



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • AUGUST 2021

ONE DAY, TWO FESTIVALS

Saturday, August 21

INDIE GREEN FESTIVAL

Thrasher Park

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

BLUESBERRY & BEER FESTIVAL

Betty Mauldin Park

3 - 10 p.m.



Mayor: Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Josh Bare
City Council: Andrew Hixson, Arlene Beckles, Bruce Gaynor, Matt Myers
City Manager: Eric Johnson • **Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works,**
Utilities & Parks: Mary Beth Bender • **City Clerk:** Monique Lang

City Hall: 65 Lawrenceville Street, Norcross, GA 30071
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
770.448.2122 | Fax: 770.242.0824
www.norcrossga.net

NORCROSS QUALIFYING PERIOD

The Norcross qualifying period begins Monday, August 16, through Wednesday, August 18. Candidates will file required documents and fees between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the City Clerk's office at 65 Lawrenceville Street, Norcross. Qualifying fees are \$310.50 for Mayor and \$243.00 for Council Member. Qualifying packets can be picked up from the City Clerk's office or downloaded following the link on our Candidates/Qualifying page.

THANK YOU, MERYL!

Year after year, Meryl Wilkerson has tirelessly worked to help make (and keep!) Norcross "A Place to Imagine!" From the Mosaic Wall Mural on Mitchell Road to the propagation of Betty Mauldin's Champion American Elm, to the beautiful landscaping in our parks and around downtown to all of our magnificent Christmas and other holiday decorations, Meryl has played an influential role in special city projects for well over a decade. For these efforts and so many countless others, the city would like to extend our warmest appreciation and recognize her for all she does. Meryl, you brighten our days!

NEW EXHIBIT @ NORCROSS GALLERY & STUDIOS

Norcross Gallery and Studios, formerly known as Kudzu Art Zone, is back! Their new show opened on July 5 and runs until August 28 at 116 Carlyle St. Featuring the work of a diverse group of local artists, the exhibit spotlights Grace Arledge, Mikki Root Dillon, Angelika Domschke, Karen Donaldson, Ruth Gogol, Betty Loud, Sharon Nichol and Darrell Ortiz.

The artists invite Norcross art lovers to weekly Artist Chats on Fridays and Saturdays and discover the intriguing stories behind each piece. The gallery is free to visit, and open on Fridays from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PURPLE HEART WEEK

The Purple Heart is a prestigious medal awarded to any member of the armed forces who has been wounded or lost under combat conditions. As a Purple Heart City, Norcross will be honoring this year's Purple Heart Day (August 7th) all week long, from July 30th to August 8th, with trees wrapped in purple lights at the center crosswalk on South Peachtree, and purple ribbons adorning the columns at Thrasher Park, Veterans Park and Lillian Webb Park. Purple violets will be placed on the VIP tables and given out to attendees while supplies last at the August 6th Summer Concert!

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

Missed Sanitation Pickup: 678-495-0058
Waste Management (the city's sanitation vendor, formerly Advanced Disposal) has its own call center for common service requests. All requests for missed pickups or to schedule large bulk item pickups or cart replacements should be made directly to them at 678-495-0058. All requests for new businesses, to cancel a service, service increases or decreases, to start a new residential service, or to cancel a residential service should still be made to the city via gga@norcrossga.net or norcrossga.net/requesttracker.aspx.

Power Outages: 678-421-2069
For power outages and other power-related issues, Norcross Power has a 24-hour number, 678-421-2069. After 5:00 p.m., calls automatically transfer to Interactive Utility Communications (IUC) who are equipped to manage these calls (outages, cut-offs, interruptions of service). At 8:00 a.m., calls transfer back to the Public Works, Utilities & Parks Department.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE: NORCROSS' CHAMPION AMERICAN ELM



Champion American Elm Betty Mauldin Park



Bill Reynierson Preparing Cuttings for Transport



Matt Warzecha in SavATree Lift Taking Cuttings



Green Reyno Propagation House in North Carolina

The City of Norcross is planning for the future of our 300-year-old Elm tree in Betty Mauldin Park. This beautiful tree was designated as a Georgia Champion Tree in April 1999 by the Georgia Forestry Commission. The tree is estimated to have been growing since the early 1700s; the city was established in 1870, at least 150 years later. Amazingly, the tree survived the devastating Dutch Elm Disease, which killed most American Elms throughout North America in the early and mid-1900s.

The city has a proactive care program for the tree, including fertilization, treatments to prevent diseases, lightning protection and support cables and bracing for the massive limbs. Now the city, Green Reyno Nursery and SavATree have initiated a long-term project for the asexual propagation and production of genetic clones of the tree as a heritage endeavor for the Norcross community.

Propagation and production of cloned trees is a long-term project, possibly as long as five years before new trees are ready for planting. The process starts with the collection of cuttings from the tree, which was done several times in May and June this year; cuttings were taken early in the morning when the cells in the leaves and stems are most turgid, meaning holding the most water.

The cuttings were then transported, in coolers with wet sheets and ice packs, to the North Carolina propagation facility of Green Reyno Nursery, owned by Bill Reynierson. At the facility, the cuttings were transplanted into 50-cell, 5-inch-deep propagation trays with a rooting hormone and placed on growing tables. Mr. Reynierson has 10 propagation houses (17,000+ square feet) and a staff of four to monitor and manage his facility. Each propagation house has an automatic misting system to keep the leaves from drying out (7 seconds every 5 minutes depending on temperatures), along with circulation fans, louvers and exhaust fans.

So now what? Hopefully the cuttings will successfully root in the cells and be ready for transplanting to 3-gallon containers in Spring of 2022. As they are “grown out” in the 3-gallon containers, they will be monitored for health, growth habit and form, and vigorousness, and eventually moved to a growing farm.

We are at the very beginning of this project so the degree of success is unknown, but our goal is to continue the heritage of our Champion American Elm into the next tricentennial!

TREE TALK: CARING FOR TREES IN THE SUMMER HEAT

Establishing a summer tree care plan is essential to keeping trees healthy during hot days, droughts and summer storms. Follow these tree care tips to make sure your trees are getting the support they need to survive and thrive throughout the summer.

Mulching

Most trees love oxygen-rich soil. Mulch helps to retain soil moisture, suppress weeds, reduce water competition and remove the need to mow near the trunk, protecting the root system.

TreesAreGood.org, managed by the International Society of Arboriculture, recommends two to four inches of mulch. Avoid piling mulch against the root flare, where roots begin to fan out from the trunk. Mulch should ideally cover the area underneath the canopy.

Fertilizing

Slow-release fertilizer should be given to trees in early spring, followed by treatment in the fall.

Watering

The amount of water depends on the soil type, recent weather, the age/type of tree and nearby vegetation. Intense heat during the summer can often evaporate water before it's able to be taken in by the roots.

Some tips for watering:

- The Georgia Forestry Commission recommends watering at night or in the early morning when it's cooler.
- Water should be delivered slowly, giving the roots enough time to soak it up.
- Give your trees lots of water periodically to encourage a deep root system. Briefly watering on a daily basis will foster a shallow root system and root rot.
- Overwatering is problematic as it essentially drowns the root system.

Note: Consult a certified arborist to determine water and fertilizer regimens appropriate for your trees.

Adapted from bestpickreports.com Tree Services blog

SUSTAINABILITY



TIP OF THE MONTH

RECYCLING DO'S & DON'TS

Did you know that materials like plastic bottles can be recycled into clothes, such as t-shirts, hats or socks, and even lawn furniture and picnic tables? When we recycle, we are reducing the use of natural resources, helping local and global communities, and protecting natural habitats from pollution. As much as it is important to recycle, it is just as important to recycle correctly to prevent contamination. Here's what you need to know about recycling in Norcross:

Your recycling bin should ONLY include the recyclable materials accepted by your collection provider. The City of Norcross currently accepts empty plastic drinking bottles and jugs, aluminum cans, metal food cans, milk and juice cartons, non-shredded paper, as well as cardboard boxes (this includes pizza and cereal boxes too!). These items must also be clean, free of food and should be loose in your bin (never bagged). Please do not place trash, plastic bags, food or glass in your curbside recycling bin. Plastic bags (including other plastic film that stretches) and styrofoam can be recycled at your local grocery store, while glass bottles and jars can be dropped off for recycling Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Norcross Public Works at 345 Lively Avenue.

Visit norcrossga.net/recycling for a complete list of recyclable materials accepted in Norcross. Thanks for recycling right!



FEET ON THE STREET IS LAUNCHING SEPTEMBER 13!

It's official! Feet on the Street, the city's initiative to improve curbside recycling, reduce contamination and educate the community, is coming to the streets of Norcross starting on September 13. In the meantime, look out for a mailer containing a letter about the program from Norcross Mayor & Council, an FAQ sheet and an updated list of materials accepted curbside. (Fun Fact! Did you know that milk and juice cartons can now be recycled curbside?)

Now let's talk details—starting early in the morning on Monday, September 13, our team will hit the street to check recycling bins for contaminants (materials that can't be processed in our single-stream recycling program). If there's something in your bin that doesn't belong, they will place a tag on your bin with a note detailing exactly what those items are. This "oops" tag will signal Waste Management to skip your bin until those items have been removed. This will prevent contamination of the city's recyclables and eliminate hazards for workers. If this happens to you, don't worry! Just read the notes on the tag left by our team and remove the unacceptable items from your bin before the following week's pickup. Our team will be checking each bin along the daily route for 4 weeks, providing feedback on each and every bin.

Recycling right can be confusing, but we're here to help! Keep your eyes peeled for your mailer, and we'll see you soon!

This program is being offered due to a generous grant from the Recycling Partnership!



IN MEMORIAM: TERRI WELCH

It is with deep sadness that we share that we have lost one of our own. Terri Welch was an employee for 33 years, most recently as the receptionist for Public Works, Utilities and Parks. She will be truly missed. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

REMINDER TO DRIVE SAFELY

As we get back in the groove of going to school (and even work in these post-quarantine days!), Norcross Police Department would like to remind us that one of the simplest things we can do to make our roads safer is to slow down. Faster speeds, even as incremental as 25 to 40 MPH, require significantly more time (and more road) to come to a stop. While this is something we should keep in mind on all roads, it is especially important in school zones, neighborhoods and construction zones where people and objects may unexpectedly appear on the road.



IN THE KNOW



MOVIE MONDAYS

Enjoy a free movie and light refreshments at Norcross Movie Mondays held at the Cultural Arts & Community Center every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month!

August 9 • 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

August 23 • 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Check the events calendar on norcrossga.net for updates on which movies will be played.



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

August 6 August 20
A1A Bee Gees Gold Tribute Band

Thrasher Park • 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Enjoy the “sweet sounds of summer” in downtown Norcross and get ready for some serious fun at the Summer Concert Series, which runs May thru September in Thrasher Park from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. The concerts are free and local restaurants are happy to create the perfect picnic for concert goers. So grab a chair, a cooler (no glass, please) and a few friends and come enjoy Downtown Norcross and the sweet sounds of summer!



JAZZ IN THE ALLEY

August 14 • 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Maeisha McQueen & Anonymous da Band
Betty Mauldin Park

Jazz at its best will be taking over Betty Mauldin Park late summer thru early fall from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Local eateries are jazzing things up with some delish chef specials to-go that make it a perfect date night or girl’s night out. During the band breaks, take an easy stroll and check out the deals in our downtown shops! Bring chairs, a cooler (no glass, please) and come chill.



LIONHEART THEATRE PRESENTS

Vibe Check Improv Comedy

Improv Comedy Troupe Vibe Check returns to Lionheart for two shows, August 6th and 7th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors/students. Visit lionhearttheatre.org for tickets.



NORCROSS COMMUNITY MARKET

Wednesdays 4-7 P.M.

Visit norcrosscommunitymarket.com
for more details!

Save the Date



9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

September 11 • 8:30 a.m.
Betty Mauldin Park



ATLANTA BRITISH CAR FAYRE

September 11 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Downtown Norcross



CAN-DO FOOD DRIVE

The CAN-DO Food Drive is going strong!! The city has collected 206 cans so far this year for the Norcross Community Co-op at summer concerts. We have also partnered with Norcross residents Judy Bowers and Beth Tynan, who had two very successful food drives collecting 4,892 cans for the co-op. Have some extra cans at home? Bring them to any Summer Concert in Thrasher Park or drop them off at Public Works at 345 Lively Avenue!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Movie Mondays

Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center

Wednesdays

Norcross Community Market, 4 - 7 p.m.,
Visit norcrosscommunitymarket.com for more details!

August 6

Summer Concert Series: A1A, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

August 14

Jazz in the Alley: Maiesha McQueen & Anonymous da Band, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Betty Mauldin Park

August 20

Summer Concert Series: The Bee Gees Gold Tribute, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

August 21

Indie Green Festival & Carry-Your-Own-Water Walk, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Thrasher Park

Bluesberry Beer & Music Festival, 3 - 10 p.m., Betty Mauldin Park

September 3

Summer Concert Series: The Downtown Band, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Thrasher Park

September 11

Atlanta British Car Fayre, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Downtown Norcross

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, 8:30 a.m., Betty Mauldin Park

September 25

Jazz in the Alley: Shena Renee, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Betty Mauldin Park

October 2

Art Splash Festival, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Lillian Webb Park

October 3

Art Splash Festival, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Lillian Webb Park

November 13

Neighborhood Recycling Day & Cleanup, Various Times & Locations



Scan to get
the Spanish
Newsletter!

¡Escanee para
recibir le boletín
en español!