



Oakwood – Hall County

Bright Future for Visitors & Residents

Harkening back to 1873 when it was known as Odell's Crossing, a railroad stop for wood-burning locomotives picking up essential fuel (oak wood), Oakwood was incorporated about 30 years later in 1903. It soon gained a reputation as a bustling burg with industries including brick-making and bottle-making, and was once home to boarding houses, shops and even a hotel.

Today, Oakwood is all about the future: The city's 2030 master plan is taking shape, with a town commons, neighborhood village and a commercial center – all connected by greenspace, nature trails and a parkway – in progress. It is conveniently located near Lake Lanier and ushers visitors into Road Atlanta and Lanier National Speedway via an improved exit. Oakwood has a strong educational base – a tradition that continues with the area's new "Hospitality High" – and is home to unique boutiques, including Nest Feathers, and the very active Gainesville Theatre Alliance, not to mention several well-known and trusted brand name chain hotels, including Comfort Inn and Country Inn and Suites.



New Hospitality Haven! "Hospitality High" – Lanier Charter Career Academy
High School Hospitality Training · Student-run retail and restaurants
www.HallCo.org/theoaks

New Renovations! Maximum Paintball extends Hyperball Field
Premier bring-your-own-paint facility · Hilly, bunkered, sequestered amidst trees
Updated Xball and City Field · Pro Shop
www.Maximum-Paintball.com

Reunions and Special Events! 2 Community Rooms for up to 55 People
Family Gatherings · City Park Location · Community Pool for Summer Months



fingertip facts

- Oakwood originated around 1873 as a railroad stop between Charlotte, N.C. and Atlanta, and was incorporated in 1903.
- Oakwood has grown by over 62% since 2000 with more planned growth in the coming years.



- The Gainesville Theatre Alliance, founded 1979-80, is a collaboration of Gainesville State College, Brenau University and the NE Georgia Community.

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story ideas

The future is coming to Oakwood

Welcome to Future World: Oakwood 2030. Things are shaping up in this small but emerging town in southern Hall County. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, Oakwood is embracing carefully planned growth while establishing its own unique character to emerge as a vibrant town. Plans call for a town commons, neighborhood village and a commercial center – all connected by greenspace, nature trails and a parkway – and city planners are happy to share their vision and carefully mapped out progress.

Hospitality taught and served here

Once home to one of the finest historical institutes of higher learning in North Georgia, the Oakwood Academy – a school that drew students from across North Georgia back in the early 20th century – Oakwood not only embraces its rich scholarly heritage, but continues the tradition today. Two of North Georgia's most recognized colleges, Lanier Technical College and Gainesville State College, are located in Oakwood and now it is home to Lanier Charter Career Academy, a.k.a. Hospitality High. A high school focusing on hospitality training, Hospitality High has a store-front campus comprising student-run restaurants and retail shops showcasing student-made products that are open to the public. Behind-the-scenes – at the back of the campus – is where hands-on hospitality is taught.

Character Profile: The Brothers Roberts

Third generation custom cabinetmakers, the Roberts brothers (Jerry, Tommy and Kenneth) also make award-winning turkey calls from their workshop at Roberts Brothers Custom Cabinets workshop in Oakwood. The calls are used in national turkey calling contests, including the Grand National Friction Calling Championship where Justin Savage, a Roberts Brothers Pro Staffer from Gainesville, Ga., used a Roberts Brothers Hunter Model 100 call several years ago to outscore the competition. Roberts Brothers Turkey Calls® have been featured on TV and in outdoor magazines, including *Field & Stream* – which calls the turkey call “Best of the Test.” Believe it or not, live turkeys are seen wandering around the wooded perimeter of the workshop, responding to the practice calls coming from within.



media services

Familiarization Tours
Press Releases
Story Ideas
Character Profiles
Interviews
Calendar of Events



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