



December 12, 2025

You have broken all records in two of our community efforts that I wanted to share with you! Julie Huntington and her amazing volunteers collected more than double the previous amount of food for the local co-op - 2973 pounds, whereas the earlier record was 1253 pounds. They also collected at least \$900 for the co-op as well, which will certainly help. Thank you so very much for your generosity!



When the new Police Precinct Commander came by last week, he was genuinely shocked at all the toys we had already collected for their **Santa project**! Berkeley Lakers really came through for kids who might not otherwise get any presents this year! The officers hauled off as many as



they could then and came back yesterday for another load. Your kindness is a great blessing, not only to these children in poor neighborhoods, but to our own **police officers who really feel supported by this city**. I hope you realize what a difference this makes, and that you are blessed as well. Another way to help some local families in need is through our **Chapel**. Your tax-deductible donation, 100% of it, will be turned into Walmart gift cards (food/clothing) and hand-delivered to BL

Elementary families who are struggling. I'm told that there are many this year, so please help before December 14. Here's the link: <https://blchapel.org/community-outreach-and-events/>

And if people are struggling, their animals are, too. The Gwinnett Animal Shelter is **collecting pet food for people in need with animals**. I so admire **Sue Swanson** who has taken the initiative to gather pet food, toys, and treats and drive them to the shelter in Lawrenceville! You can drop pet food off at her mailbox or house (845 Lakeshore) with a note (saying who it is from or anonymous) or bring it to me in City Hall. This is an ongoing project so there is no deadline, but the need is great, so please help as soon and as often as you can.

In response to citizen concerns regarding negative impacts of deer and to ensure compliance with state law, your city council has adopted ordinance amendment O-25-260, revising Section 46-2, Discharge of Weapons. Bow hunting will now be allowed on private property within the city by the property owner or individuals who have received permission from the property owner. All bow hunting on private property must comply with state hunting rules and regulations. Ultimately, hunting regulation resides with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. For further information all questions should be directed to the appropriate agency and department as follows:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Hunting Regulations:

2070 Highway 278 SE

Social Circle, GA 30025

770-918-6408

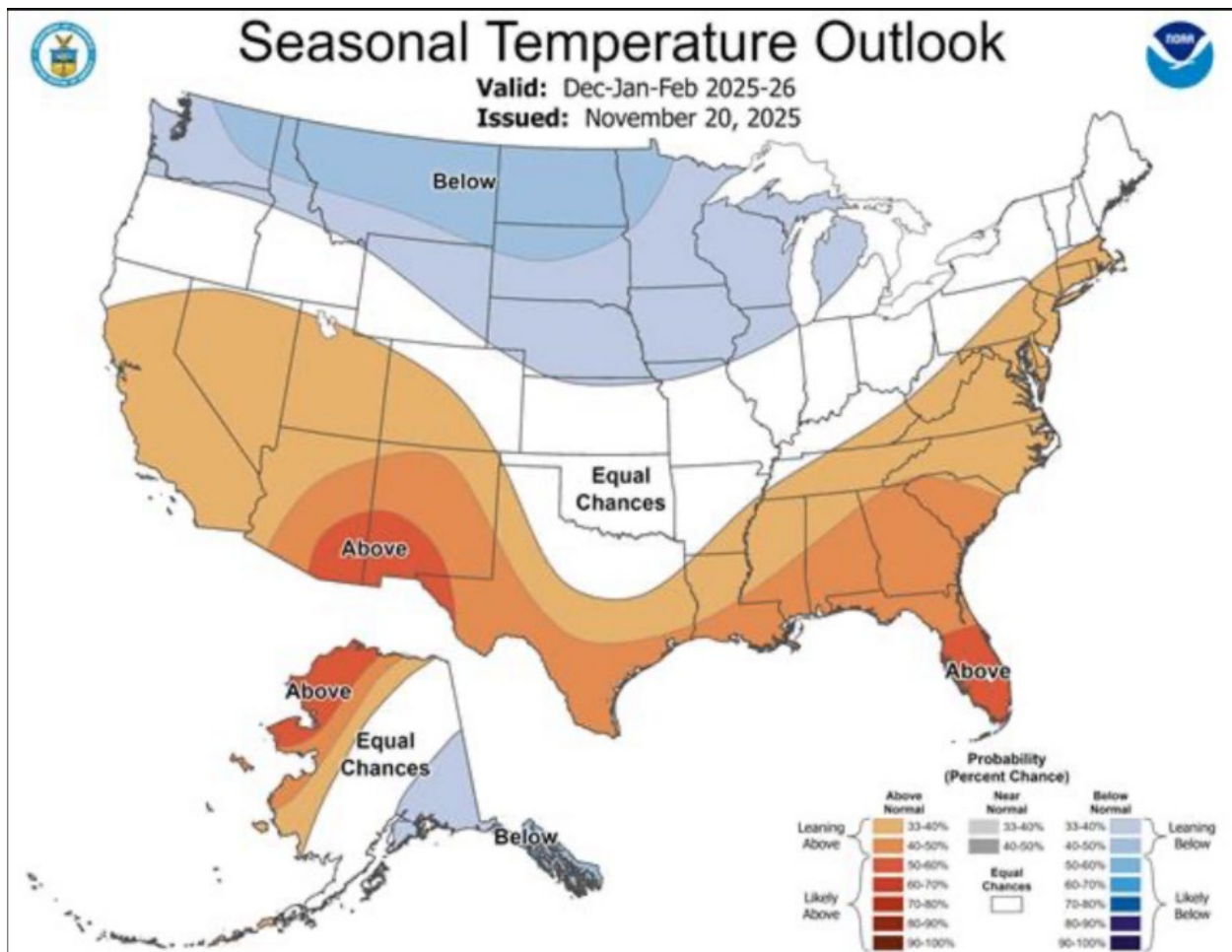
<https://gadnrle.org/>

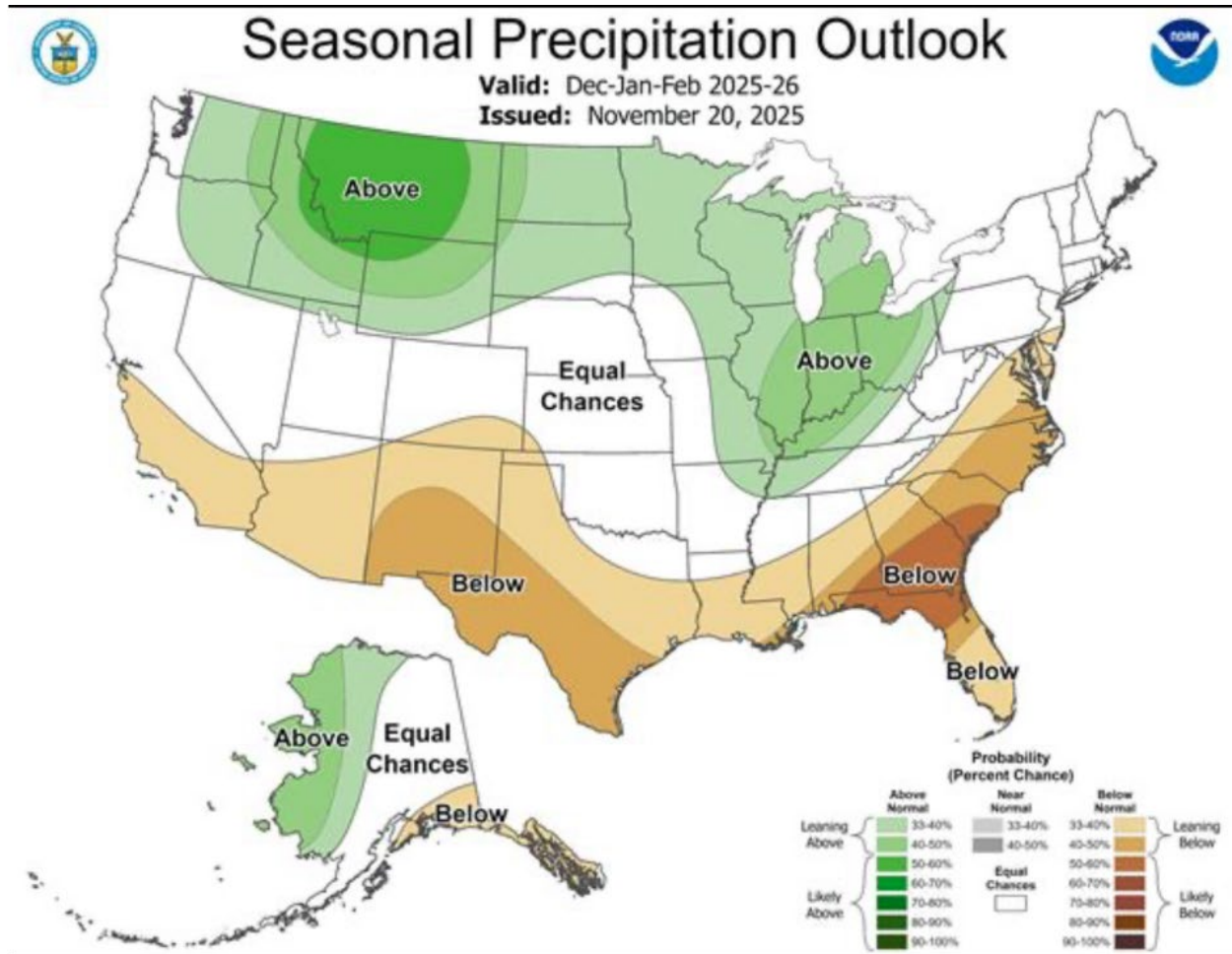
Report Violations: To report illegal hunting or fishing activity now, click on the Hunt Regs App icon on the left and enter the information requested. A report will be immediately sent to the Game Warden assigned to the county where the violation occurred. All information is strictly confidential, and you can remain anonymous. You can still call the [Ranger Hotline](#), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, at 1-800-241-4113 (or *DNR for AT&T Mobility Customers), and you can also send information directly to the Game Warden using the [Hunt Regs App Reporting Form](#).

The City of Berkeley Lake is situated along the Chattahoochee River Corridor, known as the **Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area**. It is part of the National Park Service, within the Department of the Interior. The park is made up of a 48-mile stretch of the river and over 6,000 acres of land area. The park starts below Buford Dam at Lake Sidney Lanier and winds through the suburbs north of Atlanta ending where Peachtree Creek enters the river in northwest

Atlanta. The park was established on August 15, 1978, when President Jimmy Carter signed the act creating the park. Part of the land area includes a buffer along each side of the river. Be sure to educate yourself regarding the rules pertaining to this federal recreation area. [The following link to the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area brochure](#) includes a section on regulations.

The Gwinnett Office of Emergency Management has notified me to expect the following **weather-related conditions** over the next few months. Their forecast calls for warmer than average temperatures and drier than average precipitation outlook.





At the December Council meeting we said goodbye and thanks to two of our **retiring council members**. Here are my comments in recognition of them. I wanted to share that with you here, and I hope you will thank them when you see them. “Prior to being elected to the City Council, **Scott Lee** served multiple terms on the Berkeley Lake Homeowners Association in roles as President, Vice-President, Security, and Events Chairman. For many years he has provided patriotic music for our city’s annual 4th of July parade and helped orchestrate the kids’ games afterward. He has always been generous in providing support and music for community events, and has

helped with our city's memorial flags and crosses honoring veterans. Scott has continued to serve as Council's liaison to the BLHA and held our city's board position for the SW Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. Like Scott, **Barbara Geier** served on her homeowner association's board in Berkeley Walk for a number of years and was a member of their Covenants Committee. She was an officer of the Chapel board for 5 years, serving as their secretary. She led a successful initiative to rewrite the Chapel by-laws, led a group to completely redo the Chapel website and was instrumental in accomplishing a number of fencing and electrical improvements for the Chapel property. As a Master Gardener she helped maintain the flower gardens around the Chapel property and currently leads a team that created and maintains a pollinator garden at BL Elementary School, writing and submitting annual grants that fund it. Before her time on Council, Barbara served on our city's Planning & Zoning Commission. I very much appreciate all the efforts of these two very generous public servants, for our city and for the larger community. I know they will continue to find ways to serve."

From time to time, I report to you about things I learn in meetings from the **Atlanta Regional Commission**. In response to the ARC's [2025 Metro Atlanta Speaks public opinion survey](#) 28% said housing affordability is the biggest problem the region faces. Coming in second was traffic, with 24% saying it was the top issue. Crime and the economy tied for third place, each garnering 13% of the vote. More than 6 in 10 respondents (62%) said they could not afford to move to another house or apartment in their current neighborhood.

FOLLOW THE Holiday Magic!

Your route to holiday fun starts here! Start with easy parking at GJAC, stroll the sparkling Winterlight Walk to the Atlanta Christkindl Market, and step into the DTL for seasonal shopping, dining, and celebrations.

SHUTTLE DAYS
Shuttle available the first and last weekend of Atlanta Christkindl Market*

Fri, Nov 28	10 am to 10 pm
Sat, Nov 29	10 am to 10 pm
Sun, Nov 30	10 am to 9 pm
Sat, Dec 20	10 am to 10 pm
Sun, Dec 21	10 am to 10 pm
Mon, Dec 22	10 am to 9 pm

*Additional shuttle services available periodically on the 2nd & 3rd weekends

RED LINE STOPS

- Gwinnett Justice & Administration Center
- City Hall & Overflow Lot
- Lawrenceville Lawn

GREEN LINE STOPS

- Lawrenceville Arts Center & Perry Street
- Depot District
- Lawrenceville Lawn

ATLANTA CHRISTKINDL MARKET

Open weekly Wednesday through Sunday beginning November 28 at the Lawrenceville Lawn

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS
5 pm to 8 pm

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
11 am to 9 pm

SUNDAYS
11 am to 8 pm

WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

MON, DEC 22
11 am to 9 pm

TUES, DEC 23
11 am to 9 pm

WED, DEC 24
11 am to 4 pm

DTL DowntownLawrencevilleGA.com **LAWRENCEVILLE** GEORGIA

Our friends in **Lawrenceville** would like me to let you know about their [Christkindl Market](#) - a festive, German-style holiday market organized by the German American Cultural Foundation. Held at the Lawrenceville Lawn, the market is open Wednesdays thru Sundays from now until Wednesday, December 24th. Visitors can stroll among Bavarian-style wooden chalets, enjoy authentic German foods and drinks, and browse handcrafted artisan gifts and décor. The market also features family and entertainment elements — a 50-foot Ferris wheel, Santa photo opportunities, musical and cultural performances, and holiday ambiance with lights and décor. Admission is free.

We all continue to enjoy the **LENS contest** for the outstanding photographers in our city. The winner of the September contest is **Alan Lankford** of Berkeley Walk Point with his picture titled: Fledglings on my front door wreath'. Alan has designated Neighborhood Cooperative Ministries for his winners' award.



Ken Davis of Lakeshore Drive won the October contest with his picture titled Whale Tail Eagle. The charity to which he directed his prize is the American Parkinson's Disease Association. Many thanks to Ginny Nevins and Windsor Realty for sponsoring these awards and to Chris Kimberley and



Dov and Judy Jacobson for managing this effort in our city.



I have two **Berkeley Lake businesses** to feature today, and they both are in the same location. **Touchstone Therapeutic** now offers infrared sauna and red light therapy. Health benefits include detox, joint pain relief, reduced inflammation and muscle recovery. Individual sessions and packages are available. Call Linda Craig at 770-316-0582 for more info.

Also at this location, **Honey Locust Cove**, founded by esthetician Christian Holcombe, is a botanical skincare studio offering fascia-focused facials. Drawing from training in herbalism, esthetics and bodywork, Christian's approach supports skin health from within— guided by the belief that skin health and nervous system regulation are deeply intertwined. Booking is available online at www.vagaro.com/honeylocustcove, or by phone at 828-808-1062. Gift cards are available for purchase on the website!

This month's **Fun Fact about Berkeley Lake**: [realtor.com](https://www.realtor.com) is writing about us as the wealthiest small town in Georgia. Here's the article. <https://www.realtor.com/news/trends/richest-small-town-in-every-state/>

Lois D. Salter