



A PLACE TO IMAGINE

NEWSLETTER • NOVEMBER 2025

HOLIDAYS IN NORCROSS

Get ready to jingle all the way because our HoliDAYS in Norcross are in full swing! From holiday shopping to magical carriage rides, we've got a sleigh-load of festive fun waiting for you. Let's sleigh this holiday season together!

HISTORIC NORCROSS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

November 15 • 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. • Downtown Norcross

Get ready to deck your shopping bags at the Historic Norcross Holiday Open House! Explore festive downtown shops filled with seasonal decor, treats and unbeatable deals. Enjoy door prizes, holiday sales and after you shop 'til you drop, relax with a meal at one of our cozy downtown restaurants. It's the perfect way to kick off the holiday season!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

December 5 • 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. • Thrasher Park

Fa-la-la your way to our Holiday Celebration! Enjoy carriage rides, holiday hits, cozy hot cocoa and a special visit from Santa and other characters. Treats are available while supplies last, so come early and soak up the festive fun—it's the perfect night to kick off the holiday season with sparkle and cheer!

HISTORIC NORCROSS CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

December 6 • 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. • Downtown Norcross

Step into a winter wonderland at the Historic Norcross Christmas Village! Most activities will happen between 12:00 - 5:00 p.m., including face painting, photos with Santa, Christmas carolers and special appearances by festive characters. Take a free carriage ride through downtown from 6:30-8:30 p.m., explore the Candy Cane Lane Kids Zone, and, of course, visit downtown businesses to find the perfect holiday gifts for everyone on your list. It's a holly-jolly time for all!



CARRIAGE RIDES

**December 5 - December 19 • Every Thursday & Friday
6:30 - 8:30 p.m. • Skin Alley, Behind 45 South Cafe**

Sleigh the season in Downtown Norcross with complimentary carriage rides behind 45 South Cafe. Enjoy festive lights, holiday tunes and a magical ride through a winter wonderland.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

**December 9 - December 19 • Every Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. • 45 South Cafe**

Capture the holiday magic with Photos with Santa at 45 South Cafe! Snap a festive photo for \$25 and share your holiday wishes. Please keep in mind Santa will still visit on December 9 and 16, but no photographer will be on site.

ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL NIGHT MARKET: PASSPORT TO THE HOLIDAYS

December 12 • 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. • Lillian Webb Park

December 13 • 2:00 - 10:00 p.m. • Lillian Webb Park

Celebrate the season in style at Passport to the Holidays! Partnering with the Atlanta International Night Market, this festive event takes over Lillian Webb Park. Explore a multicultural winter wonderland with global cuisines, artisan vendors and performances showcasing traditions from around the world.

**SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
FOR MORE
DETAILS:**



Mayor: Craig Newton • **Mayor Pro Tem:** Marshall Cheek
City Council: Andrew Hixson, Marshall Cheek, Bruce Gaynor, Matt Myers, Josh Bare
City Manager: Eric Johnson • **Assistant City Manager:** Tracy Rye
City Clerk: Monique Philip

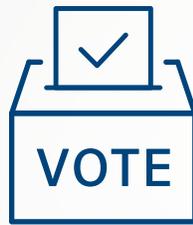
City Hall: 65 Lawrenceville Street, Norcross, GA 30071
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
770.448.2122 | Fax: 770.242.0824
norcrossga.net



November 10 - December 8 • City Hall Lobby

Get ready to jingle all the way to giving! Starting Monday, November 10, a beautifully decorated tree will take center stage in the City Hall Lobby, adorned with gift tags for children in need. Pick a tag, purchase a gift and help spread holiday cheer to local families. Please return new, unwrapped gifts with the tags to the City Hall Lobby by Monday, December 8. Let's make this season merry and bright—your generosity makes a real difference!

2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION



Notice of Election to the Qualified Voters of the City of Norcross, Georgia:

You are hereby notified that on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, an election will be held in the voting precinct of the City of Norcross, Georgia ("Norcross").

This election will include:

- Filling the expired term of Mayor (currently held by Craig Newton)
- Filling the expired Council terms (currently held by Matt Myers and Bruce Gaynor)
- Voting on a homestead exemption increase for ad valorem taxes levied within the city limits.

Special Ballot Question

Voters desiring to vote for the enactment of the homestead exemption act shall do so by voting "YES," and voters desiring to vote against the enactment of the homestead exemption act do so by voting "NO" to the following question presented on the election ballot:

Shall the Act be approved which raises the homestead exemption from City of Norcross ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes for residents who own and occupy their residences of that city from \$9,000.00 to \$45,000.00 and raises the homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes for residents of that city who are 65 years of age or older and who own and occupy their residences from \$18,000.00 to \$90,000.00?

() YES () NO

SCAN OR CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS:



GENEROSITY BRINGS NORCROSS SQUIRRELS TO LIFE



The White Squirrels of Norcross are about to make their grand debut! Soon, you'll begin to spot the first squirrel sculptures around town—each one part of a public art hunt designed to inspire creativity, curiosity and community fun.

This exciting project by the Norcross Public Arts Commission (NPAC), celebrates the quirky charm and playful spirit of our town's beloved white squirrels. Thanks to a generous private donor, Norcross Gallery & Studios has provided \$1,500 to launch a fundraiser to help turn this imaginative vision into reality. Their donation not only supports the first installations but also reflects the Gallery's commitment to nurture the arts and celebrate Norcross' creative spirit. The first squirrel sculptures will appear at Thrasher Park, Betty Mauldin Park, Lillian Webb Park, Discovery Garden Park and Norcross Gallery & Studios.

Special recognition goes to Cindy Flynn, the first to purchase a numbered commemorative acorn from the White Squirrels of Norcross fundraiser. Residents can join in the fun – purchase your own commemorative acorn to display at home or work. Contact NPAC for more information. Remember to submit a squirrel name suggestion before November 7. Just another way to be part of this tail-twitching adventure. Together, let's make the White Squirrels project one to remember.

SCAN OR CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT IDEAS:



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

CivicClerk

Exciting news, Norcross residents! At the beginning of October, the City of Norcross officially launched CivicClerk, a new platform powered by CivicPlus designed to make following city meetings easier and more engaging than ever.

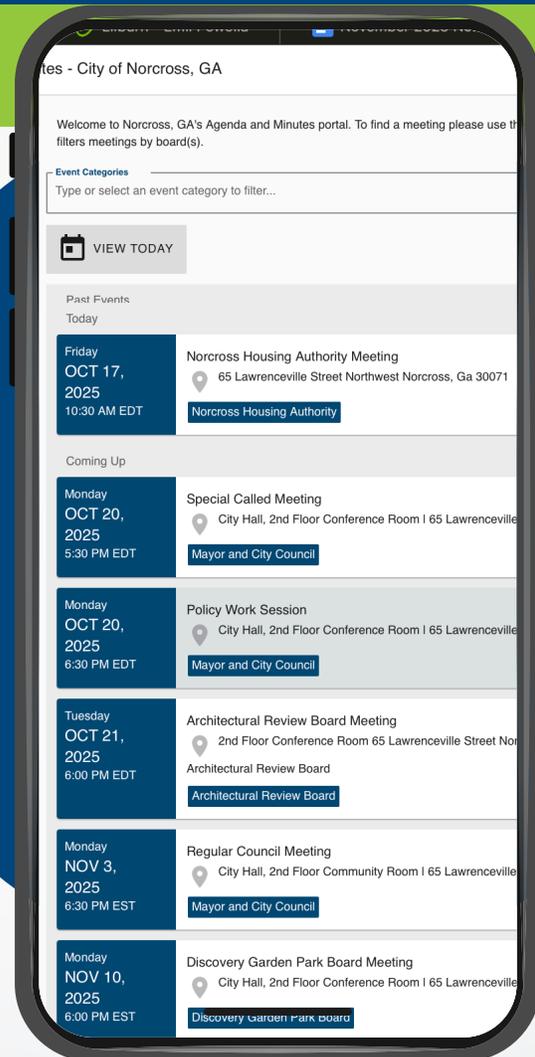
CivicClerk puts everything in one place, giving you convenient access to agendas, minutes, livestreams and more.

WITH CIVICCLERK, YOU CAN:

- View agendas and minutes in a familiar, easy-to-read format
- Livestream meetings with timestamped playback to jump straight to agenda items
- Check the meeting calendar and sign up for email notifications
- Watch meetings live or on demand
- Sign up online to speak at meetings

Agendas and minutes still have the same structure you know, but now you have powerful tools to stay connected, informed and involved with your community.

Scan or click the QR code below to start exploring and look forward to the growth—we're excited for all the improvements CivicClerk brings.



**SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
TO EXPLORE
CIVICCLERK:**



Now Live Streaming On CivicClerk!

Residents, please note that all city meetings will now be fully hosted on CivicClerk. To ease the transition, meetings will continue on YouTube for a short period. The last meeting on YouTube will be the Regular Council Meeting on Monday, December 1.

After that, all meetings will be exclusively on CivicClerk. We appreciate your flexibility as we make this exciting upgrade and look forward to the enhanced access and engagement it brings!



THE POWER BEHIND NORCROSS

Norcross Power works hard to make sure your rates stay low and your power stays on. In our previous September Newsletter, we shared that our rates are among the lowest in the state, and now we want to show you how we perform when the lights go out compared to utilities across the country. We track system outages using the System Average Interruption Duration Index or SAIDI. While the national average outage time is 6.11 hours, Norcross Power's average is just 3.47 hours, giving residents an average uptime of 99.96%. That includes outages caused by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Cora.

It's worth noting that most outages, 81%, are caused by storms. We will continue focusing on safety, reliability and low-cost sustainable energy for all residents. Thank you for trusting us to keep your home bright and your community powered!

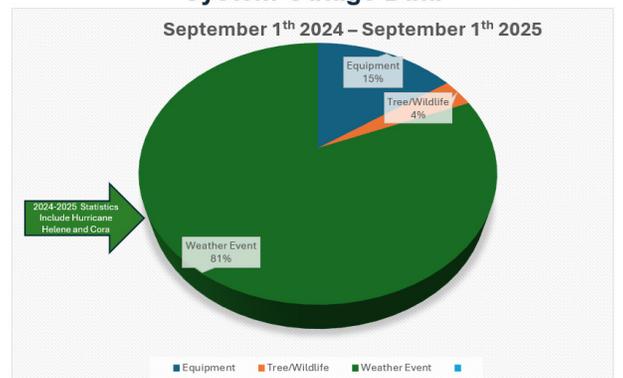
SPARKLING THROUGH 15 YEARS OF STYLE

From a small hobby after the birth of her daughter to a beloved downtown destination, Anna Balkan Jewelry & Gifts is celebrating 15 years in Norcross! Born in Ukraine, Anna has brought her passion for color, beauty and community to the heart of the city. The boutique offers one of the largest jewelry selections within 100 miles, along with handmade artisan gifts, clothing and accessories.

The store is more than shopping—it's about style, meaningful conversations and the vibrant community that has supported her journey. We are so proud to have her presence and look forward to many more years of success, style and helping make Norcross fabulous and sparkling!

System Outage Data

September 1st 2024 – September 1st 2025



System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) 208/Min. or 3.47 Hrs. annually
99.96% Uptime



PLANTING SEEDS OF CURIOSITY

The Norcross Discovery Garden Park Board, also known as DGP, recently partnered with Norcross Creation Kids Preschool for an educational visit that brought gardening to life for pre-kindergarten students. Children got their hands dirty planting their own succulent pots to take home and helped plant a peach tree on the playground, a lasting gift that will bear fruit for future generations.

DGP's mission is to inspire lifelong curiosity, understanding and appreciation of nature through organic gardening, education and demonstration. Board member Britt Lancaster shared that "sowing these types of seeds" in the community perfectly reflects that mission. This partnership highlights DGP's continued commitment to working with schools, organizations and residents to strengthen connections between people and nature.

Residents are encouraged to visit the city's website to learn more about the board and how to help grow a strong green community. Come explore, get involved and help Norcross bloom!

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS



The City of Norcross is thrilled to welcome Helen Balch as the new Community Development & Planning Director. Helen brings seven years of experience with the City of Lawrenceville including six years as Deputy Director of Planning and Development and is ready to provide leadership and strategic direction for Norcross.

A certified professional planner, Helen holds a bachelor's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from California State Polytechnic University Pomona. Before entering the planning field she worked in the modular business industry building and refurbishing modular and trailer offices. Helen is also an alumna of Gwinnett Young Professionals Class of '22 and Leadership Gwinnett Class of '25.

Helen is passionate about helping communities thrive through thoughtful planning, collaboration and sustainable growth. We are beyond excited to see her role flourish as she works to guide the city's growth and strengthen our vibrant community. Residents can look forward to her leadership in shaping a dynamic, sustainable and welcoming Norcross!

TREE TALK

Trees that straddle property lines or extend branches into a neighbor's yard can cause disputes. Knowing your rights and responsibilities is essential to avoid conflicts or legal issues.

LEGAL RIGHT TO TRIM BRANCHES

Property owners generally have the right to trim branches or roots that encroach on their land, as long as the tree's overall health is not harmed. Excessive trimming or damage to a neighbor's tree can lead to legal repercussions, so caution is key.

LIABILITY CONCERNS

Trimming overhanging branches carries potential risks, including property damage, personal injury or harm to the tree. If a branch falls and damages a neighbor's property, the person who trimmed it could be held financially responsible. Liability often depends on negligence, so using a professional arborist familiar with tree health and safety can reduce risks and demonstrate responsible action.

PRUNING GUIDELINES

- Communicate with your neighbor and seek permission when possible.
- Avoid removing more than 20–25% of live foliage per season.
- Don't remove all limbs on one side of the tree to prevent leaning.
- Avoid large cuts at the main trunk; reduce limb length instead.
- Never use climbing spikes or gaffs.
- Do not trespass beyond your property line.

Hiring trained professionals transfers most liability and ensures safe, proper pruning. Following these guidelines helps protect your property, the tree and your relationship with neighbors. We look forward to seeing these practices succeed in keeping Norcross safe and beautiful—because a well-cared-for tree is a happy tree and a happy community!

SUSTAINABILITY



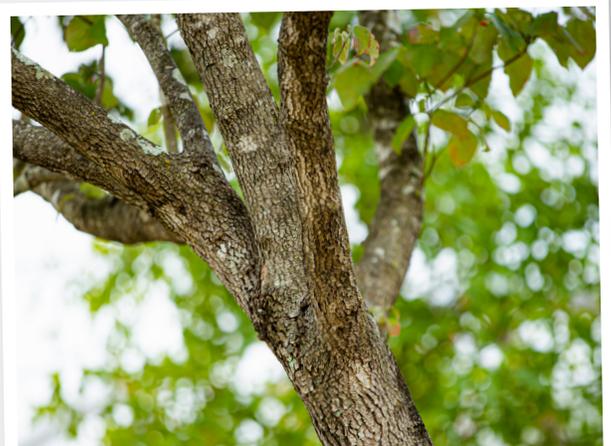
TIP OF THE MONTH



STYROFOAM GOES IN THE TRASH, NOT IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN

Recycling keeps Norcross green but doing it right makes all the difference! Styrofoam items like cups, to-go containers, plates and packaging insulation should never go in your curbside recycling bin. Instead, please toss them in the trash.

While some locations such as Atlanta's CHaRM Center do accept styrofoam, Norcross' waste hauler does not. Placing styrofoam in your recycling cart can contaminate the entire load. Thank you for recycling smart and helping keep our community clean, green and efficient!



IN THE KNOW

MOVIE MONDAYS



November 10
Saving Private Ryan



November 24
Rudy

Lights, camera, action! Dive into the magic of cinema with Norcross Movie Mondays at the Cultural Arts & Community Center.

Join us every 2nd and 4th Monday for a free movie screening and light refreshments.

With showtimes at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m., get ready for double the fun! Grab your popcorn and settle in for a reel good time!

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

November 11 • 10:00 a.m. • Veterans Park

Salute our heroes at the Veterans Day Ceremony as we honor the courage and sacrifices of our military members. Experience inspiring speeches, patriotic music and the ceremonial raising of the American flag. Come together with your community to celebrate and show appreciation for the brave men and women who protect our freedom.



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS FESTIVAL

November 1 • 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. • Thrasher Park

Light up the night at the Día de los Muertos Festival at Thrasher Park! Celebrate life, memory and culture with dazzling music, colorful performances, festive decorations, and authentic Mexican food and drinks.

Plus, what's spookier than running out of blood? The LifeSouth Blood Bank will be on-site collecting donations from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. to help save local lives. Join the fun, honor tradition, and be a hometown hero!



HOLIDAY QUILT EXHIBIT

November 24 – December 30 • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Welcome Center & History Museum

Celebrate the season with the Holiday Quilt Exhibit, presented by the Spirited Quilters Guild. This free, public exhibition features 15+ stunning holiday-themed quilts showcasing a variety of materials, techniques and patterns. Wander through festive fiber art and enjoy the creativity of local artists—perfect for a cozy, colorful holiday outing in Norcross.

Please note additional time slots are available by appointment after hours and weekends or to arrange a private tour, contact 678-628-8793 or stephanie.newton@norcrossga.net.



FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT

November 7 • 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Cultural Arts & Community Center

Get ready to move to the rhythm of Pangaea, a Georgia-based fusion band that mixes rock, R&B, jazz, Latin soul and more into a seamless global groove. From sizzling Santana-inspired guitar licks to groovy Marcus Miller-style bass lines, their sound is a vibrant journey across genres—no passport required.

Bring your friends, your dancing shoes and feel free to bring your own food and beverages for a full experience or grab takeout from one of our local eateries. Get ready for a night full of irresistible beats, infectious energy and good vibes—every song is a fiesta!

NORCROSS GALLERY & STUDIOS

November 1 - November 22 • Artist Of The Month

Norcross Gallery & Studios proudly presents Gail Lenahan and Cynthia Corbin as Artists of the Month. Their versatile works will be on display at 45 South Café through November 22. Join us for a welcoming reception on Sunday, November 16, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. and celebrate their vibrant, inspiring artistry!

For exhibit schedules and workshop, visit norcrossgalleryandstudios.org





HOLIDAY DAY OBSERVANCE

The City of Norcross will experience a few closures this month due to the holidays. Please be advised that City Hall will be closed on Tuesday, November 11 in honor of Veterans Day, and on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for Thanksgiving.

While Veterans Day will not affect sanitation and recycling services, please note that Thanksgiving will result in delays. There will be no service on Thursday, November 27 and collections will run one day behind schedule from Friday to Saturday. Thank you for your understanding, and we wish you all a joyful holiday season!



NOVEMBER 1

Dia De Los Muertos Festival, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m., Thrasher Park

NOVEMBER 7

First Friday Concert: Pangaea, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center

NOVEMBER 10

Movie Monday: Saving Private Ryan, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Observance, City Hall Closed

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Ceremony, 10:00 a.m., Veterans Park

THE LIONHEART THEATRE COMPANY



November 7 - November 23 • 'The Good Doctor'

Lionheart Theatre presents Neil Simon's 'The Good Doctor' — a prescription for laughter inspired by Anton Chekov! Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors, students and military. Dessert is served at intermission. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2:00 p.m., with a special Saturday matinee on November 22 at 2:00 p.m.

December 11 - December 21

Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG Norcross Christmas Show

Lionheart Theatre presents 'Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG Norcross Christmas Show' — a holly jolly comedy with local flair! Running December 11–21. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for seniors, students and military. Dessert served at intermission. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m., with an additional matinee on December 20 at 2:00 p.m.

December 29 - December 31 • Puppetry Arts Holiday Camp

No strings attached—just holiday fun! Lionheart Theatre's Puppetry Arts Holiday Camp invites kids ages 6–12 to get creative this winter break. Campers will craft and perform their own puppets, ending with a final family show. Cost is \$100 per student—get ready for some festive, string-pulling fun!

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit lionhearttheatre.org.

NOVEMBER 15

Historic Norcross Holiday Open House, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Downtown Norcross

NOVEMBER 24

Movie Monday: Rudy, 1:30 & 6:30 p.m., Cultural Arts & Community Center

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 30

Holiday Quilt Exhibit, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Welcome Center & History Museum

NOVEMBER 28 - NOVEMBER 29

Thanksgiving Observance, City Hall Closed



Scan to get the Spanish Newsletter!

¡Escanee para recibir le boletín en español!