

Baldwin County Georgia



COUNTY PROPOSES NEW AMENDMENT TO ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE



GET ALL THE DETAILS ON PAGE 2 >>

Baldwin County Government

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

Phone

478-445-4791

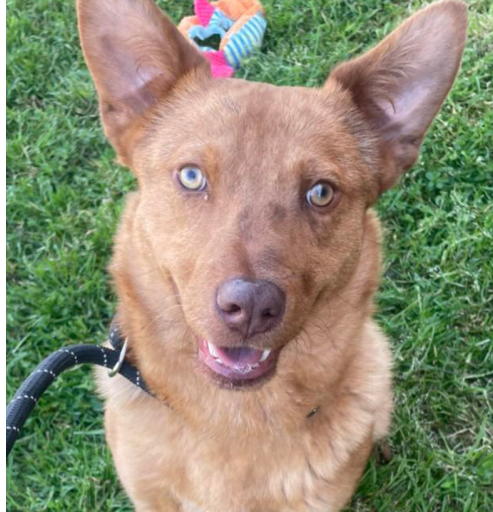
Hours

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



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Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance to Include Spay and Neuter Requirement



The Baldwin County Board of Commissioners has proposed an amendment to the animal control ordinance in order to curb the size of the unwanted pet population in the community. This spay and neuter requirement will help to reduce the unwanted breeding of animals. The amendment states that no person may own, keep, harbor, or have custody of a dog or cat six months of age or older within Baldwin County that has not been spayed or neutered unless such person holds an unaltered animal permit for each unaltered dog or cat, or unless the dog or cat is otherwise exempt.

Over the past several years, Baldwin County has increased the capacity of animal control and the animal shelter but have yet to get a handle on the large intake numbers at the shelter. It is not uncommon to have more than 100 animals in the shelter despite utilizing the Animal Rescue Foundation and other animal rescues all over the country to place these animals. Additionally, the shelter offers adoption services and has utilized coordinators in both areas to find the animals in their care a home and avoid mass euthanasia. Unfortunately, far too many animals are euthanized due to lack of finding placements for these animals.

The shelter budget this year is \$449,000, more than double the 2018 budget due to the demands to provide shelter and food for the unwanted pet population. Until the county gets a handle on this issue, the taxpayers will be funding a losing battle as the number of stray pets in the community continues to grow further out of control. A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15th at 5:00 p.m. at the Baldwin County Administrative Building.

Board of Commissioners Recognize Fire & Rescue Lieutenant John Suggs



At the March 18 Board of Commissioners meeting, the Board recognized Baldwin County Fire & Rescue Lieutenant John Suggs for his contributions to the department and county.

Lieutenant Suggs consistently exemplifies exceptional dedication and professionalism in his role. His commitment extends beyond routine responsibilities, as he actively contributes to a variety of construction and maintenance projects that enhance the operational efficiency and work

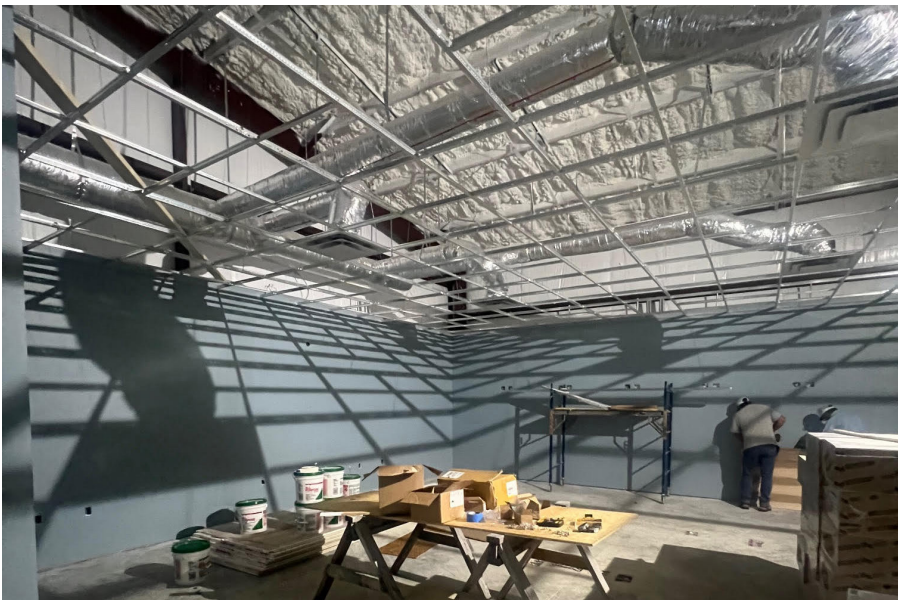
environment of the department. John has taken the time to transform closets into bedrooms for EMS personnel stationed at the firehouses. This thoughtful approach not only improves the comfort of emergency responders during their shifts but also promotes overall team morale. Additionally, he has installed durable flooring throughout the stations and has undertaken the painting of common areas, including dayrooms, apparatus bays, and offices, thereby creating a more inviting and functional atmosphere for staff members.

His contributions also include developing model houses for training purposes, which serve as vital resources for both recruits and current personnel. These training props are designed to prepare the team for real-life emergency scenarios, fostering essential skills required for effective response.

With nearly a decade of service to Baldwin County Fire Rescue, John has emerged as a respected mentor among his colleagues. John's commitment to personal and professional development is evidenced by his completion of over 24 courses through the Georgia Fire Academy, reflecting his desire to enhance his skills and contribute positively to the community.

Lieutenant John Suggs is a valuable asset to Baldwin County Fire Rescue, exemplifying the core values of service, leadership, and dedication that are essential to their mission.

Real Time Crime Center Nears Completion



Real Time Crime Center is just a few weeks away from opening! This center will be able to detect suspect license plates through flock cameras and find them on video, so the 911 center can help direct deputies to the scene.

The county looks forward to seeing how the Real Time Crime Center will make Baldwin County a safer place to live and work.

New Additions Planned for Coopers Park



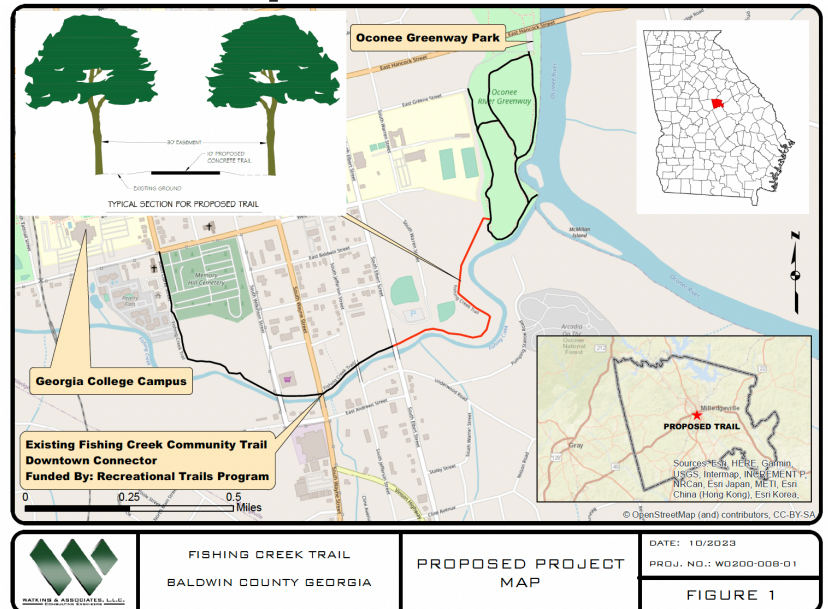
Coopers Park is planned to receive two valuable additions - a rain garden and splash pad. The Baldwin County Board of Commissioners, Coopers Collaborative and Georgia College and State University plan to build a rain garden in Coopers Park on Saturday, April 5th. The rain garden's primary purpose will be to contain stormwater runoff and soil erosion from reaching the park's walking path.

Baldwin County will be opening splash pad proposals on Wednesday, April 9th at 2 pm. The county aims to build a splash pad at Coopers Park nearly identical to the one at Harrisburg Park (pictured above right). The rain garden and splash pad are two of the improvements identified in the "Coopers Park Reimagined" plan.

The Fishing Creek Trail Extension-Downtown Connector Bids to Open Soon

The Fishing Creek Trail Extension-Downtown Connector will be advertised for construction the week of April 6th. Bids will be due May 6th and commissioners are scheduled to award a contract on May 20th.

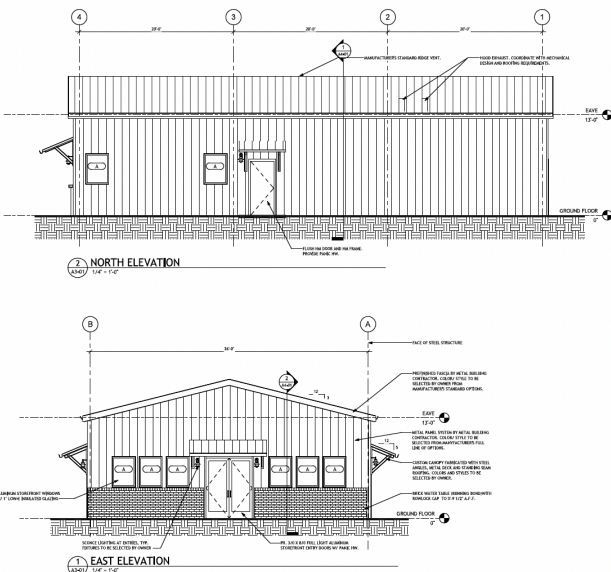
The 0.57 mile paving of this final section of unpaved trail will provide safe and continuous trail connectivity between the Oconee River, Georgia Military College, and Georgia College and State University, enhancing the ease of travel and recreational opportunities for students and others. All horizontal and vertical clearing has happened already. The site is graded and no other land disturbance activities are anticipated other than preparing the ground for the 0.57 mile-long and 10-foot-wide concrete path. The project will include installing a 40 foot storm drain pipe and two drop inlets.



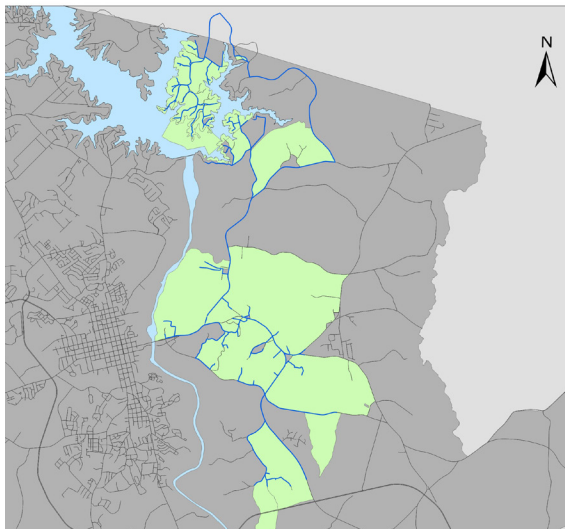
The Harrisburg Park New Community Center Bids to Open April 11th

The Harrisburg Park New Community Center bids are due Friday, April 11th at noon.

The new community center will be adjacent to the current Collins P. Lee Community Center which is going to be converted into a library. This new community center is funded by a state grant.

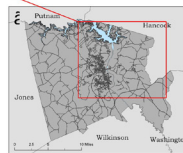


Kinetic Fiber Internet Now Available to Unserved Areas in Baldwin County



Baldwin County Board of Commissioners & Windstream Partnership for Unserved Areas in Baldwin County

Legend
 — Baldwin Fiber
 — Roads
 ■ Service Area
 ■ Water Bodies
 ■ Baldwin County
 ■ Surrounding Counties



Baldwin County and all other entities involved in the EIR mapping process hereby warrant that the information contained on this map is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. All data is provided as a reference only and should not be used for any other purpose. All data is provided as a reference only and should not be used for any other purpose. All data is provided as a reference only and should not be used for any other purpose.

Baldwin County and Windstream recently completed a \$1.9 million broadband project that was funded by the American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Fund. This project funded broadband deployment to over 600 residential homes.

This initiative was vital for bridging the digital divide in the community and ensuring that all areas, particularly those

that are underserved or unserved, have access to high-speed internet. The project will help to meet four major goals that the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners have for its community:

1. **Expanding Access:** Windstream's deployment of fiber-optic infrastructure will significantly increase broadband availability in areas that currently lack reliable internet service. This expansion is crucial for rural and underserved communities.
2. **Economic Development:** Reliable broadband is a cornerstone of economic development. Kinetic Fiber internet will help attract businesses, support remote work, and create job opportunities, thereby stimulating our local economy.
3. **Educational Advancement:** Enhanced internet access will provide students and educators with the tools they need to succeed in a digital learning environment. This is especially important for local schools, our three colleges and remote learning.
4. **Healthcare Improvement:** Telehealth services have become increasingly important. This partnership will help provide residents, particularly those in remote areas, access to healthcare services online, reducing travel time and potentially improving health outcomes.

"This project was a success due to the support of the Senator Williams, Rep. Jackson, former Rep. Vance, the Baldwin County Commissioners, County Manager Carlos Tobar, and Kinetic by Windstream. Our partnerships allow us to deliver for the people of Baldwin County and expand our infrastructure. This is a win for our citizens and our county. It is my expectation that we keep winning for you," shared Commissioner Andrew Strickland.

The community is invited to attend the ribbon cutting for this project to learn more about the benefits of fast fiber internet on Thursday, April 7th at 10:00am. The celebration will be held at Fire Station 3, 960 Carrs Station Road in Milledgeville.