2011 that led to outdoor watering restrictions and changes to water usage policies. But Loganville officials are still urging residents



### Intensity:



to consider conserving water usage in the coming months, when use is typically its highest.

Water usage in June is already up slightly over last year, with residents using 500,000 gallons more than in 2016 compared to 2015. The city purchased more than 34.1 million gallons of water this June.

While no restrictions are in place, residents are reminded to abide by current statewide rules

regarding outdoor water usage, which allows for **landscape and lawn watering between 4 p.m. and 10 a.m.** There are exceptions to the rules, which include irrigation of personal food gardens, hand watering with a hose or hand-held container and use of water withdrawn from private water wells. Additional information can be found at <https://epd.georgia.gov/outdoor-water-use-information>.

## About The Loganville Bulletin

The Loganville Bulletin is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Loganville for its residents. All content is copyrighted by the City of Loganville © 2016. Let us know what information you thought was useful and what you would like to see in future issues by email at [rschwartz@loganville-ga.gov](mailto:rschwartz@loganville-ga.gov) or by calling 404-202-6720.