BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS E-NEWSLETTER





# BALDWIN COUNTY CREATES FIVE-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



GET ALL THE DETAILS ON PAGE 2 >>

### Baldwin County Government

1601 N. Columbia St. Suite 230 Milledgeville, GA 31061

### Phone

478-445-4791

### Hours

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-F except holidays



## **Baldwin County Drafts Five-Year Comprehensive Plan**



Baldwin County, with the help of citizens and staff, has prepared a draft five-year plan.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of local government is planning and the preparation of plans. Planning is the word we use to describe how a community shapes and guides growth and development. Some people call this process "city planning," "urban planning," or sometimes "land use planning." The results of planning are contained in documents we call "comprehensive plans" or "growth management plans." Effective planning ensures that future development will occur where, when, and how the community and local government wants.

There are several important benefits to the entire community that result from the planning process:

- Quality of life is maintained and improved.
- There is a vision, clearly stated and shared by all, that describes the future of the community.
- Private property rights are protected.
- Economic development is encouraged and supported.
- There is more certainty about where development will occur, what it will be like, when it will hap pen, and how the costs of development will be met.

In order to provide for better consistency and coordination between local governments in this vital activity, the State of Georgia has passed laws and regulations to guide communities in the preparation of their plans. The Office of Planning provides variety of useful tools and resources to help local governments comply with these requirements.

To encourage local governments' engagement in comprehensive planning, Georgia incentivizes it by allowing cities and counties with DCA-approved comprehensive plans access to a special package of financial resources to aid in implementing their plans. This includes Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), water and sewer loans from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA), economic development funding from the OneGeorgia Authority, and a variety of other programs from DCA and partner agencies. Eligibility for this package of incentives is called Qualified Local Government (QLG) status.

The county will hold its last public hearing about the 2023 Comprehensive Plan on January 3, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the commissioner chambers at 1601 N. Columbia Street. Your comments are welcome. The plan is on the Baldwin County website.

Please click <u>this link</u> to review the plan.

#### JANUARY 2023

## **Ogden Road Landfill Cleaned Up**

The Department of Natural Resources DNR took court action to enforce clean up of the inert landfill at 124 Ogden Rd. Senator-Elect Rick Williams applied pressure over the years to ensure enforcement of Georgia state laws. Retired Commissioner Tommy French was instrumental in gathering support from the rest of the commissioners for bold action. Baldwin County negotiated a settlement, purchased the 21 acre property, and committed to DNR that it would clean up the property. Commissioner Kendrick Butts stayed on top of the progress and requested that the work be completed by the end of 2022. On December 21, 2022 the property was cleaned up by Baldwin County Road Department staff. It took several weeks to clean up the property. The residents around 124 Ogden Rd now have a green space.



# **Baldwin County EMA Hosts Active Shooter Training**

On December 1, 2022, Baldwin County EMA held a Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) course. The course was taught by the area 3 Homeland Security field coordinator. 12 County staff members attended.

This course is designed and built on the Avoid, Deny, Defend (ADD) strategy developed by (ALERRT) Advance Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training in 2004, provides strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics included the history and prevalence of active shooter events, civilian response options, medical issues, and considerations for conducting drills.

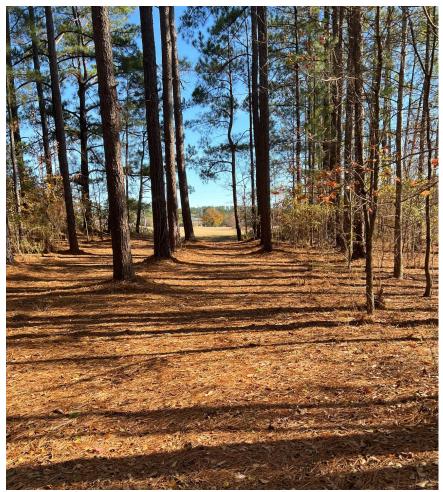


# **Baldwin County Receives ISO Rating of 3/3X**

Insurance Service Office (ISO) collects and evaluates information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities. ISO has completed its analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided in Baldwin County.

We are pleased to share that Baldwin County received a rating of 3/3X. Receiving this rating gives Baldwin County the potential to reduce residential insurance costs. ISO's Public Protection Classification Program (PPC) plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies. PPC is important to communities and fire departments as well. Communities whose PPC improves may get lower insurance prices. PPC also provides fire departments with a valuable benchmark, and is used by many departments as a valuable tool when planning, budgeting and justifying fire protection improvements.

### Volunteers Refresh Walter B. Williams Disc Golf Course



Volunteers have cleared all 18 holes for the Walter B Williams Park disc golf course.

Concrete pads for the tees are being poured as well. Baldwin county planners teamed up with World Champion Disc Golfer David Feldberg, who is a resident of Lake Sinclair, to create this course.

Disc golf, while great exercise, is also the fastest growing sport in the United States. This course is a great addition to the park and the Baldwin County community.