

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: WAAC FM

 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

2023

1. Issue: OCTOBER SNAP PAYMENTS

Date/Time: 10/03/2023

Duration: 1 HR

Peach State food stamp payments are on odd days from the 5th through the 23rd of each month and paid by client ID numbers. To qualify for food stamps in Georgia, the maximum annual income for a household of one in Georgia is \$18,954, and for a household of five in Georgia, the maximum annual income is \$45,682. SNAP benefits in Georgia may be used to purchase food, groceries to prepare meals, and plants or seeds.

2. Issue: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 'CALL THE HAVEN'

Date/Time: 10/10/2023

Duration: 1 HR

Our community needs to help victims reach out to the Haven before DV results in injury or death. The Haven representatives said that they serve victims in the nine surrounding counties who need assistance with the transition from domestic violence situations. The Haven's services are confidential and they walk you through what your rights are. The Haven provides 24-hour temp shelter to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

3. Issue: HURRICANE IDALIA STIMULUS CHECK UPDATE

Date/Time: 10/24/2023

Duration: 1 HR

The Georgia Department of Revenue announced that some residents in the state affected by Hurricane Idalia can claim an amount of \$500 in rebates from the state's Surplus Tax Refund. Single filer or married but filing separately can receive an amount of \$250, \$375 for heads of household, and \$500 for married taxpayers filing jointly. Those who qualified for the rebates have until February to file their 2021 or 2022 to receive their rebates.

4. Issue: NEW EPA RULES FOR MEDIUM & HEAVY TRUCKS

Date/Time: 11/07/2023

Duration: 1 HR

Groups that fight climate change are asking the Environmental Protection Agency to adopt ambitious new greenhouse-gas emissions rules for medium- and heavy-duty trucks – which would incentivize the transition to electric trucks. According to climate change activists, the total U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions is 29% comes from transportation and 23% of that comes from medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. Do your research please.

5. Issue: INNER PERIMETER ROAD BUSINESS EXPANSIONS

Date/Time: 11/14/2023

Duration: 1 HR

Valdosta has had an expansion of new businesses on Inner Perimeter Road. Staten Station is just one of the plazas located on the Inner Perimeter that have been developed to provide residents and travelers with several drive-through food options, quick shopping, and grocery options. As major retailers and businesses continue to bring traffic to areas of north Valdosta small business owners are beginning to see the impact on their businesses.

6. Issue: HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER IN VALDOSTA Date/Time: 11/21/2023 Duration: 1 HR

The Georgia Housing Choice voucher will help 13,000, but over 125,000 residents have applied for that assistance. According to the Valdosta Housing Authority and Housing and Urban Development for Georgia, demand is 4 to 5 times greater than supply right now. This doesn't account for other housing assistance agencies like LAMP. The GDCA has awarded the Valdosta Housing Authority \$1 million to bring an affordable housing complex to the city.

7. Issue: DOUBLE SSI PAYMENTS IN DECEMBER BUT.. Date/Time: 11/28/2023 Duration: 1 HR

December's upcoming double payment is a result of the scheduling policy of the SSA, which advances payments when the usual disbursement date falls on a weekend or a federal holiday. However, this means that there will be no SSI payment in January. The Social Security Administration has begun sending out notices earlier this month. These communications detail the revised payment amounts for 2024.

8. Issue: SAFETY TIPS FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING Date/Time: 12/05/2023 Duration: 1 HR

Law enforcement in our area want to make sure that all of us can shop, dine and entertain safely and in peace. Please stay alert. DO not leave packages and personal items inside your vehicle where they can be readily seen. If you must leave an item in your vehicle, place the item in the trunk or a cargo area with a cover. Always secure your items, lock your vehicle, and double-check that you've taken all the necessary precautions.

9. Issue: ONLINE SHOPPING SAFETY Date/Time: 12/12/2023 Duration: 1 HR

Shop on familiar websites and apps as often as possible. Only purchase from secure sites. Supply as little personal data as you can. Always use strong passwords. Only shop online with a credit card, and keep an eye out for fraudulent charges. Browse wisely, using updated devices and avoiding public hotspots. Vet the products you buy and the businesses you buy from before you make a purchase. Keep track of what you order.

10. Issue: HOLIDAY HEALTH AND SAFETY Date/Time: 12/19/2023 Duration: 1 HR

It's the most wonderful time of the year, so don't let illness, injury, overindulgence, or an accident keep you from celebrating a happy, healthy holiday season with your family and friends. The holidays don't need to take a toll on your health and pocketbook. Keep your commitments and spending in check. Don't drink and drive, and don't let someone else drink and drive. Seek professional help if seasonal depression becomes too overwhelming.