***INSTRUCTIONS: The following email can be sent to Gwinnett County commissioners to show your support for establishing recycling drop-off locations in Gwinnett. Simply edit the body of the email here and copy and paste it into a blank email in your email program.***

***Not sure who to contact? Find your*** [***commission district***](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/web/gwinnett/departments/boardofcommissioners/districtmap) ***and*** [***commissioners’ contact information***](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/web/gwinnett/departments/boardofcommissioners/aboutyourcommissioners)***.***

**Email Subject: Comprehensive Recycling Drop-Offs Needed in Gwinnett**

Dear Commissioner [NAME],

I live in your district but have cc’d the other Gwinnett county commissioners here since these issues are countywide.

I am writing with a request for the Commission to evaluate potential sites and partners to establish permanent, comprehensive recycling drop-off sites in the county. As you know, since the list of accepted materials in the curbside recycling stream shrank again in June 2020, this time restricting acceptable plastics after removing glass from the stream in 2018, there are now very few items that can be recycled curbside at home—and many apartment dwellers don’t have access to curbside recycling at all.

In a county of more than 400 square miles, we currently have one comprehensive recycling drop-off center that is open to the public, the Snellville Recycling Center that is generously run by the City. I appreciate the county’s implementation and expansion of glass recycling drop-offs, but there are still too many other recyclable materials besides glass that at risk of entering local landfills.

**[Customize this section to add your personal perspective:]** In recent months I have driven from Norcross where I live to the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds for drop-off of paint, car batteries and hazardous waste, to Lilburn City Hall for paper shredding, to Norcross Public Works for glass drop-off, and to a Lawrenceville friend with my ‘non-curbsidable’ plastics for her run to a recycling center in south Atlanta. Not only did my driving add to greenhouse gases, *it just shouldn’t be this hard!*

Gwinnett should follow the lead of other neighboring communities and make recycling drop-off centers available throughout the county to collect more household waste. These centers could collect items such as glass, a much fuller spectrum of plastics, scrap metal, electronics, mattresses, tires, and even household hazardous waste such as cleaners and paint. A great model is Atlanta’s [Center for Hard to Recycle Materials](http://livethrive.org/charm/) (CHaRM). Centers such as these are proven to discourage illegal dumping and promote much higher landfill diversion in a community.

In the absence of convenient recycling drop-off centers within the county, Gwinnett County leaders are effectively telling residents to landfill the materials listed above. At a time when the global problems associated with the waste we produce are reaching crisis levels, this isn’t an option. Instead, please support Gwinnettians in beautifying, enhancing, and protecting our community while increasing the supply of recycled materials sought and needed by Georgia-based manufacturers.

Thank you for your support,

[YOUR NAME]
[YOUR HOME ADDRESS]