

# Baldwin County Georgia



## BALDWIN COUNTY SPLOST PASSES IN MARCH ELECTION



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



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baldwincountyboc](https://facebook.com/baldwincountyboc)

# Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Passes In Baldwin County

**Election Summary Report**  
 General Election  
 Baldwin  
 March 21, 2023  
 Summary for: All Contests, All Districts, All Tabulators, All Counting Groups  
 Unofficial & Incomplete

Elector Group	Counting Group	Ballots	Voters	Registered Voters	Turnout
Total	Elections Day	1,223	1,223		4.37%
	Advance Voting	769	769		2.74%
	Absentee by Mail	29	29		0.10%
	Provisional	0	0		0.00%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>28,018</b>	<b>7.21%</b>

Precincts Reported: 14 of 14 (100.00%)  
 Registered Voters: 2,021 of 28,018 (7.21%)  
 Ballots Cast: 2,021

**SPLOST Renewal (Vote for 1)**  
 Precincts Reported: 14 of 14 (100.00%)

	Elections Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Times Cast	1,223	769	29	0	2,021 / 28,018	7.21%

Candidate	Party	Elections Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total	
Yes		732	497	16	0	1,245	61.66%
No		490	271	13	0	774	38.34%
<b>Total Votes</b>		<b>1,222</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,019</b>	

	Elections Day	Advance Voting	Absentee by Mail	Provisional	Total
Unresolved Write-In	0	0	0	0	0

The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) referendum passed by a 61.7 to 38.3 percent margin in the March 21, 2023 election.

The election re-authorized the existing one cent sales tax. Baldwin County’s property tax millage rate is in the bottom 25% in the State of Georgia. That is largely in part because of the existing SPLOST. This sales tax referendum excludes gas, prescription medication, and non-prepared foods or groceries. The County anticipates receiving approximately \$40,500,000 and the City of Milledgeville expects to receive approximately \$14,500,000 based on the intergovernmental agreement signed by both parties. For the last 33 years, SPLOST has been

the funding source for capital projects for both the city and county in Baldwin County. The Baldwin County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) a popular method for financing needed capital projects. Additionally, visitors to our county account for 40% of the revenue the SPLOST generates!

Baldwin County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax will support county-wide improvements that promote a high quality of life for all residents.





# Barrows Ferry Road Bridge Nears Completion

The Barrows Ferry Road Bridge is nearing completion. Although the bridge is located in the city, Baldwin County acquired the Right of Way for the City of Milledgeville, since Baldwin County is Local Administered Project (LAP) certified by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

The county is trained and certified to deliver state and federal-aid transportation projects. Barrows Ferry Road bridge was federally funded.



## Protect Your Vehicle From Pothole Damage

In a severe storm, your neighbor's tree blows down across your fence and crashes into your living room. Got the picture? Does your neighbor owe you for your damages? Usually not. This is an act of nature and beyond your neighbor's control. But what if the tree was rotten and would not have fallen if it were a live healthy tree? Still doesn't matter unless your neighbor knows the tree is rotten and is a hazard to your property or person and does nothing about it. If this would apply to you, protect yourself by letting your neighbor know your concern. Best to have some written evidence that you had notified the neighbor that the tree was dead and needed to be removed.

What if the tree is on City or County property including right of ways? Same thing applies. If the tree falls across your vehicle or other property, the government entity is not liable, unless they have been notified of the hazard and took no action to remove the hazard. Same thing for potholes or other defects.

Potholes are normal occurring defects that appear in streets, roads and right of ways as

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as surfaces are aged by time, weather and other external factors. So, you run across a pothole, it damages your tires or other parts of your vehicle. Sorry, it is a road hazard and the entity doesn't owe for the damage unless they had prior notice that the hazard existed and had time to correct the problem.

There is a greater possibility that a pothole or broken pavement will damage non-factory equipment on your vehicles. There are some great looking rims (wheels) available that run low profile tires with very little air between the hard surface of the road and the edge of the rim. These wheels can be damaged running across railroad crossings or rough surfaces. When those wheels are damaged by potholes it is likely the entity doesn't owe for the damages. The entity would only owe for the damage if they had prior notice of the hazard, had reasonable time to correct the hazard and if the hazard would not have caused damage to normal factory equipment.

Look out for defects, potholes, dead trees or limbs or any other hazard. Protect yourself and your neighbors. Stay safe. Report potential hazards in Baldwin County by calling 478-445-4205.

## How To Protect Your Home From Tornado Damage



Tornadoes are commonplace in Baldwin County. Trees growing too close to your house can damage the foundations or roof, and encourage invasion from insects, rodents, and birds.

However, cutting large trees down yourself can be dangerous, so always get professional help if you decide upon this course of action. Typically, you do not want trees too close to your home because they can trigger many types of



of damage that can be pretty devastating. While trees may provide some shade for your home that can help control its temperature (in both winter and summer), trees can also cause:

- Severe foundation damage due to their roots
- Home damage from falling limbs
- High risk of home devastation if the tree falls
- A high risk of invasion from pests, like termites and hornets
- Woodpeckers and other pest birds to invade your yard

Generally, you want to keep your trees far enough from your home to prevent damage. The exact range will vary based on tree species and other factors. However, there are a few times when any tree is undoubtedly too close to your home. Unfortunately, your trees are dangerously close to your house:

- When a tree is less than 20 feet away from a home or building
- If limbs or the tree overhang the house at any point
- When animals use your trees to invade your home's roof

## Recreation Department Offerings for 2023

Recreation participation has grown tremendously in the last year. For 2023, 550 baseball and softball players have registered compared to 113 in 2022.

Pickleball's popularity has grown as well. In 2023, 95 players are playing in a league compared to 67 in 2022. Additionally, approximately 100 residents play pickle ball daily. Winter basketball saw 260 players compared to 143 the prior year. Football also saw an increase. 70 players played compared to 46 the prior year. Soccer participation has been strong as well.



The Recreation Department will offer Adult Kickball and Softball leagues this summer. Registration will be held between March 27-April 28. Summer league basketball will be held this summer for the first time in over a decade. Registration dates will be announced later. Youth Track and Field will also have strong participation in 2023. Follow Baldwin County Parks and Recreation on Facebook by clicking [here](#).