

# DUNWOODY DIGEST

*Summertime in Dunwoody*

PARK  
SURVEY  
SNAPSHOT

**SPOTLIGHT:**  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

WHAT HAPPENS  
WHEN YOU  
DIAL 9-1-1

PROTECTING  
*our* TREES

TRANSPORTATION  
NEWS & PROJECTS





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## *Strategic Steps Towards Welcomed Growth*

Helping the City of Dunwoody thrive, grow and continually improve the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors is the core driver for the city's Economic Development Department.

The trick is finding the right businesses ready to lease/purchase the perfect property available to meet the needs of employees or customers. As with many real estate and investment opportunities, timing is critical and location is vital. "At the end of the day, these are private business decisions that are driven by profit. They don't happen if they aren't beneficial to all parties," said Michael Starling, Economic Development Director for Dunwoody.

The department works with regional, state, county and local brokers and influencers to attract the companies, retailers, restaurants and developers which are the best fit for the city. "When interested developers or businesses approach the city with ideas and proposals for a property, the city has to carefully consider what's allowed in the zoning, what the Comprehensive Plan and area master plans for Dunwoody Village, Georgetown and Perimeter call for, and sometimes what's been entitled by right to be built there by previous government entities," said Starling. "We can't just outright refuse one developer's proposal for a retail store because we're hoping for another use at that location."

The city must also adhere to the Zoning Ordinance which is part of the city's code and regulates the use, scale, and intensity of development allowed in various districts and acts as an implementation tool of the Comprehensive Plan. The city's Community Development Department consists of certified city planners who review each application, variance and zoning request to ensure what's being proposed is within the requirements of the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Typically, developer plans are then reviewed by boards and committees based on recommendations and requirements and then are put to a vote before the City Council.

"What might be beneficial for the Perimeter area might not be appropriate for Dunwoody Village, and vice-versa," said Starling. "The key is for city staff to work with the developers to help create something which would most benefit the community and the area through appropriate guidance and direction to adhere to our citizen's vision for the area. My role is to actively pursue those projects that meet the goals of our master plans and that benefit the city financially."

The entire process has many checks and balances and several opportunities for community involvement and public input. By participating in developer-initiated public meetings and city board and committee hearings, citizens help provide

important feedback and input which can influence the success and overall look and feel of the project.

For residents seeking to get involved and help guide what's developed in Dunwoody, please visit the city's website and explore the Economic Development and Community Development department pages.

“Or consider attending a public meeting,” added Starling. “Economic Development is becoming much more place based with access to amenities like trails, parks and restaurants gaining more importance. Getting active is the best way to help ensure the types of future businesses and developments are what the community has in mind.”

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## Economic Development In Action



### CORNER BAKERY CAFE

The Economic Development team at Dunwoody has been working with the master developers of the Sterling Pointe mixed-use development which includes Corner Bakery Café and a Hampton Inn & Suites for over three years. The development consisted of replacing a surface parking lot with a new parking deck, 128 room hotel and 25,000 square feet of retail. This team approach started at the beginning of the design process through permitting and final ribbon cutting.

### NOVO CUCINA

Award winning chef Riccardo Ullio was seeking a new edge-city location for his latest restaurant, Novo Cucina, and found a perfect spot located in the heart of Dunwoody Village. After sitting down with the city's Economic Development team, Ullio's fourth venture came together. Following a complete redesign of the existing building (originally a Pizza Hut) which included the installation of special wood-fired ovens and a new roof and patio enclosure, Ullio opened his Italian-inspired restaurant which has become a city-wide favorite.



### SPROUTS FARMERS MARKET

Sprouts Farmers Market was pursuing a presence in the southeast and quickly realized Dunwoody residents demographically lined up with the its key customer target market. In its search, the company found the former Harris Teeter and Ace Homeplace on Mt. Vernon Road and Jett Ferry Road as an ideal location for a new healthy and fresh supermarket. After connecting with the city on all necessary plans and zoning, Sprouts Farmers Market opened its doors in Dunwoody in July 2014.



# DUNWOODY POLICE

## *You Dialed 9-1-1, What Happens Next?*



When you dial 9-1-1 in the City of Dunwoody you will hear “Chatcomm 911, what’s the address of your emergency?”

The call taker will always ask you to repeat your address for verification and then ask you for your call-back number and verify that number.

People always ask, ‘Why do we have to repeat our address and phone number twice?’ In the stress of an emergency people can confuse their address or give their own home address when they are actually at another location. Chatcomm wants to ensure they are sending help to the correct location.

Your call-back number is very important as they may need to call you back if the responders are having problems locating you or your phone might accidentally disconnect as Chatcomm is providing you with life-saving instructions. Research has shown having the caller repeat the information significantly increases accuracy and Chatcomm listens carefully to make sure the information is the same each time.

The next question is very vital, “Now tell me exactly what happened?” Here is where Chatcomm determines if your call needs to go to the police, fire, ambulance, or all of them. If you are reporting a fire or have a medical emergency, Chatcomm will have already dispatched the fire department and started the ambulance service. Now that Chatcomm has the address and what has happened, they need to collect more information.

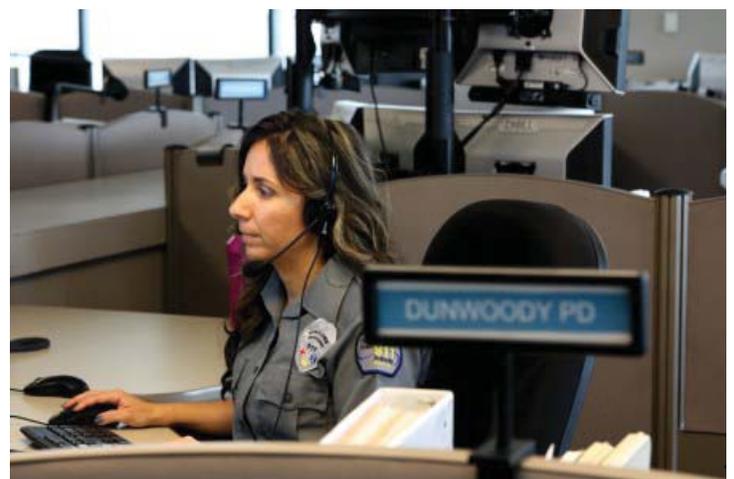
When a medical or fire call comes into Chatcomm, their certified dispatchers will ask a series of questions about the patient or fire emergency in order to determine exactly what type of medical or fire response is needed, and will update the responders concerning the condition or scene. If needed, the dispatchers can give life-saving instructions such as CPR or controlling bleeding instructions as responders are on their way to your location. These questions in no way slow down the response, but rather enhance the information for the

emergency responders so when they arrive on the scene they know exactly what type of emergency equipment they need to have on hand.

If you are involved in a motor vehicle accident, domestic violence situation, robbery, burglary or any other type of event that could be life threatening, Chatcomm’s trained dispatchers will ask a series of questions to determine if you are in immediate danger. They will want to make sure the officers responding have all the available information, including: the presence of weapons, if the perpetrator is still on the scene, the description of the perpetrator(s), if your vehicle is blocking traffic, and your description so the officers know who you are when they arrive on the scene.

While it may seem like the dispatchers are asking too many questions when you call, they are actually adhering to a well-documented and tested protocol to make sure they obtain all available information. When you call 9-1-1, call takers have a very short window of opportunity to obtain all of the necessary information to assist and ensure you are receiving the proper level of care.

Chatcomm’s goal is to always send the right response and make sure you are safe while help is on the way. Please understand that when you are answering these questions with the call taker, a separate dispatcher is sending police, fire and ambulances to your emergency at the very same time.



# DUNWOODY PARKS

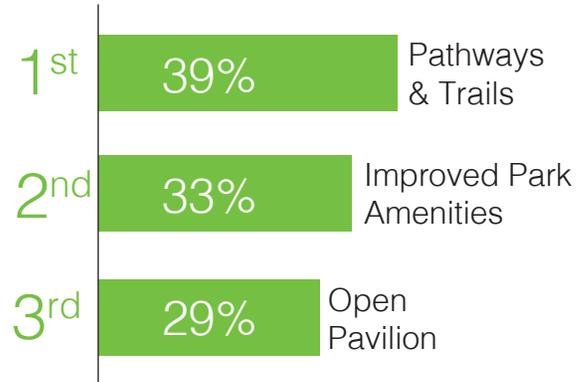
## Parks Survey Snapshot

The Dunwoody Parks and Recreation Survey results are in! A few primary take aways from the results are:

A large majority of households indicated a need or desire for both community events (83 percent) and fitness and wellness programs (62 percent). This was followed by nature programs (61 percent), outdoor recreation programs (59 percent), and cultural programs (57 percent).

Respondents most often suggested that the top priority for new amenities or improvements to existing amenities at Brook Run Park are athletic fields including baseball and soccer fields, and adding an amphitheater/pavilion for concerts and shows. Respondents commented that adding and maintaining the bathrooms as well as connecting and expanding the trails in Brook Run Park were priorities, as well.

### Ranking Future Park Priorities

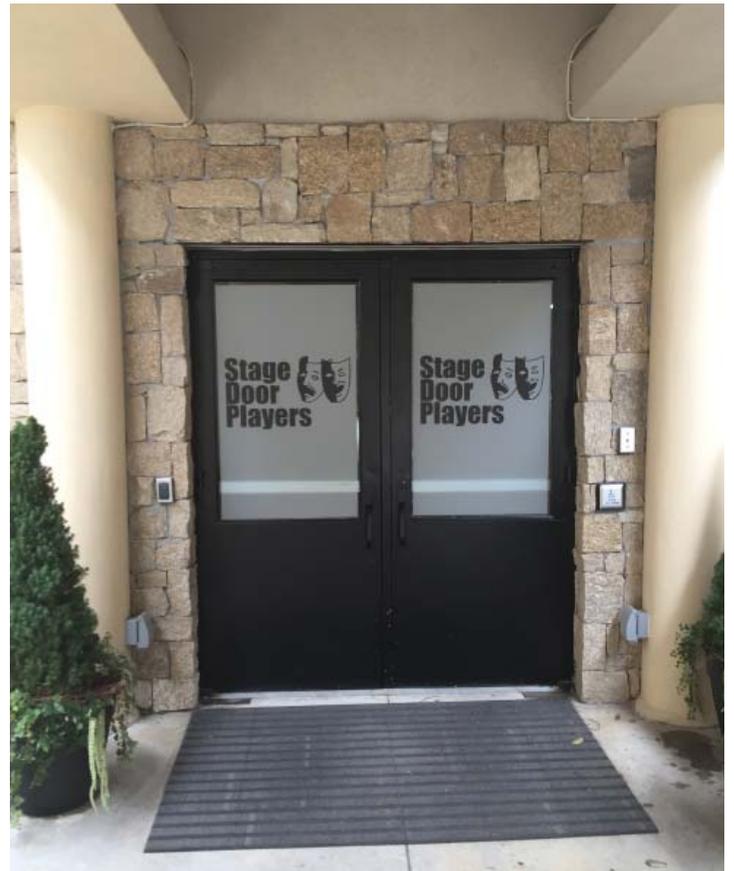


Using a list of facilities, respondents were asked chose their first, second, and third priorities for the most important future facilities to their households.

For full survey results please visit [dunwoodyga.gov](http://dunwoodyga.gov)!

## NEW ENTRY AT CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

The city recently completed a number of exterior improvements and beautification enhancements at the North DeKalb Cultural Arts Center. The improvements include a new entry way to the Stage Door Theater consisting of decorative stone facing and stone planter walls and borders along the sidewalk to accommodate future landscape plantings being donated and installed by the Dunwoody Woman's Club. Other improvements for the Cultural Arts Center include new awnings for the art center entrance to shelter patrons and visitors as they arrive and exit the facility. Future enhancements and improvements include renovation of the restrooms in an effort to modernize these facilities and ensure the restrooms meet all ADA requirements.



# DUNWOODY DISTINCTIONS

## *Dunwoody Designated as Purple Heart City*

The City of Dunwoody became the newest Georgia city to be recognized as a Purple Heart City. The Dunwoody City Council voted unanimously to recognize veterans wounded or killed in combat by passing a resolution at its May 9 Council meeting to make Dunwoody a Purple Heart City.

The proclamation affirmed Dunwoody honors the armed forces and acknowledges the sacrifices of those wounded or killed in the line of duty.

“The people of the City of Dunwoody have great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the armed forces,” stated retired Marine Corps Brigadier General and Dunwoody Mayor Denis Shortal.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, an organization chartered by Congress in 1958, follows a mission to “foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly, provide service to all veterans and their families.”

The Purple Heart, specifically a combat decoration, is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military members. It was first created by General George Washington in 1782, then known as the Badge of Military Merit. It is given to those who are wounded or killed in action. Today more than 1.9 million Purple Heart medals have been given.

The city honored recipients of the Purple Heart and all of those that have sacrificed for our country at the city’s Memorial Day Tribute, held Monday, May 30, 2016 at the Veterans Memorial at Brook Run Park.

The city’s Purple Heart Proclamation was read aloud and a new Purple Heart City sign was unveiled. These new signs will be posted inside city limits adjacent to existing ‘Welcome to Dunwoody’ signs.

“We are very proud of this distinction and want all to know the City of Dunwoody has chosen to become a Purple Heart City to pay homage to those men and women who have served in the armed forces to help maintain the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by citizens today,” said Shortal.



**PURPLE HEART CITY**

# Summertime in Dunwoody



# TRANSPORTATION NEWS

## *Dunwoody Receives Transportation Grants*

The City of Dunwoody recently received notification of award on two transportation grant proposals to the Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council (REBC) and the State Road and Tollway Authority Board (SRTA). With the approval of these requests, the city will receive grants to help supplement the funding of two visible and strategic Capital Improvement projects.

On June 20, the city received notification from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) awarding a REBC grant in the amount of up to \$47,000 for the North Peachtree Road Gateway beautification. The purpose of the North Peachtree Road Gateway beautification project is to enhance the landscaping at the interchange of North Peachtree and the I-285 westbound off ramp to help create a signature gateway. The grant money can only be used for plant material and installation.

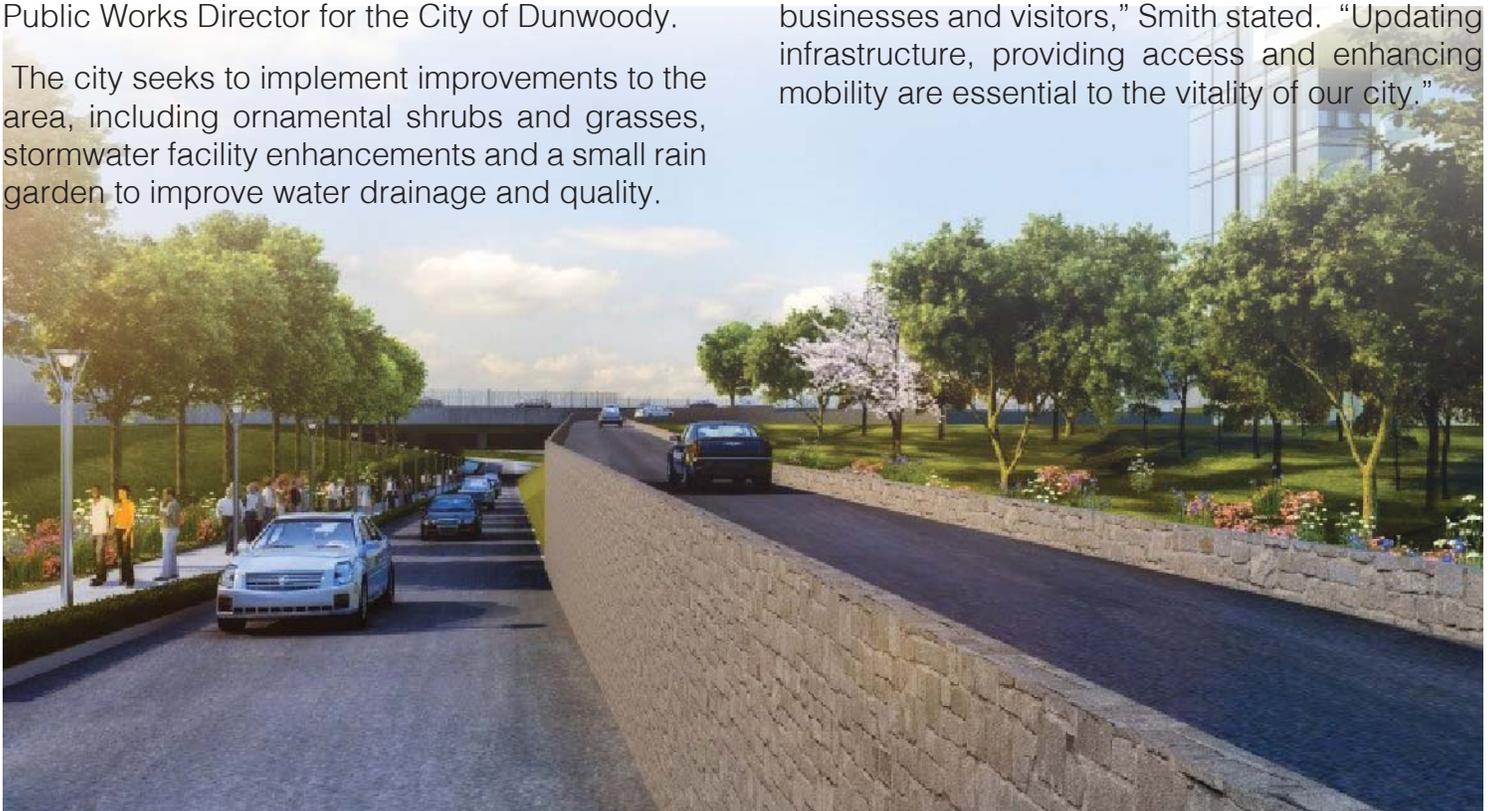
“Because North Peachtree Road is one of the major access points within Dunwoody, we wanted to create a lasting and welcoming gateway and entry point to the city,” stated Michael Smith, Public Works Director for the City of Dunwoody.

The city seeks to implement improvements to the area, including ornamental shrubs and grasses, stormwater facility enhancements and a small rain garden to improve water drainage and quality.

The second notification of grant award was received by Dunwoody on June 22 from the SRTA which approved funding for the design of the city’s Westside Connector project. The goal of the project is to improve mobility and connectivity by creating a connector road coming off I-285 west going underneath Ashford Dunwoody Road and eventually connecting with Perimeter Center Parkway. In addition, the project includes a parallel multi-use path for bicycle and pedestrian access connecting various commercial properties with the Dunwoody MARTA station.

The \$500,000 grant, provided through the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB), enables the city to help address traffic congestion and expand options for vehicles entering and leaving the Perimeter market, and supports the state’s investment in the I-285 and State Route 400 interchange aimed at reducing freeway congestion in the area.

“The City of Dunwoody is grateful to have both of these recent grant proposal applications accepted and is confident each project will provide enhancements to the city for its residents, businesses and visitors,” Smith stated. “Updating infrastructure, providing access and enhancing mobility are essential to the vitality of our city.”



# PROJECT UPDATES

## Nandina Lane

The Mt. Vernon Road-Nandina Lane intersection has been modified to a “right-turn-in/right-turn-out only” configuration to help address safety of drivers and pedestrians at this section of road. Drivers will no longer have the option to make left turns off Mt. Vernon Road onto Nandina Lane.

Left turns in and out of roads, businesses or developments are generally the most problematic movements for drivers. Increased traffic volume over the past five-plus years, coupled with a condensed left turn lane distance approaching the intersection of Mt. Vernon Road and Chamblee Dunwoody Road, have raised safety issues for drivers along Mt. Vernon Road (both east and westbound). The improvement should help address safer pedestrian crossings by offering a refuge island at Nandina Lane and reducing points of conflict for crossing pedestrians through the elimination of left turns.

Longer-term improvements are also being planned in order to better alert and notify southbound drivers of the need to yield when traveling onto Nandina Lane off of Chamblee Dunwoody Road.



These improvements include:

- Installing bright, reflective pavement yield markings (painted directly on the road) to better warn drivers of the impending yield;
- Repositioning the two yield signs to improve earlier driver recognition and overall visibility of the signs; and
- Installing curb extensions at the point of the yield area to promote slower entry speeds off of Chamblee Dunwoody Road and into the yield area.

The city anticipates these improvements will help to address driver behavior and provide additional measures to prepare drivers for the upcoming yield required.

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## Sidewalks

You may have noticed a number of new sidewalks are being put down in the city. Dunwoody is home to 63 linear miles of sidewalk. Since 2009, the city has invested more than \$3.8 million to construct roughly 10 miles of new sidewalk infrastructure, making Dunwoody a safer, healthier, and more enjoyable community for all.

All in all, the city has identified over 21 miles of future sidewalk improvements and the city plans to construct an additional 1.6 miles of sidewalks in 2016.

Many residents are now utilizing the new sidewalks recently added on the south side of Mt. Vernon Road in between Dunwoody Village and Vernon Oaks Drive. Current construction projects taking place this summer include new sidewalks on Village Creek Drive and the north side of



Chamblee Dunwoody Road from Womack Road to Cambridge Drive.

Once designs are complete, future sidewalk construction will take place along Peeler Road (Equestrian Way onto N. Peachtree Road), and along Tilly Mill Road (N. Peachtree Road to Womack Road).

# DUNWOODY COMMUNITY

## *Tree Protection and Removal - What to know*

Trees are a vital component of the health and beauty of Dunwoody. They help to provide cleaner air, protect valuable soil from erosion, and are essential to the well-being of the ecosystem. Not to mention, they provide value to our property. For this reason, the city strives to protect this valuable, natural resource and one of the first steps is to educate Dunwoody residents regarding the City's tree regulations.

One of the more frequent problems homeowners encounter is when a tree encroaches into the 75 foot stream buffer. The stream buffer (also known as riparian buffer) is an area adjacent to a creek or stream which serves as a vegetated, protective area between a body of water and human activity. Stream buffers are addressed and protected by certain rules within the City Ordinance (Division 4, Sec. 16-76 – 80).

The stream buffer is essential to the protection of creeks and streams and typically contains vegetation that serves to keep the water and streambank shaded and prevent the erosion of soil into the water. Shade is extremely important because it keeps waters at an optimal temperature for the fish and other wildlife to thrive. Preventing soil from entering the water is also imperative as added soil can deplete the proper levels of oxygen required for fish and other biological life.

It is essential that homeowners are aware that removal of any vegetation or trees within the 75 foot buffer is strictly prohibited without prior approval from the City Arborist. If a tree service offers to do work within the 75 foot buffer the property owner should ask to see written approval from the City of Dunwoody or contact the City Arborist for confirmation. Otherwise, they run the risk that the



# CODE

work will be in violation of city codes and subject to Code Enforcement action. Violators may be issued a citation and be required to appear in court.

Homeowners should take the time to familiarize themselves with the type of tree removal and protective measures which are permissible on their property and within the stream buffers. To find out more about these and other tree regulations, please visit the Community Development Department section of the city's web site at [www.dunwoodyga.gov](http://www.dunwoodyga.gov) or you may call the Community Development Department at 678.382.6800 or the Code Enforcement hotline at 678.382.6890.

## Receive Dunwoody's News be the first to know, it's Easy as 1 - 2 - 3!

1. Visit Dunwoody's website at [dunwoodyga.gov](http://dunwoodyga.gov)
2. At the bottom of the page under **How Do I...** Click on **...Sign up to receive news and information?**
3. Enter your **email address** and you're all signed up!



@dunwoodyga City of Dunwoody - Government @cityofdunwoodyga

# THE ROOTS OF DUNWOODY'S TREE FAMILY

The City of Dunwoody is distinctly unique in its extensive tree canopy coverage. Today, there are thousands of trees located on both public and private property throughout the city.

However, for over a century the region did not enjoy the extensive tree canopy coverage it enjoys now. During the booming agricultural era, most of the region in and around the Dunwoody area had been engaged primarily in row crop agricultural production for over 130 years, so it is likely that very few trees were retained on the farm.

The few trees that remained after the fields were cleared were typically found in the middle of large fields for resting the team of horses, along fence rows, adjacent to stream channels, on homesteads or in cemeteries.

As this area was formerly dominated by the open fields of row crop agriculture, one can imagine that most trees we see today within the City of Dunwoody and throughout this region were planted into new landscapes as the area was developed into residential subdivisions.

Since the transition from agricultural land use to subdivisions began in the late 1950's it can be inferred that most of the trees we see in the City landscape today are not much older than 60 to 75 years of age. In flood plains and along the creek banks where no agricultural activity occurred it may be possible to find trees older than this, but it must be remembered that the removal of trees for timber along stream banks was a common practice until the Clean Water Act was established in 1972 and these practices were discontinued.

Today, greater than 80 percent of the areas within the City of Dunwoody's publicly accessible parklands, green spaces and road right of ways, consist of undeveloped to minimally developed raw forested canopy.

The above narrative was excerpted from the Urban Canopy and Inventory Assessment delivered to the city by Arboguard Tree Specialists, Ecological Planning Group and AEC in 2012.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### August

Tuesday, August 2  
National Night Out  
Perimeter Mall - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 4  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 7  
Dunwoody Sunday Cycle  
Village Burger - 2:30 p.m.

Monday, August 8  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 9  
Planning Commission Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 11  
Sustainability Committee Meeting  
City Hall - 7:45 a.m.

Friday & Saturday, August 12-13  
Atlanta BBQ Festival  
Perimeter Mall

Saturday, August 20  
Butterfly Festival  
Dunwoody Nature Center - 10:00 a.m.

Monday, August 22  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

### September

Thursday, September 1  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 4  
Dunwoody Sunday Cycle  
Village Burger - 2:30 p.m.

Monday, September 5  
Labor Day  
City Hall Offices Closed

Thursday, September 8  
Sustainability Committee Meeting  
City Hall - 7:45 a.m.

Friday, September 9  
Movie in the Meadow  
Park at Pernoshal Court - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 12  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 13  
Planning Commission Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 18  
Household Hazardous Waste  
Georgia State - Dunwoody Campus  
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 25  
ATL Kosher BBQ Competition/Festival  
Brook Run Park - 11:00 a.m.

Monday, September 26  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

### October

Sunday, October 2  
Dunwoody Sunday Cycle  
Village Burger - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5  
Dunwoody Home Tour  
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 6  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 10  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 13  
Sustainability Committee Meeting  
City Hall - 7:45 a.m.

Thursday, October 13  
Planning Commission Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 24  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 27  
Truck-or-Treat  
Brook Run Park - 5:00 p.m.

City of Dunwoody events are subject to change.  
Please check [dunwoodyga.gov](http://dunwoodyga.gov) or  
[cvbdunwoody.com](http://cvbdunwoody.com) for the latest information.



Mayor Denis Shortal  
City Manager Eric Linton, ICMA-CM  
City Clerk Sharon Lowery, CMC

Post 1 Pam Tallmadge  
Post 2 Jim Riticher  
Post 3 Doug R. Thompson

Post 4 Terry Nall  
Post 5 Lynn Deutsch  
Post 6 John Heneghan

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