

Historic Downtown

DAWSONVILLE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Est. 1859 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Your Government

Newly elected

The results of the 2023 election brought the City a new Mayor and a new Councilmember. John Walden, former Councilmember for Post 3, ran unopposed and was elected Mayor. Sandy Sawyer, who formerly served on the Planning Commission ran unopposed and was elected to Post 3.



Mayor John Walden



*Councilmember Sandy Sawyer
Post 3*

2024 Mayor and City Council



Front Row:
Will Illg, Post 2; Mayor John Walden; Mark French, Post 4
Back Row:
Sandy Sawyer; Post 3, Caleb Phillips, Post 1

City Administration



bob.bolz@dawsonville-ga.gov

beverly.banister@dawsonville-ga.gov

robin.gazaway@dawsonville-ga.gov

trampas.hansard@dawsonville-ga.gov

jacob.barr@dawsonville-ga.gov

amanda.edmondson@dawsonville-ga.gov

planning@dawsonville-ga.gov

Dawsonville Skate Park



Our extremely popular skate park receives such high usage that we had to expand it to meet the needs of our citizens. Our original park was located on a small pad containing just a few elements. Those elements were moved from its location near Food Lion to a new location next to North Georgia Assisted Living on Memory Lane. The expansion included several new elements on a larger pad. The new location has a steady stream of users and offers room for future growth should we need it.

The Station House



The Station House opened in August, with lines out the door. Offering meat plus 3, daily specials, and a family friendly atmosphere, the restaurant has quickly become a town favorite.

GRANDDADDY MIMM'S DISTILLING CO.

BLAIRSVILLE, GA



With the opening of Granddaddy Mimm's in October, the City of Dawsonville welcomed a second new business to our complex. The newest addition celebrates Dawsonville's history and offers visitors a unique experience.

Honoring Our Veterans



Three times per year our Public Works Department teams up with our Utilities Department to place flags around the City of Dawsonville, honoring our veterans and the sacrifices they have made.

Utilities



The Utilities Department is comprised of garbage service, wastewater treatment and collection, and water treatment and distribution. The Director and the crews are devoted to providing uninterrupted services to the residents of Dawsonville, and take great pride in the quality of the work they perform.

Public Works



The City of Dawsonville's Public Works is dedicated to providing outstanding service while maintaining the City's infrastructure, buildings and grounds, protecting the environment and providing essential services to residents, businesses, and visitors. Public Works handles animal control, building maintenance, cemeteries, roads and sidewalks, and stormwater. The Public Works staff strives to ensure the health and well-being of all residents in an effort to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations.

Community Involvement



We expanded the community supported food bank in an effort to meet the growing food insecurity in our community.

Mayor Walden, the City Council, and the entire staff at the City of Dawsonville are dedicated to the service of the citizens of Dawsonville. In an effort to meet the needs of our fellow citizens, our staff initiates and participates in community-based projects. We strive to meet the ever changing, fundamental needs in multiple ways.



Community Events



Gospel Music Festival



Food Truck Fridays



Family Fair



Farmers Market



Jingle Market



Tent of Hope



Tree Lighting



Mountain Moonshine Festival



Ghosts of Racing Haunted House

Food Truck Friday

Beginning in May, the City hosts the community event Food Truck Friday. The event is held from 5PM-8PM at the farmers market, located on Allen Street.





Good Shepherd Clinic SCARECROW *fest* 2024



Staff participated in the Christmas parade, sponsored by the Dawson County Chamber of Commerce. This year's theme was How the Grinch Stole Christmas.





Mayor John Walden
Invites You To a Social

CELEBRATING

— 165 YEARS —
SINCE THE FOUNDING
OF THE
CITY OF DAWSONVILLE

December 2nd, 2024

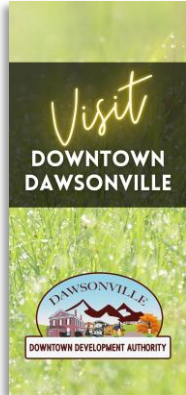
DROP IN BETWEEN 6PM & 8PM
FOLLOWING THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD AT THE GORDON PIRKLE ROOM
IN THE CITY HALL COMPLEX

415 HWY 53 E
DAWSONVILLE, GA 30554

Light Refreshments
Will be Served



Downtown Development – Promotion & Events



Main Street Park
305 Main Street

LOCAL HISTORY & CULTURE
FREE CONCERT SERIES

Gospel in the Park

Featuring Local Southern Gospel Music Artists:
Randy & Mary Perry, The Raven Welch Band,
Debra Perry & Jaidyn's Call, Karen Peck & New River

Thanks to our Event Sponsors!

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH

Plus Food Trucks & a Gift Market for Mom!

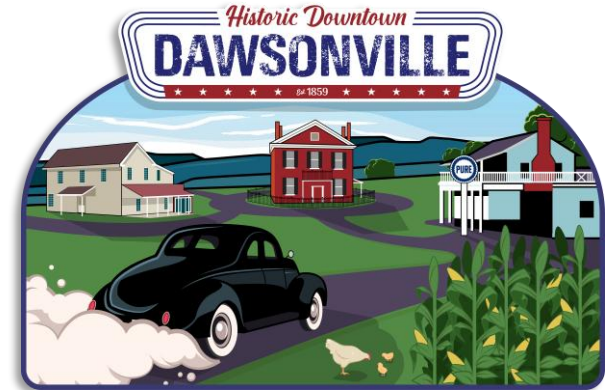
Sat. May 11th, 1-6 PM
Bring the Whole Family & Lawn Chairs

DDA 2024 UPDATE

Thank you to the City of Dawsonville for promoting the vitality of our local economy and quality of life.

Promotion	Economic Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Website: 2,837+ Views (AS OF 4-11-24) Downtown Brochures: 1,000+ Distributed Self-Guided Tour: 688+ Views (AS OF 4-11-24) Branded Signage: 12,590+ Views Daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Business Development: 2 New Businesses Enabled by DDA Grants in 2024 1,200 SF Renovated Commercial Space Up to 14 New Jobs Existing Business Retention: 1 Existing Business Expansion Enabled by the DDA Grant in 2023 2,950 SF Renovated Commercial Space 3 Jobs Retained 2 New Jobs Created One Success Breeds Another: Recent Privately Renovated Downtown Businesses & More Underway! 7,955 SF Renovated Commercial Space GRHoF Expansion Coming Soon! GRANDDADY MIMM'S DISTILLING CO.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Brand Recognition: 80,000 Guaranteed Views Two New Community Events / Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Projects for Future Success Long-Range Comprehensive Strategic Plan Completion 4 Key Business Incubation Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannery / Shared Kitchen • Shared Office Space • Pocket Market • Makerspaces • Food Hall Unprecedented Public Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUBLIC MTS ATTENDANCE : 83+ • STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS : 110+

www.downtowndawsonville.com



THE LIGHT UP DAWSONVILLE 2023 TOUR OF LIGHTS

Thanks to all who have participated in making this the BRIGHTEST community in every way possible!

Brenda Horton
RESIDENCE CATEGORY
132 Garden St.

Jack P. Jones
RESIDENCE CATEGORY
133 Short Creek Court

Light-Up Dawsonville Community Decorating Contest

CATEGORIES: WINNERS \$300 EACH

- BEST INDIVIDUAL HOME | \$25 ENTRY FEE
- BEST BUSINESS | \$50 ENTRY FEE
- BEST CHURCH - NON-PROFIT - GOV | \$50 ENTRY FEE
- BEST OVERALL NEIGHBORHOOD | \$100 ENTRY FEE

PLUS A GIFT BASKET FOR THE "PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER"

ENTER BY DECEMBER 16TH
WINNERS ANNOUNCED ONLINE NOV. 20TH

Downtown Development – Economic Development

DOWNTOWN DAWSONVILLE
Rural Zone Strategic Plan & Feasibility Study

Official Rural Zone Map for City of Dawsonville



THE HIGHLAND GROUP

BORN TO SHINE
Historic Downtown
DAWSONVILLE

Why Downtown Dawsonville?

For Inquiries Contact:
Amanda M. Edmondson
Director of Downtown Development
amanda.edmondson@dawsonville-ga.gov
OFFICE: 706-203-4922
CELL: 404-735-5896

APALACHIAN TRAIL
AMICALOLA FALLS
GRHF BAMP
OUTLET MALL
DAWSONVILLE
LAKE LANIER
ATLANTA

DAWSONVILLE
DAWSON COUNTY
GEORGIA

FIRST DRAFT
CITY OF DAWSONVILLE
Dawsonville, Georgia

Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Prepared for:
City of Dawsonville
415 Highway 53 East, Suite 100
Dawsonville, Georgia 30034

Prepared by:
WLA Studio
675 Pulaski Street, Suite 1000
Athens, Georgia 30601

August 2024

Small Business Development Center
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

THE MYTHS & REALITIES OF FUNDING YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

If thinking about financing your business makes your head spin, we're here to help.

This program will delve into the common myths and misconceptions as well as discuss the realities many entrepreneurs face in funding their small businesses.

The facilitators will also cover the new State Small Business Credit Initiative program, designed to support small businesses' access to capital, in addition to covering other various types of financing including conventional bank loans, SBA-guaranteed loans, private equity, specialty lending programs and grant funding.

To register, scan the QR code above or visit: <https://ugsbdc.training.uga.edu/0502-002>

Program Partner: Community Affairs
Local Participating SBA Lenders: ACTION OPPORTUNITY FUND

Wednesday, Jan. 17
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dawsonville City Hall
Conference Room
415 Hwy 53 E
Dawsonville, GA 30534

No Cost Program

This program is brought to you thanks to a partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs State Small Business Credit Initiative.

DAWSON COUNTY TAE
Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education

WORK SOURCE GEORGIA
Georgia Mountains

Small Business Development Center
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

IGY6 COFFEE

Peachy Paws Pet Spa
706-912-4996

DAWSONVILLE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Purple Corn Boutique



Downtown Dawsonville Project Development

Joanna Zwemke, Andrew Purcell, Amanda Edmondson
PIN Summer Internship 2024



Project Designs



Cause and Effect

- Monument designs highlight nationally significant events from Dawsonville



Streetscape Murals

- Murals on crosswalks, medians, and curb extensions in Downtown Dawsonville



Hall of Local Heroes

- Public art installations honoring influential community figures from Dawsonville



Historic Scavenger Hunt

- Painted "markers" that connect historic buildings to an online Story Map

Project Impacts

- Capacity Building
- Community Outreach
- Economic Development
- Historical Preservation
- Long-range Planning
- Placemaking
- Transportation Planning

Outcomes

- 1** COMMUNITY SERVED
- 3** Public Presentations Given
- 4** Projects Approved by City Council
- 71** Supporters from Public Voting
- 590** Reached Through Social Media
- \$50,000** Applied for in Grant Funds

Project Overview

Summary

From the Downtown Dawsonville Comprehensive Strategic Plan, we initiated a Public Space Master Plan. Within this plan, we designed these four projects.

Community Partner

This summer we partnered with the City of Dawsonville and worked under the Downtown Development Director, Amanda Edmondson.

Our Role

Throughout the internship, we had a wide range of responsibilities. Our ultimate goal was to help facilitate high quality of life in Downtown Dawsonville. Responsibilities included:

- Developing shovel-ready public space projects.
- Contributing to brand and logo development.
- Increasing social media presence.
- Collaborating with the Historic Resource Survey.
- Engaging in public outreach and inclusivity.
- Identifying potential grant funding.

Future leaders helping us connect us to our past...

This summer the City of Dawsonville applied and was accepted to employ two bright and talented students through the Georgia Tech Center for Innovation PIN Internship program to work on bringing life to 2 strategic plan projects: Joanna Zwemke from UNG, and Andrew Purcell from Berry College. Joanna worked to design a streetscape mural project concept that would both beautify and increase safety for the historic square, as well as link to our local history online story-map. Andrew worked to design art installations intended to interpret local history through public art for our future living history trail, including an interactive display recognizing Dawsonville's national impact and a "Hall of local Heroes" recognizing individuals who made a local impact. This would also connect to our online story-map and on-going oral history program. To learn more about these projects visit downtowndawsonville.com and Instagram at [@downtown_dawsonville](https://www.instagram.com/downtown_dawsonville).

LAND USE SUMMARY

ABOUT

This project seeks to preserve and interpret Dawsonville's history through public art in a goal established in the Comprehensive Downtown Strategic Plan. Within this plan, our master-planned Future Town Center includes a "Living History Trail" park project where art pieces spotlight historic Dawsonville influencers (Hall of Local Heroes) and events of national significance (Cause and Effect). The featured installations designs, created by Andrew Purcell, will each link to QR code to oral histories and additional documentation online.



Q&A

Who is Paying for This?
This project will seek grant funding or fundraise independently.

What is a QR Code?
A QR code is a type of barcode that smartphones can scan with their camera to quickly access information.

Where Will the Park Be Located?
The Living Park will be located west of the C&DPC and extend through the Future Town Center, just below the Historic Downtown. Refer to the image above from the proposed master plan.

LIVING HISTORY TRAIL CONCEPT (IN FUTURE TOWN CENTER)

CAUSE AND EFFECT



HALL OF LOCAL HEROES



CAST YOUR VOTE AND GIVE SUGGESTIONS WITH STICKERS BELOW.

DO YOU SUPPORT THIS PROJECT?

YES
NO

WHO SHOULD BE IN THE HALL OF LOCAL HEROES?



Joanna Zwemke
University of North Georgia



Andrew Purcell
Berry College

Community Resources



— DAWSON COUNTY —
family connection™




THE PLACE
PROGRAMS & SERVICES

<p>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RENT UTILITIES PRESCRIPTIONS TRANSPORTATION 	<p>FOOD PANTRY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRESH PRODUCE MEATS DAIRY NON-PERISHABLES 	<p>DAILY ESSENTIALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOTHING & SHOES FURNITURE TOILETRIES & HYGIENE PRODUCTS BABY PRODUCTS
<p>SENIORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY GROCERY SHOPPING MINOR HOME REPAIRS WEEKLY CHECK-INS 	<p>HOMELESS SUPPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TENTS SHOWERS HYGIENE KITS EMERGENCY FOOD BAGS 	<p>YOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCHOOL ESSENTIALS YEAR-ROUND SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM PAID INTERNSHIPS
<p>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAREER COACHING RESUME ASSISTANCE GED AND ESL CLASSES FOKRLIFT TRAINING FINANCIAL LITERACY 	<p>ASSISTANCE WITH GOVERNMENT APPLICATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FOOD STAMPS (SNAP) MEDICAID CHILD CARE (CCAPS) TANF WIC 	

Scan Me for help 

theplacega.org | 770-887-1098 | clientassist@theplacega.org

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE



We Care DAWSON

There is hope.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

ARE YOU UNSHELTERED OR DISPLACED?

JOIN US FOR A MEAL!
ON TUESDAY, JULY 23RD
1 PM-5 PM
AT THE DAWSON COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
671 LUMPKIN CAMPGROUND RD. S.
DAWSONVILLE, GA 30534

SUPPORTED BY:
DAWSON COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
STREET EXIT - NINTH DISTRICT OPPORTUNITY
REAL LOVE NOW GLOBAL
LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CALL/TEXT KEVIN KENNEDY (678) 738-7478

STUFF THE BUS

When you help STUFF THE BUS you help a Dawson County student walk into school their first day prepared, confident and ready to EXCEL!



AMAZON WISHLIST  WALMART REGISTRY 

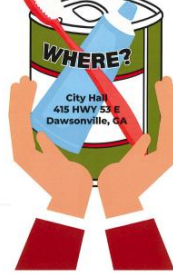
- SUPPLIES CAN BE ORDERED DIRECTLY THROUGH OUR AMAZON SALE WISHLIST OR OUR WALMART REGISTRY. ALL FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME AND ITEMS WILL BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO US FOR DISTRIBUTION!
- Items can also be dropped off at our office located at: **45 Medical Center Drive** (shared building with Good Shepherd Clinic)
- CONTACT US FOR A COLLECTION BIN!**
PO-816-988
stuffedawsonfamilyconnection.org
- IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION, PLEASE IT SEND TO: **DAWSON COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION**
PO BOX 872
DAWSONVILLE, GA 30534

family connection

CITY OF DAWSONVILLE FOOD BANK

FOOD DRIVE

LET'S FEED THE HUNGRY



WHAT WE NEED?

Household Toiletries:
Toothpaste
Toothbrush
Shampoo
Soap
Deodorant
Baby Items

Non-Perishable Food:
Unexpired
Shelf-stable
Cans Preferred

PLEASE BRING ALL ITEMS INSIDE CITY HALL
THANK YOU!

City Hall
415 HWY 53 E
Dawsonville, GA

ADDITIONAL EWIC AND FOOD STAMPS BENEFITS

DID YOU KNOW THAT GEORGIA HAS ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR EWIC, MEDICAID, AND FOOD STAMPS PARTICIPANTS?

THESE BENEFITS AND PERKS INCLUDE:

- AMAZON PRIME DISCOUNT
- DISCOUNTED PHONE AND INTERNET PLANS
- DISCOUNTED TICKETS TO SELECT ATTRACTIONS

Scan the QR Code to see all of the discounts and benefits at georgiafoodstamps.org




Throughout the year, the City of Dawsonville strives to provide our citizens with the resources necessary to improve their quality of life. The Food Bank located in front of City Hall, which is supported by donations, has been expanded to meet the needs of our community. We encourage you to use these, and other available services provided to you in our community.



Ninth District Opportunity
Community Action Agency