

The following is a list of some of the more significant community issues addressed by WAAC/WGOV/WGUN for the quarter specified. This listing is by no means complete, nor is the order in which these issues appear, intended to imply any degree of priority or significance of the issues.

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT: WGOV FM

1st  2nd  3rd  4th 2024

1. Issue:  Date/Time:  Duration:

We are in a housing crisis. Lawmakers have introduced a bill that would allow Georgia cities and counties to enact rent control which will limit rent increases levied by landlords. This is very necessary here in that landlords charge high rent to VSU students thereby setting the price per rental out of reach for local citizens. A bill to require landlords to structures with working plumbing, running water, heating, ventilation and working locks has passed.

2. Issue:  Date/Time:  Duration:

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic the city of Valdosta began requiring people to take their recyclables to different locations. But residents are looking for the city of Valdosta to return to curbside recycling. The city did not say whether the curbside recycling program would return, but they still want to encourage people to recycle by creating more options for residents like several central bin placements around Valdosta.

3. Issue:  Date/Time:  Duration:

A prank call called 'Swatting' is an unlawful request for emergency services assistance. A person who makes a swatting call can be charged with a misdemeanor of a 'high and aggravated nature.' If the swatting interferes with critical infrastructure it becomes a felony punishable by incarceration for no less than 5 years and no more than 10 years, a \$100,000 fine, or both. Is this really enough to stop the potential danger.

4. Issue:  Date/Time:  Duration:

Measles cases are up around the United States, with some reported in Georgia according to the CDC. Most of the national cases occurred in children without a measles vaccination. The incubation period for measles is typically 7-14 days and can be as long as 21 days. When 100 susceptible people are exposed to the virus 90 will contract it. The CDC notified doctors to be on high alert for all symptoms of measles.

5. Issue:  Date/Time:  Duration:

Measles is a highly contagious disease. According to the CDC the common symptoms of the measles are a high fever, which may spike to 104° degrees, cough, runny nose, red watery eyes and a rash, which typically begins 3-5 days after symptoms begin. The CDC asked doctors to avoid keeping suspected individuals with the virus in waiting rooms for long periods of time.

6. Issue: VALDOSTA STRUGGLING BACK Date/Time: 02/26 2024 2P Duration: 1 HR

Valdosta and area residents are still fighting after 180 days after Hurricane Idalia, losing some social service resources. and other crises effecting far too many people. The closure of Valdosta's original soup kitchen has been hard on the homeless and locals that depended on it for food. In fact inflation is hurting everyone financially. The gas tax suspension ending was a blow. Our local government is not helping. DSNAP is gone. The system is broken.

7. Issue: POSSIBLE ANNEXATION Date/Time: 03/04/2024 2P Duration: 1 HR

Lowndes County Residents Against Annexation organization has proven no one wants the annexation of 2 parts of Lowndes annexed into the city of Valdosta making it too close to the city of Columbus' eastern and southern borders. Annexation would increase property taxes and make now-county residents subject to city ordinances. Shooting ranges, hunting and bonfires after dark would necessitate a permit. People do not want this.

8. Issue: FLOOD SAFETY WEEK Date/Time: 03/11/2024 2P Duration: 1 HR

This week in flood safety week. Lowndes County Emergency Management encourages residents to use this time to learn about and prepare for possible floods. It is important to have communication plans and safety measures in place due to sudden floods. In the past five years Georgia has recorded over 780 flood reports, causing \$12.8 million in damages. This week learn about and prepare for possible floods

9. Issue: FLOOD SAFETY PREPAREDNESS Date/Time: 03/18/2024 2P Duration: 1 HR

Flood risks and preparation are key. Plan and practice flood safety drills with your families and neighbors. Call one another to make certain that everyone is aware of the plan. flood safety, the risks of driving through floodwaters, understanding flood hazards, using National Weather Service resources, and tune in to WAAC FM and WGOV FM for continuous live reports during all weather events.

10. Issue: IS OUR MILK IN GEORGIA SAFE Date/Time: 03/25/2024 2P Duration: 1 HR

Georgians can and should feel confident that the milk products in their local grocery store are safe and wholesome. Some dairy cattle in the Texas panhandle region tested positive for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture said no cattle in Georgia had been impacted by HPAI. This situation does not represent a threat to public health at present. Georgia milk producers are testing and being proactive.