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- Driver's License
dds.ga.gov (404) 657-9300
- Metro Atlanta Chamber
metroatlantachamber.com (404) 880-9000
- Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau
atlanta.net (404) 521-6600
- Atlanta Board of Realtors
abr.org (404) 250-0051
- Department of Driver Services
dds.ga.gov (770) 528-5400
- Cobb County Voter Registration
cobbelections.org (770) 528-2300
- Acworth Area Convention and Visitor's
Bureau Authority
acworthtourism.org (770) 974-8813
- Cobb Chamber of Commerce
cobbchamber.org (770) 980-2000
- Cobb County Convention and Visitors Center
cobbcbv.com (800) 451-3481
- Marietta Welcome Center and Visitors Bureau
mariettasquare.com (770) 420-1115

Welcome to Cobb County



CommunityProfiles

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About First Multiple Listing Service

First Multiple Listing Service, Inc. (FMLS) is the premier data services provider for real estate professionals in Georgia. FMLS was founded by a handful of real estate brokers in Atlanta in 1957. Today, membership is growing quickly and is spreading in every direction throughout Georgia. Currently, FMLS serves more than 56,000 real estate agents. PERMISSIONS: Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission. Requests for permission should be directed to Wieland Communications, Inc. Dept. of Rights and Permissions, 10800 Alpharetta Highway, Suite 208 Roswell, GA 30076. Information in this publication is based on authoritative data available through local sources at the time of printing and is subject to change without notice. Every effort has been made to ensure that all information is accurate. However, some information is subject to change after the magazine's publication. We regret any inconvenience this may create for our readers. We welcome reader input and suggestions.

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COBB COUNTY, your new home.

WELCOME HOME!

Cobb County, the fourth largest county in Georgia at nearly 350 square miles, is more than just part of the metro Atlanta area. It is a place rich in history, culture and entertainment, a leader in business and education and a great place for people of all ages to call home.

The history of Cobb spans nearly 185 years. The state legislature founded the county in 1832 after confiscating the land from Cherokee Nation—nearly five years before the city of Atlanta was established. It was named for former U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator and Georgia Superior Court Judge Thomas W. Cobb. Marietta, the county's seat, was founded just two years later. When the construction of the railroad line began, shanty towns for workers evolved into permanent settlements, which eventually became some of the county's first towns. In the pre-Civil War years, parts of the county like Marietta and Powder Springs enjoyed popularity as resort towns due to the area's unique geographical features.

Like many parts of Georgia, Cobb County played an important role during the Civil War, as part of Gen. Sherman's route from Chattanooga to Atlanta. The most well known local battle, the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, occurred on June 27, 1864. Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston and his troops were attempting to protect their position near the railroads leading to Atlanta. The two-week battle resulted in 3,000 Union casualties and only 1,000 Confederate casualties. Despite his losses, Sherman continued south into Atlanta, burning many towns and crops along the way. After the war ended, the entire area began to rebuild, and industry replaced farming as the primary economic engine. In the early 1940s, the federal government opened a plant to manufacture B-29 bombers. Although the plant closed after World War II, it reopened during the Korean War and was subsequently renamed Dobbins Air Force Base. Nearby Lockheed Martin Aeronautics led the nation in the manufacture of military transport planes. Even today, it is still one of the top employers in the county due to its Department of Defense contracts.

Cobb County boasts a temperate climate, with hot summers and cool—but not too cold—winters. In the spring, dogwoods, Bradford pears and azaleas burst into bloom and stay lush and green throughout the summer months. Fall in the area is marked with bright oranges and reds on the trees.

Only in Cobb County

In the 1960s and 1970s, the population of Cobb County exploded, as more and more people left the city for the suburbs, and it has been steadily growing ever since. Now with a population of nearly 750,000, the county holds vast influence in the metro area. As the site of The Home Depot's global headquarters, as well as numerous other industries both large and small, the county is widely known as a business-friendly area. In January 2014, the Cobb Chamber of Commerce, which has more than 2,500 members, was awarded 5-Star Accreditation from the United States Chamber of Commerce, putting it in the top 1 percent of chambers in the country.

In addition to traditional businesses, Cobb also has some unique economic attributes. While sometimes overshadowed by Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, which has held the title of world's busiest airport for more than 10 years, Cobb is home to Cobb County International Airport. This public airport averages 475 takeoffs and landings each day, making it the third busiest airport in the state.

Education is another priority in Cobb. As the 24th largest district in the country, the Cobb County School District operates 112 schools, while the Marietta City Schools system operates 11. Students who want to stay local have plenty of options when it comes to institutes of higher learning, with Kennesaw State University and Chattahoochee Technical College earning high marks in various fields.

While it is only 20 miles from downtown Atlanta, Cobb County has a vibe all its own. Its six incorporated cities—Acworth, Austell, Kennesaw, Marietta, Powder Springs and Smyrna—along with the unincorporated areas of Vinings and Mableton, strike a solid balance between honoring and preserving their history and welcoming innovation and change. Many of its municipalities, including Marietta and Smyrna, have old-fashioned town squares that host a variety of concerts, parades, festivals, farmers' markets and other events throughout the year.

In addition to their small-town sensibilities, many of Cobb's cities have been recognized for their efforts in everything from keeping residents healthy to operating strong family businesses. For example, the city of Kennesaw was named one of the 50 safest cities in Georgia and is also home to the Fit City Kennesaw initiative. This citywide initiative kicked off in 2011 in order to address the rising rates of obesity and other health concerns. With free outdoor workouts at area parks and a wide range of annual road races and other events, Fit City Kennesaw has earned local and national attention.

For many people who are relocating to the area, health care is a big concern. Fortunately, Cobb is home to WellStar Health Systems, which operates a number of hospitals, clinics and other facilities. WellStar Kennestone Hospital was the first in the state of use the CyberKnife and da Vinci robotic surgical systems to reduce scarring and recovery time for a variety of surgical procedures.

Health care is of particular concern to baby boomers, as they begin to retire. According to realtor.org, the number of Americans 65 or older will nearly double between now and 2030, and the share of the population that is 85 and older will increase by 52 percent. With that in mind, Cobb County has many resources for its older population as well. Many facilities are embracing the "aging in place" concept, which allows residents to stay at the same facility even as their health needs change. The unincorporated community of Mableton was

recently awarded the Lifelong Communities designation from the Atlanta Regional Commission. That means Mableton provides a wide range of housing options and parks, transportation alternatives for those who can no longer drive and services for older residents.

No matter their age, Cobb residents know how to have fun, and the county's many entertainment venues draw visitors from all over the metro area. World-class performing arts venues like the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre and the Six Flags and Six Flags White Water amusement parks provide access to some of the region's best performances and roller coasters.

The city of Atlanta hosts several professional teams, including the NBA's Atlanta Hawks and the NFL's Atlanta Falcons. In 2017, Cobb County—specifically the Cumberland/Galleria business district—is the new home for MLB's Atlanta Braves. Cobb County is the home to the MLS Champions, Atlanta United FC. Headquarters of the soccer team is in Marietta in the Gateway Marietta CID.

In addition to these venues, Cobb County has some unique geographical features that make it stand out from other parts of the metro area. Residents can water ski on Lake Acworth, sun



themselves on the beach, then hike a mountain or ride a bike all the way to Alabama. Locals also know how much fun it can be to “shoot the ‘Hooch,” or tube down the Chattahoochee River. As the only federally run national park in the area, the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is a great place to hike, bike, picnic or just take in stunning views and it has been the country’s top attended NBP. The Cobb County government oversees more than 30 parks, so recreation is never far away.

Like many other parts of the Atlanta area, Cobb County has myriad restaurants to satisfy every type of craving, with outposts of nearly every major chain restaurant as well as unique local fare.

In addition to some Cobb-only restaurants like Seed Kitchen & Bar, diners can also enjoy some of metro Atlanta’s best restaurants, like South City Kitchen, all without going inside the Perimeter. The burgeoning immigrant population in Cobb means that cuisine from every corner of the world is easy to find.

While the Atlanta housing market took a hit during the economic downturn, the suburban real estate market has bounced back to healthy levels. Housing options in Cobb run the gamut from new construction, single family homes, condos in historic areas, and apartments near the local colleges and universities. Prices are historically lower than within the Atlanta city limits, so buyers can get more for their money.

Business, culture, education, green space, town squares, easy access to the city of Atlanta—Cobb County truly has it all. Residents enjoy a high quality of life and make the most of the area’s geography, history and recreational opportunities. As a place that is both in touch with its history and looking forward to the future, Cobb has much to offer families, young professionals and retirees alike.



Courtesy of Cobb County Government



Welcome to the Peach State

By Brian Kemp,
Governor, Georgia

Georgia truly is one of the best places to live, work and do business. As we look to the future of this great state, we see thriving businesses, growing families, and a diverse population.

Georgia’s economy is dynamic, with many growing industry sectors from agriculture, aerospace, automotive, film, technology, tourism and beyond. Our low cost of living and quality of life are just two of the reasons that Georgia stands out to businesses and families across the country and around the world.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer Georgia businesses access to a highly skilled workforce. Our educational opportunities are endless with robust programs and degrees available through the University System of Georgia and Technical College System of Georgia, and top-notch workforce training programs that are second to none.

Our economic development successes lead to a stronger economy through job creation and investment opportunities. Our pro-business environment not only attracts new business, but also allows our existing industries to continue investing through job growth and expansion. Recent job announcements in Savannah, Augusta, Buford, Cartersville, Valdosta, and Douglasville proves that every corner of our state is ready to welcome job creators to their communities.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, comprising over 99% of all businesses in Georgia. In fact, small business owners recently awarded Georgia an A+ for our business-friendly licensing requirements, tax regulations, and labor and hiring regulations.

Through initiatives like the Georgians First Commission, Georgia will continue to make sure small businesses not only thrive in our state, but their products and services impact people around the world.

From world-renowned cities to welcoming rural communities, we are delighted to share our state with the millions of visitors who explore Georgia every year.

I am honored to be at the helm of this great state. I am committed to job creation, access to healthcare and educational opportunities for all Georgians. Working together, I know Georgia’s best days are ahead.



Cobb Association of Realtors

Michael Faulkner
CEO

The Cobb Association of REALTORS® (CAR) was founded in 1954 to promote the greatest good for customers, clients, and the community through the ethical practice of Real Estate. Today, CAR is comprised of nearly 2,300 Residential and Commercial Agents, Brokers, and Affiliate Members in and around Cobb County. CAR is one of 51 local associations that make up the Georgia Association of REALTORS® and its 51,000 members and the 1.5 million member National Association of REALTORS®.

Our Mission is to advance the Rights of Property Owners, The Prosperity of our Community, the Integrity of our Profession, and the Success of our Members.

Through our Mission, we are the Voice of Real Estate and the Defender of Private Property Rights for Cobb County. Our Members subscribe to a strict Code Of Ethics set forth by the National Association of

REALTORS®. We support many local charitable organizations, schools, events, and other business organizations.

CAR is overseen by a 14 Member volunteer Board of Directors, led by our 2022 President, Wendy Gravlin-Chambers, President-elect, Sierra Westrick, our Immediate Past President and four Vice Presidents directing the functional areas of Member Services, Professional Development, Governmental Affairs, and Finance & Operations.

Supporting the Board of Directors are 21 Committees, also led and populated by volunteer members, which develop and implement the programs and services in support of our Mission.

The administrative functions of the Association are handled by a small and dedicated full-time staff led by our new Association Executive, Michael Faulkner. Michael has had a distinguished thirty seven year career in the real estate industry as a commercial REALTOR® Broker, developer, and banker/mortgage banker. He has served in leadership roles at local, state, and national REALTOR® associations as well as at numerous charitable, governmental, and business boards and organizations.

Our Members are dedicated to serving our Cobb County clients and communities and we invite you to support us and our Mission. Do business with a REALTOR®.



First MLS Embraces Change to Serve the Real Estate Needs of Southeast Homebuyers and Sellers

By Jeremy Crawford,
President and Chief Executive Officer, First Multiple Listing Service

It's no secret that the real estate market has changed dramatically since the pandemic, yet Georgia and the surrounding states have held up remarkably well. Georgia has been named the best state to do business for ten years, and of course, that impacts the economic vitality of everyone in the region.

With interest rates forecasted to soften in the coming years, this should open up more home-buying opportunities. Real estate has always been considered one of the best long-term investments, and with new technology tools, an FMLS member can help turn this opportunity into reality for their buyers.

Jeremy Crawford leads FMLS as the President and CEO of the largest MLS in the state and one of the largest MLSs in the nation. It's also one of a handful of MLSs that are broker-owned and operated, which offers many advantages.

"In the past 5 years, FMLS has worked hard to increase your access to listing data and exposure of your listings to other professionals like no other MLS in the nation. With FMLS, you can access listings from over 350,000 real estate professionals nationwide, and your listings are exposed to more agents than any other MLS nation!"

We constantly are adding great tools to our technology suite, which helps to make real estate more accessible," according to Crawford.

"For example, to help those who are visually impaired, we've introduced Finding Homes by Lundy, which reads information about a property, such as descriptions, via voice. Not only does Finding Homes help Agents & Brokers, but their clients can use it anytime and for free. Its underlying technology is voice-to-text, which makes it an excellent tool for anyone who needs to focus on the road while driving," Crawford continues.

"FMLS members can also leverage the power of AI to real estate with Restb.AI. This saves time and provides better accuracy when inputting

listing data, as it creates editable automated captions for ALT-text tags for photos in seconds, helping ensure ADA compliance. It also creates generative property descriptions in FMLS-member websites.

Our members and their buyers can access Down Payment Resource, a platform that helps brokers and agents identify down payment assistance throughout the region. It's straightforward to use, costs nothing, and doesn't slow the closing process. It's a valuable tool for those who qualify for a home but may not be able to come up with the more traditional twenty percent down payment.

FMLS also provides members with RatePlug, which estimates the total payment of a property, including their mortgage payment, based upon real-time interest rates, taxes, and insurance, to provide homebuyers with a complete financial picture of the property they're interested in.

For the safety of our members and partners, FMLS now provides FOREWARN as a complimentary member benefit. FOREWARN is a safety app that allows Agents to verify risks before meeting an individual, such as before showing a listing, including verifying identities and viewing criminal history. In addition, we also provide integrated safety features within the ShowingTime+ and Supra eKEY apps. Agent and broker safety and security is one of FMLS' very highest priorities.

To stay on top of the required continuing education credits, we offer our members a wide range of free classes through the FMLS Training Institute, with in-person, on-demand, and Zoom classes. Members can now earn CE in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and South Carolina.

We're committed to providing the best service and experience for consumers and our members in one of the most collaborative and transparent environments. That's what people have come to expect from FMLS, and it drives us every day to deliver those promises," Crawford concludes.



Big on Business

Courtesy of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce

Cobb County is known for many things: top-notch schools, well-preserved historical sites and great parks. It is also a hub for many businesses, both large and small. The county's low tax rate and educated population base make it the perfect place to start a business or to seek a job with one that is already well-established. As the headquarters for such globally recognized brands as The Home Depot and the Weather Channel, Cobb County is known throughout the Atlanta metro area for being pro-business. In addition to being the hub for some of the world's most innovative companies, Cobb also boasts more than a few business that employ a large number of county residents, making it the perfect place to live, work and play. Here is a list of the 10 largest employers in Cobb, as compiled by the Cobb Chamber of Commerce.

The Home Depot

Industry: Retail, home improvement

Number of employees: 20,000

Founders Bernie Marcus and Arthur Blank opened their first one-stop do-it-yourself home improvement store in Atlanta in 1979. Despite its humble beginnings, The Home Depot now has 2,274 stores in the U.S., Canada, China and Mexico and is the world's largest home improvement specialty retailer. Its 2013 retail sales totaled some \$78.8 billion. With more than 300,000 employees worldwide, it ranks No. 33 on the Fortune 500 list and is one of the many Fortune 500 companies to call the metro area home. Having its headquarters in the Vinings area of Cobb has undoubtedly been a boom to the entire metro area.

Cobb County Public Schools

Industry: Public education

Number of employees: 13,500

It takes more than 13,000 employees to keep the 114 schools in one of the state's top school systems running at full speed. The system boasts a 85 percent graduation rate and has received numerous regional and national awards, including Georgia Schools

of Excellence and National Blue Ribbon Schools designations.

WellStar Health Systems

Industry: Health care

Number of employees: 20,000

Cobb County residents have many choices when it comes to health care, but many of them choose WellStar doctors and hospitals. With its five hospitals, seven urgent care centers and a host of other facilities and specialists across the county, WellStar's employees take good care of residents' health.

Lockheed Martin Aeronautics

Industry: Aeronautics, manufacturing

Number of employees: 5,400

Though it is based in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin's sprawling Marietta complex serves an important role in providing IT services and training to the Department of Defense and other vendors. Among other jobs, the more than 7,000 employees at the Marietta facility help to manufacture important parts for the military's F-35 fighter jets.



Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Courtesy of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce

Cobb County Government

Industry: Local government

Number of employees: 5,223

From running the county's senior centers to helping residents figure out how to pay their property taxes, the more than 5,000 employees who make up the county government are focused on making Cobb a great place to live.

Kennesaw State University

Industry: Education

Number of employees: 2,904

The state's third largest university is also one of Cobb's largest employers. Including all full and part-time workers, KSU employs more than 3,400 people to support is 30,480 undergraduate and graduate students.

Publix

Industry: Retail, grocery

Number of employees: 2,973

One of the more ubiquitous grocery stores in the metro area with 182 stores statewide, this Florida-based chain employs nearly 3,000 people in Cobb County alone. Publix also has manufacturing facilities in the cities of Atlanta (bakery) and Lawrenceville (dairy).

Six Flags Over Georgia

Industry: Amusement park

Number of employees: 3,000

While most of Six Flags' employees are seasonal, they help operate the largest theme park in the Southeast. Six Flags has 12 roller coasters, three interactive kids' areas and water rides, as well as entertainment venues and seasonal events like the annual Halloween Fright Fest.

Wal-Mart

Industry: Retail

Number of employees: 2,750

The Bentonville, Ark., discount retailer employs 1.4 million people in the U.S., and has a large presence all across Georgia. Of its 58,821 employees statewide, more than 3,000 of them are in Cobb County alone.

The Kroger Company

Industry: Retail, grocery

Number of employees: 2,150

Since the mid-1800s, this Cincinnati-based grocery chain has been providing customers with fresh foods. It now has more than 2,700 stores in 35 states and its annual sales top \$96 billion. Kroger has more than 170 stores in Georgia, and many of its 2,100 employees are based on Cobb County.



Getting Around The City

Cobb County is trisected by three major interstates: I-75, I-20 and I-285. That means commuters can easily travel to and from downtown Atlanta, as well as to some of the other outlying counties. The Galleria district between interstates 75 and 285 has quickly become one of the area's busiest business hubs, making it easy for commuters all over the area to get to work. In addition to its road systems, the county also has two other unique transportation options for residents.

Cobb Community Transit (CCT)

As the second largest transit system in the state, CCT's 73 buses and 21 paratransit vehicles run 4 million trips per year. The system has been operating since 1989, and ferries riders from one corner of the

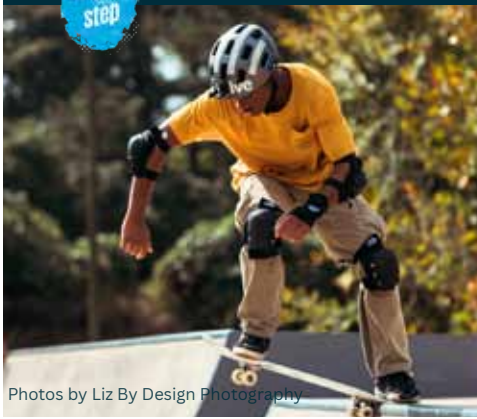
county to another. Additionally, several of the routes run from the Galleria area to the Arts Center Marta station in Midtown Atlanta, for easy access to that system's downtown stops.

Cobb County Airport - McCollum Field

Owned and operated by the county, McCollum Airport serves as a general aviation reliever airport for Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport by hosting both business and personal aircraft on its runways. In addition to various aviation and fueling services, the airfield also makes a substantial contribution to the local economy, providing 842 jobs and an economic output of \$112 million per year for the county.



THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING WORTH STEPPING OUT FOR



Photos by Liz By Design Photography

Choosing the Best School

Resources to help the decision making process



Cobb County Schools
(770) 426-3300

cobb.k12.ga.us

Number of Schools:

67 Elementary
25 Middle
17 High

12 Special Programs
2 Charter School System
Total # of Students: 113,000

When moving to a new city, or even just changing neighborhoods, parents want to know what the schools are like. Metro Atlanta boasts a wide range of options, from public schools to charter schools and a wide range of independent institutions that are committed to preparing students for college, careers and beyond. Determining the best choice for your family can be overwhelming, so do your homework and research additional information and resources on the systems' websites (www.cobb.k12.ga.us; www.marietta-city.k12.ga.us).

Cobb is served by two separate school districts: the Cobb County School District (CCSD) and Marietta City Schools (MCS). CCSD is the second largest school system in the state and educates more than 108,000 students each year. With two special education centers, one adult education center and one performance learning center—CCSD employs more than 13,000 teachers, counselors and administrators. Since 1984, CCSD has had 56 schools named Georgia Schools of Excellence and 22 named National Blue Ribbon Schools. Marietta City Schools teaches nearly 9,000 students in the district's eight elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Though it is a small system, it has garnered more than its share of accolades over the years. U.S. News & World Report has named Marietta High School one of the best high schools in the country for four years running. STEM Certified Schools in Cobb include Cooper Middle School, Ford Elementary School, Kennesaw Mountain High School Academy of Mathematics, Science, and Technology, Tritt Elementary School and Wheeler High School Center for Advanced Studies in Science, Mathematics, and Technology.

Cobb County

Shallowford Falls Elementary

Shallowford Falls Elementary has achieved Cobb STEM certification Cobb STEM certification, which recognizes schools that provide students with STEM-enriched learning opportunities above and beyond the exemplary practices found in all Cobb County schools. The milestone represents a collaborative effort by the administration, teachers, staff, PTA, Foundation and community working together to advance this STEM initiative. The teachers show a commitment to STEM by enhancing instruction and stretching the learning process. This endeavor also requires STEM professional development for all teachers and advanced teacher certification. (770) 642-5610, 3529 Lassiter Rd, Marietta

Timber Ridge Elementary

East Cobb's Timber Ridge Elementary enrolls approximately 600 students in grades K through 5. High expectations exist for achievement and conduct. The school's climate well represents its motto of Learning, Caring and Sharing Today...for Tomorrow's Dreams. (770) 642-5621, 5000 Timber Ridge Rd, Marietta

Hightower Trail Middle

Hightower Trail has been named a Georgia School of Excellence and

participates in the Partners for Education Program, which pairs local business leaders with students for one-on-one reading and tutoring. (770) 578-7225, 3905 Post Oak Tritt Rd, Marietta

Mabry Middle

Mabry Middle recently received the designation of No Place for Hate from the Anti-Defamation League's Southeast Region for its efforts to promote acceptance among students and staff. It is the first middle school in the county to receive this designation. (770) 928-5546, 2700 Jims Rd NE, Marietta

Lassiter High

Lassiter High School, which enrolls more than 2,000 students, has been named a Georgia School of Excellence by the Georgia Department of Education. The school has been awarded AP Merit School status due to the fact that more than 20 percent of its student body takes advanced placement exams each year, with 50 percent scoring a 3 or higher. (678) 494-7863, 2601 Shallowford Rd, Marietta

Walton High (charter)

Walton is the only school in the county to offer a nationally certified pre-engineering program as well as offering arts with the largest high school choral program in Cobb County. Walton also has a long tradition of above average SAT scores. More than 70% of its senior class has passed one or more AP courses. (770) 578-3225, 1590 Bill Murdock Rd, Marietta

Marietta City Schools
(770) 422-3500

Marietta-city.org

Number of Schools:

1 Alternative
7 Elementary
1 Sixth Grade
1 Middle

1 High
1 Magnet
Charter School System
Total # of Students: 8,900

Marietta City

Marietta Center for Advanced Academics

As the state's first certified science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) school, the Center gives students an accelerated, technology-based education. All students must meet strict academic requirements in order to be admitted to and remain in the program. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution ranks Marietta Center for Advanced Academics among the Top 10 Elementary Schools in Metro Atlanta and Georgia. (770) 420-0822, 311 Aviation Rd SE, Marietta

Marietta Middle

The school moved into a new, renovated facility in 2002 that includes two gymnasiums, five computer labs and three science labs for its 1,200 students in the 7th and 8th grades. (770) 422-0311, 121 Winn St NW, Marietta

Marietta High

Marietta High was established in 1892 and now has a student population of over 2,500. Nearly 80 percent of its teachers have master's degrees or higher, and the school has repeatedly earned recognition from the Georgia Department of Education for its AP classes and exams. (770) 428-2631, 1171 Whitlock Ave NW, Marietta

PRIVATE SCHOOL PROFILES

Carman Adventist School (PreK–8) 1330 Cobb Pkwy N, Marietta caschool.org (770) 424-0606

Since 1958, Carman Adventist School has offered an affordable, quality, Christian education in a safe, encouraging, and nurturing environment for children. A member of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference of Seventh-day Adventists School System, it strives to provide “Strong Foundations.” so its students can pursue “Successful Lives.” Carman’s well-rounded education includes quality academics, Christian principles, and healthy and fun activities on its beautiful grounds. It believes that small class sizes and an intimate setting make it easier for students, parents, and administrators to gain a true sense of community and get to know each other throughout the students’ school careers. The school encourages individualized attention, active participation, and collaboration, believing its students thrive in a safe, Christian environment that allows them to focus on their future.

Cornerstone Preparatory Academy (K–12) 3588 Hickory Grove Road, Acworth cornerstoneprep.org (770) 529-7077

Founded in 2004, Cornerstone Preparatory Academy celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2024 as a K-12 University-Model® school. It is clearly living up to its tagline, “College Prepared. Life Equipped.” with a 100% graduation rate – 97% of which are HOPE or Zell Miller grant-qualified. Cornerstone believes education is a partnership between the school and parents to instill in children a firm foundation of academic excellence and Christian discipleship. Through small class sizes, abundant student activities, and intentional parent partnership, students are nurtured intellectually and spiritually to become Christ followers who use their God-given gifts to transform the world. It is fully accredited by Cognia, certified by the National Association of University-Model® Schools (NAUMS, Inc.), and a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). To enhance its educational foundation with a robust campus experience, Cornerstone offers a wide range of sports, clubs, and activities for the students it serves.

Fellowship Christian School (PreK3–12) K3 - 5th Grade:

Livingstone Church Campus, 545 Lorene Dr., SW Marietta
6th -12th Grade:

Trinity Fellowship Campus, 2115 Pair Rd., SW Marietta
cumberlandchristian.org (678) 426-1600

“Educating Every Student Every Day in Every Way” since 1989, Cumberland Christian Academy (CCA) recently moved its lower- and upper-class campuses from Austell to Marietta. What hasn’t changed is its mission to offer Christ-centered instruction to transform each student’s heart, soul, and mind. It has embraced “The 4 C’s”: Critical thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Creativity as part of its 21st-century educational practices to develop students who think creatively and love learning. CCA is accredited by AdvancEd (SACS), the Georgia Accrediting Commission (GAC), and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). It offers championship-level athletics through the Georgia Independent Athletic Association (GICAA). Cumberland credits its 35 years of success to caring and accessible teachers, lower teacher/student ratios, emphasis on spiritual growth with Bible classes and weekly chapel, and engagement of the students it serves through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activities and a robust Fine Arts program

East Cobb Christian School (K–8) 4616 Roswell Road, Marietta eccs.org (770) 565-0881

Founded in 1987, East Cobb Christian School (ECCS) is a Covenant Christian school that endeavors to serve as an extension of its students’ homes by valuing and encouraging parental involvement. It focuses on its students’ character development by teaching hearts and reaching minds. It believes that academic excellence can occur in smaller class settings where teachers act as mentors. As a member of ChildLight, ECCS embraces a Charlotte Mason School methodology where parents can rest assured that their children are safe, being inspired, and belonging to a community where all persons are embraced and allowed to grow according to His design. ECCS offers age-appropriate classrooms where students attend school daily – abbreviated days for Kindergarten - Third Grade and full days for Fourth - Eighth Grades. In addition to a robust biblical and academic foundation, ECCS provides a variety of enrichment options that include Art, Drama, Music, Nature Studies, and more

First Baptist Christian School (PreK2–8) 2958 N. Main Street, Kennesaw fbcskennesaw.com 770-422-3254

After first opening its doors in 1969 as a preschool ministry of Kennesaw First Baptist Church, the ministry officially became First Baptist Christian School (FBCS)

in 1997. Serving students aged 2 through 8th grade, its mission is to “partner with parents to equip learners to face the challenges of life, God’s way.” In addition to a solid academic foundation through its preschool, elementary, and middle school programs, FBCS provides enrichment programs intended to foster creativity so its students can climb their own mountains...as high as possible. Those programs include Art, Music, Spanish, and Technology. At the heart of it all, faith molds the way FBCS faculty approaches the education of the students they serve. Through Chapel and After-School Clubs, the school strives to create environments and opportunities for students to worship, connect, serve, and grow in Christ. It has been accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) since 2006..

Mount Paran Christian School (PreK–12) 1275 Stanley Road NW, Kennesaw mtparanschool.com (470) 250-0008

Mount Paran Christian School provides an elevated experience in academics, award-winning arts, and championship athletics - all with Christ at the center. Enrolling more than 1,300 students, MPSC is Cobb’s largest private school. Within small class sizes (12:1 student-teacher ratio), MPSC offers 56 AP/honors courses, instructional support, robotics, Spanish and STEAM starting in PK3, and a 1:1 device program. It’s crucial to guarantee a moral and faith foundation through everything your child learns on the school journey. Through curricular Bible classes, weekly chapel, service, and discipleship groups, faith becomes fused into who they are. Highly-qualified teachers know and love each student to raise up servant-leaders - in the classroom, on the ball field, on the stage, and ultimately in the community. Chart your covenantal Christian school path at mtparanschool.com.

North Cobb Christian School (PreK3–12) 4500 Eagle Drive, Kennesaw ncchristian.org (770) 975-0252

North Cobb Christian (NCCS) was founded in 1983 by four local families who were seeking an alternative to public education. In the 41 years since, it has grown to become one of the largest independent, interdenominational, college prep Christian schools in the metro area, with a PreK3 through 12 enrollment of over 1200 students. Committed to Jesus Christ, NCCS provides a biblically based, academically excellent education in a nurturing environment, developing students’ potential to impact their world for Christ. With a mission of “Cultivating Hearts. Challenging Minds. Impacting Culture,” it puts children’s cognitive, emotional, social, and spiritual needs at the forefront while challenging them academically, fostering them spiritually, and guiding them to discover their God-given purpose and abilities. Beginning in 9th grade, students participate in community service to instill the habit of joyfully serving others. NCCS is accredited by AdvancEd and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Set on 55 wooded acres, it also offers robust athletics and arts programs.

The Walker School (PreK3–12) Main campus: 700 Cobb Parkway North, Marietta | Primary school: 830 Damar Road, Marietta thewalkerschool.org (770) 427-2689

(678) 336-3351 middle school (678) 336-3402 (upper school)
The Walker School is metro Atlanta’s college-preparatory independent school for students seeking an engaging educational experience within an intimately scaled, caring, and diverse community where opportunities abound and meaningful relationships inspire transformative learning. With “wonder” in its DNA, it strives to kindle students’ innate curiosity and channel it into challenging curricula, engaging interpersonal relationships, demanding athletic pursuits, and stimulating extracurricular activities. Since 1957, The Walker School’s goal has been to help each child chart a path of self-realization, discover who they are, and become their best possible self.

Whitefield Academy (PreK4–12) whitefieldacademy.com (678) 305-3000

Founded in 1997, Whitefield Academy is a Christ-centered, PreK4 through 12th college preparatory school located on a beautiful 100-acre campus in the Smyrna/Vinings area. It exists to bolster Christian families in rearing young people who go on to college and life with a passion for learning, for others ahead of self, and for the living and active Jesus. Its core values include academic excellence, covenantal education, effective servant leadership, faithful stewardship, and enrollment that reflects the racial, ethnic, and economic diversity within the body of Christ. With intentionally small class sizes and a biblically integrated curriculum, students dream big, experiment, and think critically. As a result, Whitefield students boast an 87% AP exam pass rate and 100% college matriculation. Whitefield Academy is a member of the Atlanta Area Association of Independent Schools (AAAIS).

PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN COBB COUNTY

NAME & ENROLLMENT	CONTACT INFORMATION		
Carman Adventist School Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 80 Year: 1958	(770) 424-0606	1330 North Cobb Parkway, Marietta, GA 30062	caschool.org
Casa Montessori School Grades: PK-6 Enrollments: 165 Year: 1974	(770) 973-2731	150 Powers Ferry Rd, Marietta, GA 30067	casamontessori.com
Center Academy Grades: 4-12 Enrollment: 50 Year: 1968	(770) 333-1616	3499 South Cobb Drive, Smyrna, GA 30080	centeracademy.com
Cornerstone Preparatory Academy Grades: K-12 Enrollment: 480 Year: 2004	(770) 529.7077	4310 Moon Station Lane, Acworth, GA 30101	cornerstoneprep.org
Covenant Christian School Grades: K4-8 Enrollment: 240 Year: 1975	(770) 435-1596	3130 Atlanta Rd, Smyrna, GA 30080	ccssmyrna.org
Cumberland Christian Academy Grades: K3-12 Enrollment: 400 Year: 1989	(770) 819-6437	Lower school: 2356 Clay Rd SW, Austell, GA 30106 Middle school: 4900 Floyd Rd SW, Mableton, GA 30126 High school: 2115 Pair Rd SW, Marietta, GA 30008	cumberlandchristian.org
Dominion Christian School Grades: 6-12 Enrollment: 250 Year: 1997	(770) 420-2153	4607 Burnt Hickory Rd NW, Marietta, GA 30064	dominionchristian.org
East Cobb Christian School Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 140 Year: 1987	(770) 565-0881	4616 Roswell Rd. NE, Marietta, GA 30062	eccs.org
Eastside Christian School Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 315 Year: 1983	(770) 971-2332	2450 Lower Roswell Rd, Marietta, GA 30068	eastsidechristianschool.com
Faith Lutheran School Grades: PK-8 Enrollment: 225 Year: 1958	(770) 973-8921	Kennesaw, GA 30144	fbcskennesaw.com
First Baptist Christian School Grades: PK2-5 Enrollment: 109 Year: 1969	(770) 422-3254	4635 Dallas Hwy, Powder Springs, GA 30127	midwayschool.org
Brandon Hall School Grades: 6-12 Enrollment: 120 Year: 1959	(770) 394-8177		brandonhall.org
Johnson Ferry Christian Academy Grades: K-12 Enrollment: 420 Year:2004	(678) 784-5231	955 Johnson Ferry Rd, Marietta, GA 30127	JFCA.org
Midway Covenant Christian School Grades: PK-8 Enrollment: 325 Year: 1996	(770) 590-1866	4635 Dallas Hwy, Powder Springs, GA 30127	midwayschool.org
Mt. Bethel Christian Academy Grades: JK-12 Enrollment: 620 Year:1998	(770) 971-0245	Main campus: 4385 Lower Roswell Rd, Marietta, GA 30068 North Campus: 2509 Post Oak Tritt Rd, Marietta, GA	mtbethelchristian.org
Mount Paran Christian School Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 1,215 Year: 1976	(770) 578-0182	1275 Stanley Rd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152	mtparanschool.com
North Cobb Christian School Grades: K-12 Enrollment: 900 Year: 1926	(770) 975-0252	4500 Lakeview Dr NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144	ncchristian.org
Praise Academy Grades: K3-12 Enrollment: 500 Year: 1983	(770) 943-2484	4052 Hiram Lithia Springs Rd, Powder Springs, GA 30127	praiseacademy.com
Shiloh Hills Christian School Grades: K-12 Enrollment: 260 Year: 1980	(770) 926-7729	260 Hawkins Store Rd NE, Kennesaw, GA 30144	shilohhills.com/school
The SAE School Grades: K-12 Enrollment: 293 Year: 1980	(770) 926-7729	6688 Mableton Pkwy, Mableton, GA 30126	saeschool.org
St. Joseph Catholic School Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 500 Year: 1953	(770) 428-3328	81 Lacy Street, Marietta, GA. 30060	stjosephschool.org
The Walker School Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 1,347 Year: 1957	(770) 427-2689	Main Campus: 700 Cobb Parkway N, Marietta, GA 30062 Primary School: 830 Damar Rd., Marietta, GA 30062	thewalkerschool.org
The Wood Acres School Grades: PK-8 Enrollment: 400 Year: 1969	(770) 971-1880	1772 Johnson Ferry Rd, Marietta, GA 30062	woodacresschool.org
Whitefield Academy Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 800 Year: 1997	(678) 305-3000	1 Whitefield Dr SE, Mableton, GA 30126	whitefieldacademy.com

Higher Education in Cobb County

Cobb County houses a highly educated workforce, strong public education systems and many opportunities to receive higher education in a multitude of industries. Cobb County is home to the third-largest public state university – Kennesaw State University, as well as Life University, and Chattahoochee Technical College. Together, these colleges and universities account for more than 45,000 students with 7,800 graduates in Cobb County annually. Aside from the many major public state universities, Cobb County is also home to many non-traditional colleges such as Georgia Highlands College, University of Phoenix and Central Michigan University.

Kennesaw State University **kennesaw.edu**

(770) 423-6000

Kennesaw State University, known for its entrepreneurial spirit and sense of community, has been a four-year institution accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1976. Located just northwest of Atlanta in Cobb County near historic Kennesaw Mountain, KSU offers campuses in Marietta and Kennesaw. It is the third-largest university in Georgia, with more than 33,000 undergraduate and graduate students, representing 132 countries. In January of 2015, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved the consolidation of Kennesaw and Southern Polytechnic Universities, one of the state's leading educators in the fields of technology and engineering.

The new Kennesaw State University combines the best from two of Georgia's most well-respected institutions in higher education, offering students a broad range of quality academics, as well as a growing campus life and athletic programs. With more than 150 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree programs in business, engineering, architecture, nursing, teaching, math and science programs, graduates of KSU enter the job market prepared for careers as wide-ranging as international conflict management to podiatry. KSU's nursing program is the largest in the state and has the medical community seeking its graduates. Their College of Continuing Education offers more than 2,500 courses and hosts nearly 50,000 people attending meetings or conferences annually in the KSU Center.

Being recognized by U.S. News and World Report as one of the top universities in the region, the new Kennesaw State University is positioned to become one of Georgia's world-class comprehensive higher education institutions

Chattahoochee Technical College **chattahoocheetech.edu**

(770) 528-4545

Chattahoochee Technical College is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and is geared for individuals, business, industry and communities. On July 1, 2009, Chattahoochee Technical College came into being from the merger of three previously independent units of the Technical College System of Georgia – Appalachian Technical College, Chattahoochee Technical College, and North Metro Technical College. Chattahoochee Technical College, established in 1961 as Marietta/Cobb Area Vocational Technical School, served Cobb and Paulding counties with its main campus



Kennesaw State University, Courtesy of KSU

in Marietta, GA. In 1988, with the formation of the Department of Technical and Adult Education, the school adopted the name of Chattahoochee Technical Institute, and in 2000, all technical institutes were re-named to technical colleges. The proximity of the three colleges in northern central Georgia led to the decision to merge. Representatives from the Boards of Directors of the three colleges decided to adopt Chattahoochee Technical College as the name for the new entity. Now, with a combined service area of six counties (Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Gilmer, Paulding, and Pickens) and with eight campuses and online offerings, Chattahoochee Technical College serves approximately 20,000 students annually. Through traditional campuses and online means, the college offers 70+ degrees, diplomas and certificates in 45 programs of study including Business Sciences, Computer Sciences and Engineering Technology, Technical Studies, Personal and Public Services and Health Sciences. The wide-range of educational courses, many of which are accepted for transfer by the University System of Georgia, include Community and Economic Development courses, Adult Education classes and special programs for high school students.

Life University **life.edu**

(770) 426-2600

Nestled away in Marietta, Georgia on more than 100 acres of wooded terrain, Life University provides its students with small classrooms, industry thought leaders as professors, and a health and wellness lifestyle amidst a green, nature-centric campus. The University provides five miles of walking trails, a 19th century historic village, and a lake and stream. Founded in 1974, Life University is a health sciences institution, with 20 accredited degree programs, including the world's largest single-campus Doctor of Chiropractic program. Also home to unique and top-ranked graduate degrees in Positive Psychology and Athletic Training, the university has more than 2,700 students from around the world. With an undergraduate population of almost 900 students, LIFE has a student-faculty ration of 16:1. Recently, it has expanded its curriculum to offer a variety of degrees in nutrition, exercise science, psychology, business administration and other general studies programs. Its various degree programs share the philosophy that all living organisms are self-maintaining, self-developing and self-healing. Its innovative programs like PEAK (Practice, Excellence, Art and Knowledge) help interning chiropractic students be immediately prepared to begin their professional career upon graduation.

Award-Winning Health Care

A Guide to Cobb County's Hospital and Healthcare Systems



A shining reflection of Atlanta's growth, leadership in innovation, and dedication to excellence, the metro area's medical sector is not only alive and well but THRIVING. The quality of our healthcare proves a draw to individuals and families, as well as corporations considering locating to Atlanta. The same holds true a little closer to home in Cobb County. Boasting a steady stream of accolades, many of our hospitals offer industry-leading specialists, state-of-the-art facilities, the latest technology, and an extensive menu of services that run the gamut from ambulatory surgery to X-rays – and everything in between.

Wellstar Health System

Wellstar has a solid presence in Cobb County, and it's no wonder why. Representing the largest health system in Georgia, Wellstar is known nationally for its innovative care models, which are focused on improving quality and access to healthcare. As a not-for-profit, Wellstar continues to reinvest in the health of the communities it serves with new technologies and treatments. Its system consists of 300+ medical office locations, 80+ rehabilitation centers, nine cancer centers, 18 urgent care locations, nine emergency departments, five health parks, 21 imaging centers, four senior living facilities, three hospice facilities, a pediatric center, nursing centers, hospice, and home care, as well as ten hospitals – three of which are located in Cobb: Wellstar Cobb Hospital, Wellstar Kennestone Regional Medical Center (anchored by Wellstar Kennestone Hospital), and Wellstar Windy Hill Hospital.

Wellstar Cobb Hospital wellstar.org
3950 Austell Road, Austell (770) 732-4000

With a Georgia Oglethorpe Award from the Sterling Council and a Circle of Excellence Award from the Georgia Hospital Association among its most recent accolades, Wellstar Cobb Hospital patients can expect care that's second-to-none. This 382-bed hospital offers emergency care, cardiac care, labor & delivery, robotic surgery, and neuro care among its extensive list of services.

Wellstar Kennestone Regional Medical Center wellstar.org
677 Church Street NE, Marietta (770) 793-5000

With an exciting expansion that includes a new patient bed tower scheduled to open in 2026, this award-winning 633-bed acute care hospital is about to get a lot "roomier." It already comes in at #7 among the ten largest hospitals, but that doesn't impact the level of care its patients receive.

Kennestone is listed among the Top 100 Best Hospitals in the U.S., according to Healthgrades, and is one of the Top 10 Best Hospitals in Georgia, according to Knowinsiders.com. In addition to a 24/7 state-of-the-art, 263,000-square-foot Emergency Care facility, Kennestone features cancer care, cardiac care, neuro care, labor & delivery, general surgery, and orthopedics, among its services.

Wellstar Windy Hill Hospital wellstar.org
2540 Windy Hill Road SE, Marietta (770) 644-1000

While more diminutive in size than Kennestone and Cobb, the level of care at this 115-bed hospital is equally geared for excellence. Its providers specialize in a non-surgical solution for treating uterine fibroids called uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) and the tailoring of orthopedic care through its Total Joint Center of Excellence – ideal for patients of all ages. For patients who require prolonged treatment, Windy Hill's Long-Term Acute Care unit is staffed by specialized critical care physicians and specialized nurses who care for patients in private rooms.

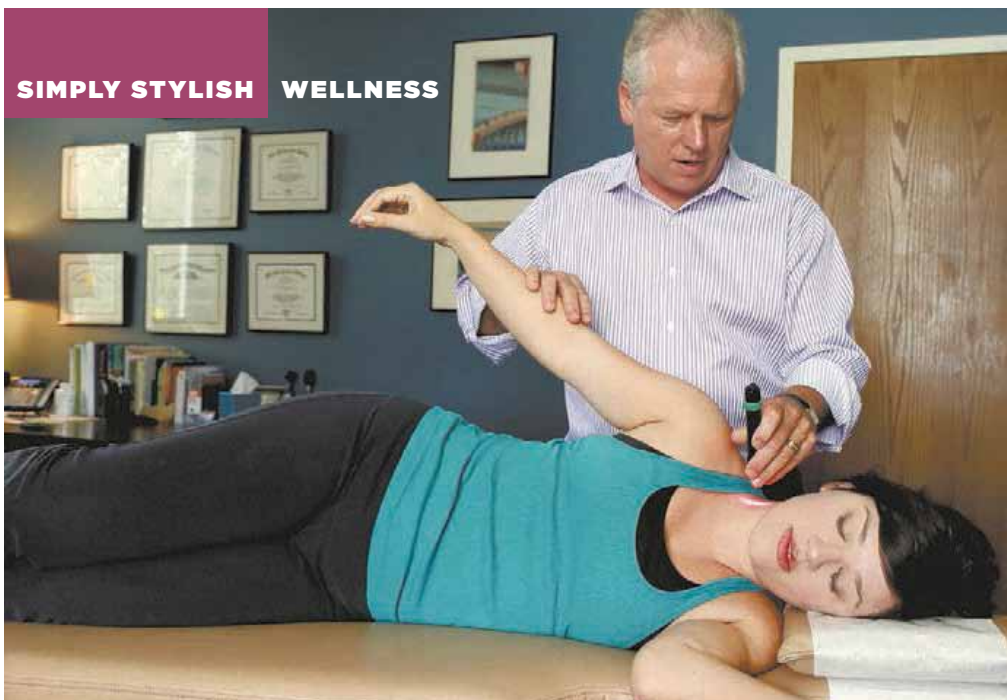
Cobb County is also home to Wellstar's **West Cobb Medical Center** in Marietta, **Acworth Health Park**, and **Powder Springs Medical Center**. The physicians, nurse practitioners, and office staff at all three believe working together with their patients will help ensure that healthcare goals are met.

Emory Healthcare

While it doesn't have a hospital in Cobb County, **Emory Healthcare** has a presence in Smyrna at **Emory at Belmont** and in Acworth at **Emory at Acworth**. Both locations deliver preventative care and wellness – treating acute illnesses, such as infections and flu, as well as minor injuries, such as sprains and removing stitches. They also treat and manage chronic diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure.

Kaiser Permanente

Last, but far from least, Kaiser Permanente offers West Cobb Medical Center and TownPark Comprehensive Medical Center to meet the primary healthcare needs of Cobb County residents. Both offer pediatric, adolescent, and adult medical care, along with obstetrics and gynecology. As the name suggests, the TownPark facility provides a far more comprehensive list of services, including 24/7 advanced care, cardiology, dermatology, gastroenterology, general surgery, psychiatry, and more.



▲ The vibrating pad Dr. Kelly uses allows him to do a chiropractic adjustment without over-adjusting, a much gentler approach to the practice.

◀ Dr. Kelly uses a cold laser to repair tissue and reduce inflammation in a focused way.

No ordinary chiropractor

Chiropractic and kinesiology help bring balance

STORY: Jennifer Bradley Franklin | PHOTOS: Sara Hanna

“Health is simple,” Dr. Tim Kelly is fond of saying. “We’re not that complicated.” As someone who writes regularly about wellness, I’m tempted to disagree: It seems like there are so many conflicting theories and ideas about how to keep our bodies in good health, it can feel *incredibly* complicated.

However, Kelly, who has practiced in Buckhead since 1989, has such a warm confidence about him, I’m willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. He’s a chiropractor specializing in applied kinesiology, a science he describes as “a way to ask the body a series of questions, looking for what makes the body stronger and weaker.”

In my one-and-a-half-hour initial session with the doc, we discussed four health factors he focuses on: digestion (“chewing your food a minimum of 25 times is key to giving your body access to the nutrition from your food”); identifying nutrient/chemical surpluses or deficiencies; adjustment and alignment; and how the feet affect balance.

Before my appointment, Kelly asked me to complete a test online called the Braverman Personality Assessment. “Wait a minute,” I

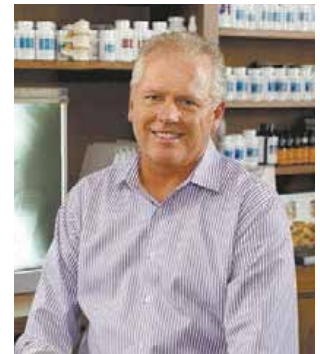
thought. “What does personality have to do with health?” It turns out, quite a lot. According to Kelly, our brain chemistry greatly affects our personality and our cravings, sleep habits, energy and much more. If the four main brain chemicals—acetylcholine, GABA, serotonin and dopamine—are out of balance, you’ll experience maladies that can range from headaches to intense fatigue. (I’m acetylcholine dominant, meaning that I’m highly creative, but unfortunately, I’m dopamine deficient, which partially accounts for low energy at times.)

To help me balance, he recommended changing my diet to include more anti-inflammatory omega-3 foods (such as plants, grass-fed meat, nuts and seeds) and fewer inflammatory omega-6 foods (goodbye dairy and grains), and he gave me supplements of omega-3 oils, iodine and tyrosine to help support

healthy thyroid function.

Next, it was time for my initial adjustment. He tested for weakness in my limbs, which could signal improper blood flow to internal organs, since they’re connected to corresponding vertebrae. Instead of the aggressive popping and cracking you might expect from a chiropractor, Kelly adjusts gently using a vibrating mallet-like tool that coaxes the spine back into alignment. Unlike typical chiropractic care, which many patients complain is a never-ending series of visits, Kelly’s addition of applied kinesiology helps the adjustment “stick.” “The core pieces don’t come undone,” he says. “It’s sort of like rebooting your computer once and having it work properly.”

After just one visit, I felt overwhelmed with information: a bit like trying to drink water from a fire hose. However, I connected with my friend Amy Crouse who initially told me about Kelly after she saw him for headaches. “He’s truly a miracle worker. Within three months, in addition to my migraines, he had cured an inner ear imbalance that multiple other specialists said was incurable,” she says. “He was



Dr. Kelly recommends targeted supplements to get your body working optimally.

able to get me off all medicines and improved my sleep, energy level and overall health.”

Even though the volume of information can feel overwhelming (and still does, even though I’ve seen Kelly several times), his gentle, friendly demeanor makes it seem less intimidating. I’m on my way to becoming a believer. ■

A Cut Above

Colgrove Plastic Surgery



2.62 million patients across the U.S. made the decision to have plastic surgery in 2023, whether a cosmetic or reconstructive procedure. According to a report from the American Society of Plastic Surgeons® (ASPS), the top five surgical procedures included liposuction, breast augmentation, abdominoplasty (also known as a tummy tuck), breast lift, and blepharoplasty (also known as eyelid surgery). Minimally invasive procedures are also on the rise, having experienced a 7% rise from 2022 numbers, with nearly 25.4 million cosmetic minimally invasive procedures performed in 2023. The most popular minimally invasive procedures were Neuromodulator injections (i.e., Botox® and Dysport®), hyaluronic acid fillers, skin resurfacing, skin treatments (i.e., laser hair removal, laser tattoo removal, and laser treatment of leg veins), and lip augmentation. When seeking a plastic surgeon to help you achieve your personal appearance goals, it's essential to find one who is accredited, board-certified, and highly experienced. For prospective plastic surgery patients in Cobb County, you need look no further than Vinings Surgery & Hair Restoration Center, helmed by Robert A. Colgrove, Jr., M.D.

Board-certified plastic surgeon Dr. Colgrove has been in practice since 1986. From his AAAASF-accredited outpatient surgery center at 1900 The Exchange SE, Building 300, Suite 300 in Atlanta, Vinings Surgery Center offers a wide range of facial and body procedures. Included among them are cheek and chin augmentations, ear and eyelid surgeries, face and forehead lifts, rhinoplasty, breast augmentations and reductions, breast lifts, liposuction, tummy tucks, and more. The Center also provides a variety of hair restoration surgeries and a broad array of non-surgical, minimally invasive procedures. In addition to his surgical patients, thousands of patients have looked to Dr. Colgrove and his talented staff to provide everything from BOTOX® Cosmetic injections to Sylfirm X Pulsed & Continuous Wave Radiofrequency (RF) Microneedling for the treatment of rosacea, melasma, scars, and sagging skin. Regardless of the service, Dr. Colgrove provides a

continuum of service from the initial consultation until the final healing process.

“Dr. Colgrove, the nurses, and the front desk staff are all AMAZING! I had a tummy tuck and breast lift done 4.5 weeks ago. I can already tell the scarring is going to be minimal, and I could not be happier with the results so far. I always receive a fast response when reaching out by email, I'm always able to get ahold of a nurse when necessary, and none of my concerns are overlooked or blown off. Dr. Colgrove and the nurses have been very compassionate and reassuring. Plastic surgery can be scary, but they make it so much easier. After two kids, breastfeeding, and a 100-pound weight loss, I can finally say I'm loving my body for the first time since I was 16.”

What truly sets Vinings Surgery Center apart from many plastic surgeons in Atlanta is its Hair Restoration capabilities. The state-of-the-art surgical center offers the ground-breaking ARTAS System – which offers robotic hair transplant surgery treatments. The ARTAS robot takes graft dissections from a patient's scalp and reallocates them with advanced speed and precision. It's just one of several options the practice provides to patients seeking hair restoration and improved confidence.

“The staff at Vinings Surgery Center has superior medical knowledge, and they are artistic in their work. I was shocked at how easy my procedure was. Using their talent and expertise along with their new ARTAS Robot proved to be easy and virtually painless. Dr. Colgrove and his staff are best in class, and if you're [trepidatious] like me, just do what I did and have a visit with them... you'll be amazed!”

If you're seeking a face or body enhancement through surgical or non-surgical means, call 770.955.9000 to Schedule a Consultation with Dr. Colgrove and his dedicated team at Vinings Surgery & Hair Restoration Center. To learn more about individual procedures, pricing, and FAQs, visit www.Colgrove.com.



VININGS SURGERY & HAIR RESTORATION
CENTER

Retirement Living

The Way It's Meant to Be!

Building for a full continuum of living and care in a neighborhood community setting.

Sterling Estates Senior Living Communities takes pride in offering gracious, spacious, lifestyle-focused retirement living. Sterling Estates has two locations — in East and West Cobb — with a third soon to break ground in Forsyth County. All boast substantial acreage in a neighborhood setting with plenty of green space and room for expansion. Extensive amenity packages include dining venues, wellness centers with fitness classes and indoor heated pools, planned events, and more.

Pete Green, partner and Director of Development and Marketing/Sales for Sterling Estates said that the communities hold special appeal for active older adults who want to make the most of their retirement years while securing their future.

“Many people who come for a tour are couples and individuals who want to take full advantage of their independent years. But they’re also considering the future when they might need more care,” said Green. “Sterling Estates Communities provide the opportunity they’re seeking to fully enjoy retirement living without the hassles of home ownership. With current high home prices nationally, there has never been a better time to sell and downsize. Plus, there is a plan for healthcare if needed later.”

Green added that many Sterling Estates residents come from near and far, “In general, about 50 percent of our residents have come from outside the greater Atlanta area. Many who live in our independent living cottages and apartment homes have moved from other cities and states to be close to their children and grandchildren.”

Among Sterling’s living options, the two Cobb County communities offer independent, assisted living, and memory care along with access to third-party home health and physical therapy providers.

“Many of our independent residents may already see a need down the road for care. Quite a few just want to plan for it,” revealed Green. “Our communities are attractive to them because they can take advantage of our plentiful amenities now to help keep them mentally and physically fit. But they also know that, if needed, additional care can be provided in the future.”

There are many qualities that set Sterling Estates apart from other senior living communities. Likely, the most significant difference is the care and attention to detail that go into

planning and implementing every aspect — from residences and amenities to staff and environment.

“When we started our company, we saw a need and believed we could fill it,” said Mike Brown, Sterling Estates partner. “And when we began to fill that need, it was as if we were providing a service to our own family, to our own parents, to what we would personally want. That became the foundation for everything we did as we built our communities. We designed them to feel like real neighborhoods, with sidewalks, greenspaces, patios, courtyards, gardens, and bocce courts. We created spaces and amenities that give people the opportunity to be active and socialize, places where they can meet new friends and gather with their families.”

That kind of personal investment in planning is now evident in the thriving Sterling Estates communities. “Our goal was not to build a lot of properties but to be engaged in the ones we have,” added Brown. “We want to make the day for our residents. And the way to make our resident’s day is to have everything — including the very best staff — to help them live each day better than they would have yesterday.”

The efforts of the Sterling team have not gone unnoticed. Since 2019, Sterling Estates communities in East and West Cobb have been voted “Best of Cobb” for the Assisted Living, Retirement Community, and Memory Care categories in a reader poll conducted by Cobb Life and the Marietta Daily Journal for six consecutive years from 2019 to just recently in 2024. Sterling Estates of West Cobb was also recognized in the Independent Living and Stand-Alone Memory Care categories of Senior Housing News’ 6th Annual Architecture & Design Awards. The competition is judged by a national panel of respected senior living architects who evaluate communities based on design and aesthetics, community integration, amenities, and lifestyle and wellness.

To learn more about Sterling Estates Senior Living Communities and schedule a tour, visit SterlingEstates.com.



Dining Out in Atlanta



Copeland's Restaurant

Aria

490 East Paces Ferry Rd NE, Atlanta
aria-atl.com • (404) 233-7673

This award-winning restaurant consistently supplies a memorable dining experience with its unmatched modern American cuisine effortlessly crafted by Chef Gerry Klaskala and served in a hip, urban environment.

Canoe

4199 Paces Ferry Road SE, Atlanta
canoeatl.com • (770) 432-2663

Nestled on the banks of the Chattahoochee River, Canoe is consistently rated one of Atlanta's best restaurants thanks to its romantic atmosphere and New American fare with a Southern "accent."

Cibo e Beve

4969 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs
ciboatlanta.com • (404) 250-8988

Translated as "Eat and Drink," this authentic Italian kitchen and bar pays homage to classic Italian dishes like Chicken Parmigiana, Veal Piccata, fresh pastas, pizzas, and more.

Copeland's

3101 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 220, Atlanta
(770) 612-3311

1142 Ernest W. Barrett Pkwy NW, Kennesaw
(770) 919-9612

copelandsatlanta.com

Atlanta's nod to New Orleans since 1983, Copeland's offers some of the finest Cajun, Creole, & American cuisine you'll find east of the Bayou. Its sumptuous Weekend Brunch Buffets are the stuff of legends

Pricci

500 Pharr Road, Atlanta
priciatlanta.com • (404) 237-2941

With a slew of awards to its credit, this esteemed member of the iconic Buckhead Life Restaurant Group delivers authentic regional Italian dishes exquisitely crafted by Milan-native Executive Chef Piero Premoli

Ray's at Killer Creek

1700 Mansell Road, Alpharetta
raysatkillercreek.com • (770) 649-0064

Showcasing a menu of fresh seafood and the finest cuts of meat, the stunning interior of this restaurant that blurs the line between indoors and out sets the tone for an unforgettable dining experience.

Rumi's Kitchen

6112 Roswell Road, Atlanta
(404) 477-2100

1175 Peachtree St NE, Suite 130, Atlanta
(404) 777-9807

7105 Avalon Boulevard, Alpharetta
(678) 534-8855

rumiskitchen.com

With three locations to serve hungry Atlantans, Rumi's Kitchen takes pride in delivering "The Essence of Persian Hospitality" along with delicious Mediterranean dishes like a variety of Kabobs, Rack of Lamb, Ghormeh Sabzi, and more.

Sage Woodfire Tavern

4505 Ashford Dunwoody Rd, Sandy Springs
sagewoodfiretavern.com • (770) 804-8880

Sage combines a globally inspired, locally sourced menu with a "city chic yet casual" chop house vibe, complete with live music and weekly events, to create a memorable dining experience.

Seed Kitchen and Bar

1311 Johnson Ferry Rd, Suite 504, Marietta
eatatseed.com • (678) 214-6888

Helmed by Chef & Proprietor Doug Turbish, Seed – with its seasonal menu of American fare and hand-crafted cocktails – is well-poised at the heart of East Cobb's emerging dining scene.

Table & Main

1028 Canton St., Roswell
tableandmain.com • (678) 869-5178

Set in a beautifully restored century-old homestead at the heart of Roswell's vibrant Historic District, this self-proclaimed "Southern Tavern" has earned a stream of accolades for its classic comfort food cuisine.

Trattoria 141

9810 Medlock Bridge Rd, Suite A,
Johns Creek

trattoria141.com • (770) 497-0021

Executive Chef Marc Sublette serves up a robust menu that's been described as the heart and soul of Italian trattoria cooking – unpretentious, honest, and homemade



There's Always Something Good

Copeland's of New Orleans

For our readers who are hungry for a taste of The Big Easy, Copeland's of New Orleans is always serving up something good. Located at 3101 Cobb Parkway, the Cumberland restaurant celebrates its 40th year as a brand and its 25th year in Georgia. In addition to the flagship Cobb County establishment, Copeland's also boasts a Kennesaw location at 1142 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW.

"People think, generally speaking, that Cajun food is primarily seafood and spicy," explained Bill Goudey, CEO of Copeland's of New Orleans in Atlanta. "In truth, New Orleans cuisine is very diverse. The city is a melting pot with Italian, French, Spanish, Island, and African influences – and that is all reflected in our menu. People are often surprised to learn that our Chicken Parmesan is one of our best-selling items."

In keeping with New Orleans' reputation for sumptuous feasts, Copeland's is perhaps best known for its weekend brunch buffets. They have been well-attended for over a dozen years since they were first introduced. On its daily menu, guests can expect to find Cajun classics like Crawfish Étouffée, Red Beans and Rice, and Shrimp Po-Boys served alongside perfectly prepared USDA Prime cuts of steak, pasta dishes, oysters on the half shell, and more. Goudey points to the Eggplant Pirogue® as one of Copeland's most unique dishes. It features fried eggplant slices, gulf shrimp, fresh crab claws (seasonal), and angel hair pasta topped with a housemade au gratin sauce.

Not limited to food alone, its drink menu showcases NOLA's most famous concoctions – like the rum-based Hurricane and the rye whisky- and absinthe-based Sazerac. Copeland's full bar also serves up a selection of premium martinis, signature cocktails, local favorites, wine, and beer. With items like Bananas Foster, Rum Cream Bread Pudding, Big Al's Chocolate Cake, and a variety of cheesecakes, you'll want to save room for dessert.

Beyond its food, drink, and dessert menus, Copeland's of New Orleans boasts a high-end, full-service casual

dining experience where New Orleans hospitality is key. In a nod to its Crescent City heritage, customers are called "guests," and employees are called "krewe" – like the krewe on a Mardi Gras float. From the moment guests walk through the door, the krewe strives to make them feel welcome.

The sense of community Goudey and his krewe create in-house extends beyond the four walls of their Cobb County restaurant. In partnership with the Kennesaw location, Copeland's of New Orleans supports dozens of local charities, schools, and police departments. Chief among them is Cure Childhood Cancer. Of the many charitable initiatives in which Copeland's takes part, one of Goudey's personal favorites is the opportunity to donate food to serve the families and staff of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite and Eggleston once a quarter every year.

In addition to its NOLA-inspired menu, sense of hospitality, and desire to give back to the community, Copeland's of New Orleans at Cumberland features two private banquet rooms for corporate and social events. It also offers full-service catering, catering pan pickups for off-site events, and full holiday meals to go in November and December. In addition to ham and all the delicious sides, Copeland's Cajun deep-fried turkeys are particularly popular for the holiday season. In 2023 alone, they placed 2,258 turkeys onto local families' holiday tables.

"We are deeply appreciative of our loyal guests in Atlanta over the last 25 years," said Goudey. "For those who've never been, you're definitely missing out. If you'd love to experience the authentic hospitality, culture, and cuisine of New Orleans, I encourage you to give us a try."

To learn more about Copeland's of New Orleans here in Atlanta, view the menu, place an online order, reserve a private banquet space, or inquire about catering, visit CopelandsAtlanta.com.

Shop Til You Drop

From distinctive boutiques in vibrant city centers to sprawling upscale retail districts in the suburbs, Cobb County offers its residents and visitors a wide variety of ways to partake in the occasional shopping spree. Community Profiles Magazine provides an overview of some of the county's most popular shopping destinations so you can peruse the wares of everything from local small businesses to world-renowned designer brands.

The Avenue West Cobb

avenuewestcobb.com

Located at I3625 Dallas Highway in Marietta, this open-air shopping destination features must-have brands like Altar'D State, American Eagle, Brighton, Jos. A. Banks Clothiers, Loft, and White House Black Market alongside Georgia-born boutique chain Dress Up. In addition to its dynamic mix of premier national retailers, The Avenue West Cobb boasts an impressive list of eateries. Grab lunch at Panera or dinner at Ted's Montana Grill after a day of rebuilding your wardrobe at Chico's or Talbot's.

The Battery Atlanta

batteryatl.com

Situated adjacent to Truist Park in Powder Springs, The Battery Atlanta touts itself as "Atlanta's Premier Entertainment District. Headed to a baseball game? Arrive early so you can shop 'til you chop at the Battery's carefully curated mix of retailers like Mizuno, River Street Treats, Southend Trading Company, Savi Provisions, and more. Hungry? Restaurants like H&F Burger, Blue Moon Beer Garden, Punch Bowl Social, Antico Pizza, The Yard House, and Cru will not disappoint. Rounding third base to fulfill the entertainment aspect of The Battery are the Silverspot Cinema, live music at the Coca-Cola Roxy or

Park Bench, and fun and games at The Escape Game and Good Game – a TopGolf Swing Suite, to name a few. The Battery also plays host to a slew of events year-round, so be sure to bookmark their website and visit it often.

Cumberland Mall

cumberlandmall.com

A true fixture in Metro Atlanta's retail landscape since opening its door in 1973, Cumberland pays homage to the American mall's heyday. You can take your pick of food court fare, ride escalators to your heart's content, and shop national brands like Apple, Aeropostale, Bath & Body Works, Buckle, Build-A-Bear Workshop, Dick's Sporting Goods, Forever 21, Game Stop, H&M, Lululemon, PINK, Victoria's Secret, and more. Major anchors include Costco and Macy's, and full-service dining adds to the allure with fan favorites like P.F. Chang's, Cheesecake Factory, Buffalo Wild Wings, Maggiano's, and Stoney River Steakhouse and Grill. Cumberland Mall is connected via a pedestrian sky bridge to Cobb Galleria Centre, which showcases even more specialty shops such as Anna's Place, Espresso Books, Design Faze Boutique, and more.

The Marietta Square

visitmariettaga.com/where-to-shop

Although this traditional city center dates back to the mid-1850s, its imaginative blend of boutiques, eateries, events, and pubs is entirely current (except – of course – for the antique shops). Square Threads, Satoria on the Square, Sarah Liz Boutique, Lizards & Lollipops, and Rhinos and Rhinestones serve locals' fashion needs, while Market with a B, The Local Exchange, and Options Designs are great go-to shops for gifts. To combat those cravings before, during, or after your shopping excursion,



Mac's Chophouse, Two Birds Taphouse, Good Kitchen + Market, The Marietta Local, and many more are not to be missed. Looking for a great date night? The Strand Theatre presents a regular rotation of movies, music, comedy, and musicals. Follow it up by sampling the latest brews at Glover Park Brewery. Seeking fun for the whole family? The city regularly hosts a wide variety of events on the square, including a weekly year-round farmers' market, Ghosts of Marietta tours, Art in the Park Festival, Fourth of July Parade and Festival, and more.

Town Center at Cobb

towncenteratcobb.com

The perfect answer for shoppers who prefer an indoor shopping experience, Town Center is located at 400 Ernest W Barrett Parkway in Kennesaw. It is home to national brands like Abercrombie & Fitch, Aerie, Claire's, Francesca's, Garage, Hollister, PacSun, Pandora, and Sephora, among others. Belk, JCPenney, and Macy's anchor the mall, and its food court boasts Charley's Cheesesteaks, Chick-fil-A, Sbarro, Little Tokyo, Taco Bell, and more. Surrounding the mall are several fan-favorite restaurant chains, such as Shogun Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi, Provino's Italian Restaurant, The Varsity, and The

Juicy Crab Kennesaw. AMC Barrett Commons 24 and the other big box retailers of Barrett Pavilion and Cobb Place Shopping Center – including Duluth Trading Company, Cost Plus World Market, Target, and Ulta are less than two miles away on the other side of I-75.

Vinings Jubilee

viningsjubilee.com

This open-air shopping district boasts an impressive lineup of shops and restaurants, including Another Broken Egg Café, bartaco, Banana Republic, Cold Stone Creamery, Fab'rik, Hobnob Neighborhood Tavern, Mellow Mushroom, Stockyard Burgers and Bones, and more. This center is also big on the concept of self-care with tenants like Pure Barre, Orangetheory Fitness, SweatHouz Infrared Sauna, Sweet Peach Wax & Sugaring Studio, and Restore Hyper Wellness + Cryotherapy, among others. You'll find Vinings Jubilee at 4300 Paces Ferry Rd SE in Atlanta's Vinings neighborhood.

Be sure to add the shops, restaurants, and events of historic Downtown Kennesaw, Powder Springs, Smyrna, Acworth, and Austell to your list of stops!

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Micro Nutrients	✓	Some
Broadleaf Weed Control	✓	✓
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Granular Fertilizers	✓	✓
Pre-Emergents	✓	✓
Body Cameras - Video Recorded Treatments	✓	Unavailable

The Definitive Guide to East vs West Cobb

“one’s not half two. it’s two are halves of one”
~ e.e. cummings

Known as “Atlanta’s Sweet Spot,” Cobb County is beloved by residents and visitors alike. Still, there has long been a friendly local rivalry between the two halves of this one awesome whole. In this “definitive guide” to East vs. West Cobb, we’ll outline the cities and destinations they encompass, and you can decide which sounds like the conquering contender to you. In our purview, it’s ALL GOOD!

East Cobb

Cities:

Unincorporated, but many residents have a Marietta mailing address | East Cobb is primarily considered its own entity, an affluent suburb of Marietta | It encompasses 30062, 30066, 30068, 30067, and 30075 zip codes | Cherokee County borders it to the North; Fulton County and the Chattahoochee River to the East; I-285 to the South; and I-575 and I-75 to the West | East Cobb is generally considered anything in Cobb County that is East of I-75 and incorporated Marietta

Local Nickname and the Why Behind It:

Known by a select few as “Snob Cobb,” it is largely marked by upscale, established neighborhoods and highly revered schools. That said, for every East Cobbian we’ve encountered, we’ve only found them to be warm, welcoming, and imbued with a distinctive sense of Southern charm.

Cool Historical Fact:

It was first proposed by the “Citizens for the City of East Cobb” that East Cobb be incorporated as a city in 2009. Georgia Representative Matt Dollar brought it to the House floor ten years later. The measure went before the voters of East Cobb as a referendum vote in 2022, where 73% of voters indicated they wished to remain unincorporated. Had it passed, East Cobb would have become the largest city in Cobb County and the second largest city in Georgia, behind the City of Atlanta.

Notable Neighbors:

Chef Alton Brown | Former Braves Manager, Bobby Cox | Former Georgia Governor, Lester Maddox | Former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich | Former U.S. Senator, Johnny Isakson | TV Personality, Ty Pennington | Musicians Chris and Rich Robinson of the Black Crowes

Fun Fact:

The municipality made Money Magazine’s coveted list of Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2016.

Sensational Shopping & Dining: Paper

Mill Village | Merchant’s Walk | The Avenue East Cobb

Playful Parks:

East Cobb Park | Mabry Park | Hyde Farm Park | Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Signature Events:

Taste of East Cobb (May) | The East Cobber Parade & Festival (September)

Superlative Schools:

East Cobb boasts the highly ranked Lassiter, Pope, and Walton High School Districts among its claims to fame



West Cobb

Cities:

Acworth, Kennesaw, Mableton, Powder Springs, and Smyrna | West Cobb is generally considered anything in Cobb County that is West of I-75 and incorporated Marietta | Smyrna made Money Magazine's Best Places to Live in 2018 | Kennesaw was dubbed among the Ten Best Towns for Families by Family Circle Magazine in 2007

Local Nickname and the Why Behind It:

Known by a select few as "Corn Cobb," it is largely marked by rural farmland – although, with a rapid rise on the residential side, the recent construction of several new state-of-the-art schools, and the conversion of historic downtowns to vibrant city centers, it's unlikely that this "corny" nickname will stick much longer

Solemn Historical Fact:

West Cobb is home to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, the site of one of the bloodiest single days of the Atlanta campaign during the Civil War. When the smoke cleared, the Union Army had lost 3,000 men, and the Confederate Army had lost 1,000.

Notable Neighbors:

Actress Julia Roberts | Rapper Lil' Yachty | Pro baseball players Ron Gant and Dansby Swanson | Pro football quarterback Justin Fields | Former Georgia Governor Roy Barnes | Actress Halle Bailey | Racecar driver Kyle Fowler

Fun Fact:

Portions of the 1982 Kenny Rogers movie Six Pack and the 2011 remake of Footloose were filmed in Downtown Acworth

Sensational Shopping & Dining:

The Avenue West Cobb | Town Center at Cobb | Downtown Acworth | Downtown Kennesaw | Ivy Walk Shops | Smyrna Market Village | NOTE: West Cobb Diner is a local landmark

Playful Parks:

Brinkley Park | Cauble and South Shore Parks on Lake Acworth | Fox Creek Golf Course | Heritage Park | Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park | Lake Court Park | Lost Mountain Park & Tennis Center | Silver Comet Trail | Thurman Springs Park | Wildhorse Creek Park

Signature Events:

Acworth Farmers Market (Fridays April-October), Acworth Art Fest (April), Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival (May), July 4th Celebration & Fireworks, Taste of Acworth (October), and Light Up Main Golf Cart Parade (December) | Kennesaw's Big Shanty Festival (April), Farmers Market (Mondays April-September), Outdoor Movie Series (May-July), Salute to America (July) and Pigs & Peaches BBQ Festival (August) | Powder Springs' Bark in the Park (June), 4th of July Celebration, Sounds of the Springs Concert Series (July-September), Chili Cookoff (November), and Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting (December) | Smyrna's Spring Jonquil Festival (April), Summer Concert Series (June-August) and Spooky Festival (October)

Superlative Schools:

West Cobb includes the highly ranked Kennesaw Mountain, Hillgrove, and Harrison High School Districts among its strong suits | It is also home to the Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution, Kennesaw State University

Fasten Your Seatbelts

Six Flags Over Georgia Just Became Even MORE Thrilling Storm.

2024 not only represents Six Flags Over Georgia's 57th season as the "Thrill Capital of the South," but it also marks the debut of a first-of-its-kind attraction that combines the THRILL of a roller coaster with the CHILL of a unique water attraction. The Georgia Surfer showcases nearly 590 feet of U-shaped track that climbs a soaring 144 feet to its peak at a speed of almost 60 MPH before gliding backward and splashing down multiple times in the water feature below.

After they climb into their state-of-the-art vehicle boasting a surfboard-inspired design and two free-spinning gondolas with seats facing outwards, riders can expect:

- A powerful launch, courtesy of the attraction's linear synchronous motor (LSM) system
- Four interactive water feature moments at the Splash Zone – including an onlooker-soaking vertical wave wall, a low-cutting splash, a combination of the two, and a water vortex tunnel
- Three instances of "weightlessness" as they catch air on the ride's pair of gravity stall ramps
- Four different airtime experiences at the central camelback at the ride's core
- The chance to ride this attraction both backward and forward
- A different experience virtually every time based on the position of their seat from one ride to the next

During colder months of the year, the water feature will be turned off so riders can still enjoy the thrills without the shirt-soaking chills. Considered a Maximum Thrill Ride, The Georgia Surfer is located in the ScreamPunk section of the park, alongside such old favorites as Thunder River white water raft challenge and Gold Town Racer Go Karts, as well as the circa 2019, 15-story-high thrill ride, Pandemonium.

Originally dubbed the Ultra Surf Coaster, a call went up for name suggestions – to which 2,500 fans responded. More than 27,000 votes were cast, making The Georgia Surfer the winning contender. The first-of-its-kind ride is slated to open Summer 2024. Its addition will bring the park's total coaster count to 13.

To learn more about The Georgia Surfer, plan your visit around upcoming events at Six Flags, and purchase your single-day tickets or season passes, visit SixFlags.com/OverGeorgia

Twice the Thrills: Six Flags and Cedar Fair Become One

Six Flags Entertainment Corporation, the parent company of Six Flags Over Georgia and 26 other parks across the United States, Mexico, and Canada, announced a merger with Cedar Fair in November 2023. This move makes the combined company one of the world's leading amusement park operators, boasting an expanded portfolio of 42 iconic parks and nine resort properties across 17 states, Canada, and Mexico. In addition to a solid financial profile, the merger provides a more diversified geographic footprint with a balanced presence in year-round operating climates. Previously, Cedar Fair operated 13 properties in Ohio, California, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Texas and Toronto, Ontario. The merger also allows for a more robust operating model and technology platform geared toward improving the guest experience and park efficiencies.

GRAND SLAM



How Truist Park and the Atlanta Braves are Taking the Game of Baseball by Storm.

The Atlanta Braves aren't just a formidable major league baseball team that lays claim to the 1995 World Series Championship title. They are the oldest continuously operating sports franchise in America...

Their Story Began Over a Thousand Miles Away

Legend holds that baseball was invented in 1839, and the Atlanta Braves got their start 32 years later, but it wasn't in Atlanta, and they weren't called the Braves. Instead, it was in Boston, and they were dubbed the Red Stockings – a name that stuck for 41 years. In 1912, they took on the name – the Boston Braves. Although the city didn't stick, the name would stand the test of time. The team moved its home city to Milwaukee after 82 years and finally to Atlanta after another 13 years. It appears that with the move to Atlanta, The Braves had finally “slid into home.”

The city broke ground on Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium in 1964, and the first pitch was thrown out two years later. A record crowd of 53,775 filled the stands to watch Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run on April 8, 1974, breaking Babe Ruth's longstanding record. In 1997, the Braves moved into what had served as Olympic Stadium during the 1996 Olympic Games – renamed Turner Field, or more affectionately “The Ted” after team owner and media mogul Ted Turner. Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium was imploded that same year and converted to a parking lot for the shiny new ballfield.

Hitting a Homerun with Their New Homefield

In 2013, the Braves swung for the fences, announcing that the team would be moving its home base from the heart of the City of Atlanta to 10 miles northwest in Cobb County. Construction launched on SunTrust Park in 2014, and the first regular season game was played on April 17, 2017. Following a bank merger and rebranding,

the stadium was renamed Truist Park in 2020. With an approximate cost of \$672 million and a capacity of a little over 41,000 fans, visitors to Truist Park are struck by its unique cantilever design – where a higher percentage of seats are closer to the field than any other ballpark in the major leagues, and no seats have an obstructed view – creating a more intimate feel. In addition to the crack of the bat and the cheers of the crowd, the sounds that emanate from Truist Park occasionally include the music of A-List bands.

At Truist Park, a ballgame is so much more than just an afternoon or evening in the stands. With the construction of The Battery Atlanta just outside its gates, baseball fans are in for an unprecedented experience – whether the Braves are playing or not. The sprawling 2.25-million-square-foot mixed-use destination features an eclectic blend of shops, restaurants, pubs, and entertainment, including the 4,000-seat Coca-Cola Roxy live music venue.

Good Things to Come

In 2023, Major League Baseball announced that Truist Park will play host to the 2025 All-Star Game for the first time since 2000 and the third time since the Midsummer Classic's inception in 1933. By the time the players take the field at Truist Park, the All-Star Game will have been played in all three Braves stadiums over the course of their Atlanta career – Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium in 1972, Turner Field in 2000, and Truist Park in 2025. At the offset of 2024, more good news came out of the locker room with the announcement that the man who has secured many of the Braves' top players throughout most of this decade, Alex Anthopoulos, signed an extension to stay on as Atlanta's President of Baseball Operations through 2031. After joining the team in 2017, the Braves have won the National League East during each of Anthopoulos' six seasons in Atlanta.

To learn more about the Atlanta Braves and the “Home of the Braves” at Truist Park, visit [MLB.com/Braves](https://www.mlb.com/braves).

Cities in Cobb

County Population: 741,334 **County Seat:** Marietta
Median Household Income: \$70,246 **Median Home Price:** \$224,300
Square Miles: 340 **Millage Rate:** 28.75
Municipalities: Acworth, Austell, Kennesaw, Marietta, Powder Springs, and Smyrna

cobbcounty.org (770) 528-1000

Conveniently located about 30 minutes outside of Atlanta, Cobb County is a constantly growing suburb with much to offer. It is the second largest school district in the state with two state universities and one technical college. Tourism is the largest industry at \$2.2 billion and responsible for 25,000 jobs. They have the lowest property tax in metro Atlanta. The Braves move here has sparked economic growth and their County Airport is expanding. The historical Marietta Square attracts history buffs and antique shoppers. Key points of interest include Kennesaw Mountain, Six Flags Over Georgia, Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. The Home Depot is headquartered here. They have over 36 public Parks and are adding more and have 7 golf courses. Major transit and transportation improvements are underway. Cobb County was one of the 24 counties created in 1832 from Cherokee Indian territory. It is named for Judge Thomas W. Cobb, a former U.S. Senator. Marietta, the county seat, is said to be named for his wife. The Chattahoochee River, which forms Cobb's southeast boundary, served as a dividing line between Creek and Cherokee Indian territories.

Acworth **acworth.org** • (770) 974-7626

Acworth, located about 35 miles northwest of Atlanta, is 132 square miles. While it is close enough to Atlanta to experience professional sports and cultural events like a larger city, the small-town atmosphere of Acworth provides opportunities for families that offer fun and tranquility. Convenient to both Interstate 75 and Highway 41, area hotels are comfortable and are run by community members. Visitors, whether in the mood for down-home southern cooking, a quick sandwich, spicy Cajun cuisine, or parlor style ice cream, will find a wide range of choices. Acworth is surrounded by two beautiful lakes, Lake Acworth and Lake Allatoona, and 12 parks surround Acworth that are perfect for picnicking. Nestled along the banks of Lake Acworth is Cobblestone Golf Course, which was recently rated the #1 public course in Georgia by Golf Digest. Shoppers will revel in the eclectic nature and friendly, welcoming staff of the shops in Acworth's historical downtown district. If you are a history buff, you will certainly want to visit the many homes on the historical tour. The Dixie Highway, "the granddaddy of Interstate 75," was the first interstate to reach into the South and is Acworth's Main Street. By the time of its incorporation in 1840, Acworth prospered as a typical railroad town. Today, Acworth is designated as a Georgia Main Street City and is committed to preserving the historical significance of its downtown district buildings.

Austell **austellga.gov** • (770) 944-4300

Austell is experiencing rapid residential growth as newcomers discover its wealth of natural beauty, recreational opportunities, and a stable economic base. Austell covers 5.7 square miles. This welcoming small town provides a friendly atmosphere with commercial, industrial, and residential growth. The area has a great school system, unique shopping, easily accessible medical care, and convenient travel opportunities. The city of Austell has many family activities such as an annual Easter egg hunt, Halloween celebrations, and the festive lighting of the town Christmas tree. Strategically located in southwest Cobb County, Austell is 18 miles away from Atlanta, 10 miles from Marietta, and only minutes away from the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, making travel very convenient. Regional commercial and industrial complexes as well as cultural, recreational, and leisure activities are within easy driving distance for Austell residents. Vacations in North Georgia's mountains or along Georgia's coast and the Golden Isles are only a few hours away.

Kennesaw **kennesaw-ga.gov** • (770) 424-8274

In the 1830s, the railroad building craze hit Cobb County, and as more and more rail workers came to the county, Kennesaw grew up around that industry. Residents later founded the city in 1887. During the Civil War, Kennesaw served as the staging ground for the Great Locomotive Chase, an event now recounted at the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

A city rich in history, Kennesaw has become a destination for businesses and families looking to relocate in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Extensive

preserved Civil War battle sites allow one to step back in time to the turbulent days of battle juxtaposed to the vibrant, stable economy that is Kennesaw today. Many attractions, shops, restaurants, parks, and businesses contribute to the vitality of the city. Kennesaw State University has become one of the premier public universities in Georgia and is now the state's third largest university. The main strip in Kennesaw is Barrett Parkway, which offers Town Center Mall, a variety of restaurants, as well as multiple shopping centers and movie theaters.

Mableton **www.mableton.gov** • (404) 590-2511

Home to over 78,000 residents, Mableton is Cobb County's newest and largest city, offering a unique blend of community appeal and investment opportunity. Incorporated in 2023, Mableton enjoys a strategic location just minutes from downtown Atlanta, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and major interstate corridors—providing excellent connectivity for residential, commercial, and industrial growth.

City leadership is focused on sustainable development, infrastructure improvements, and strategic redevelopment projects to enhance property values and attract quality investment. With a diverse housing market, available development sites, and a steadily growing population, Mableton is well-positioned for long-term success in Metro Atlanta's competitive real estate landscape.

Marietta **marietta.gov** • (770) 794-5530

Marietta, the county seat, is known for its historic districts and its famous town square complete with gazebo and fountain. Offering the charm of a small town with the amenities of big-city living keeps Marietta at the top of the list for sought out areas. The downtown square bustles throughout the day as visitors and residents take advantage of the many charming shops and restaurants. The adjacent Cobb government buildings ensure an ongoing steady stream of people in and out of the area on a daily basis. U.S. 41 is one of the main roads that run through Marietta. "The Big Chicken," as residents refer to it, has become a landmark that is used to provide directions in the area. Incorporated on December 19, 1834, Marietta is the Cobb County seat of government. While the origin of the city's name is somewhat a mystery, prevailing wisdom has it that the name remembers Mary Moore, the wife of U.S. Senator and Supreme Court Judge Thomas Willis Cobb. If this origin is correct, it seems apt, as Judge Cobb is the namesake of the county itself. When, in 1864, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman marched through Marietta, he spared the city before going to burn Atlanta.

Powder Springs **cityofpowdersprings.org** • (770) 943-1666

Originally chartered as Springville in 1839, Powder Springs was well known for its seven medicinal and therapeutic springs. One historic spring is preserved in a local park not far from the Seven Springs Museum and the Silver Comet Trail. It has a population of over 15,000, up from 7,000 in 1990, and embodies the spirit of community that is prevalent throughout Cobb County with a nod to both its small town character and planned quality growth. Significant redevelopment projects are underway in the city's historic downtown. Their premier downtown access to the Silver Comet Trail across Cobb County is convenient to businesses and neighborhoods along Marietta Street and to expanding amenities at the city's linear park on Richard D. Sailors Parkway. The Silver Comet Trail and the city's 5K-certified Wild Horse and Lucille Creek trails form a unique pedestrian and bike-friendly loop around the city's historic core, and a new \$4 million downtown park will feature a trailhead entrance and inviting public space where trail travelers can take a break to enjoy casual dining at the Marietta Street Grill and Café and Hawg's Best Friend or shop at the Bookwork or Hand Me Ups. Timed to open with park completion, Railcat Brewing Company will be located in a renovated c.1900 building. The preserved Country Store on Marietta Street boasts the oldest wooden framed Coca Cola sign in Georgia. In 2018, the city issued 192 building permits for single family homes, an increase of 8% over 2017, reflecting approximately \$36 million in new investment in Powder Springs. In particular, groundbreaking events held at the end of January 2019 highlight the residential dimension of downtown growth with new development underway by Hollywood Construction and Fischer Homes. With land available for light industrial, commercial and residential development, plus access to major transit routes and nearby air, rail and intermodal centers, Powder Springs checks off many important boxes for investors and developers. Innovative changes in land inspection, plan review, and permitting processes set in 2017 have continued to save significant project time for developers and reflect the City's vision - Inspired, Invigorated, Innovative.

Smyrna **smyrnacity.com** • (770) 434-6600

Just 15 minutes from downtown Atlanta, Smyrna is known as the Jonquil City

Utilities



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(770) 917-8903
acworth.org/power-department
Cobb EMC
(770) 429-2100
cobbemc.com
Greystone Power Corp
(770) 942-6576
greystonepower.com
Marietta Power
(770) 794-5100
marietta.ga.gov/city/mpw

Gas

Atlanta Gas Light
(877) 427-4321
atlantagaslight.com
Gas South
(877) 472-4932
gas-south.com
Georgia Natural Gas
(877) 850-6200
gng.com
Infinite Energy Company
(877) 342-5434
infiniteenergy.com

SCANA Energy Natural Gas
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True Natural Gas
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truenaturalgas.com
Walton EMC Natural Gas
(770) 267-2505
waltonemcnaturalgas.com

Water and Sewer

Cobb County Water System
(770) 423-1000
www.cobbwater.org

Cable

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for the many blooms seen each spring. Once considered a sleepy bedroom suburb of Atlanta, Smyrna has fully come into its own with recognition for a successful rejuvenated downtown area. The Village Green provides a community atmosphere featuring shopping, dining, a community center, and city hall all intertwined with residential spaces. This area is structured in a Williamsburg style, with a central fountain surrounded by a long brick road. The Smyrna Community Center offers residents multiple spaces for meetings, activities, and athletics. The City attracts the millennials with its proximity to downtown Atlanta, many parks and restaurants. It is 15 square miles and has 304 acres of park and green space. The City of Smyrna was awarded the Urban Land Institute's Award for Excellence and is recognized as one of the most desirable places to live in the entire Metropolitan Atlanta area, "the place to be...the place to call home"

Unincorporated Areas

East Cobb

Typically defined as the area east of I-75 and south of Town Center at Cobb, East Cobb is a vibrant and prosperous residential and commercial community. The Cumberland-Galleria business district is a major hub for conventions and retail, and the area is home to the Atlanta Braves major league baseball team. Though not a municipality, it is a strong residential draw because of its excellent public schools and well-planned subdivisions. Shopping opportunities abound at centers like Merchant's Walk and the Avenues East Cobb. Numerous parks offering recreational activities and a close proximity to the cultural events of Atlanta continue to lure newcomers across the Chattahoochee River to this popular locale.

Vinings

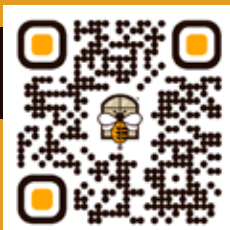
Just over the Chattahoochee River from the city of Atlanta, the small historic community of Vinings continues to attract those searching for unique shopping and dining experiences. With the affluent West Paces Ferry portion of Buckhead and the suburban community of Smyrna close by, the Vinings area offers a wide variety of residential opportunities and recreational activities. Vinings Jubilee is considered by residents to be the town center, maintaining an historic look and feel. The business climate is thriving, led by the headquarters of Home Depot that is located just outside of Vinings. The main east/west road that goes through the town is Paces Ferry Road. The area has always been and still is a very desirable area for Cobb County residents.



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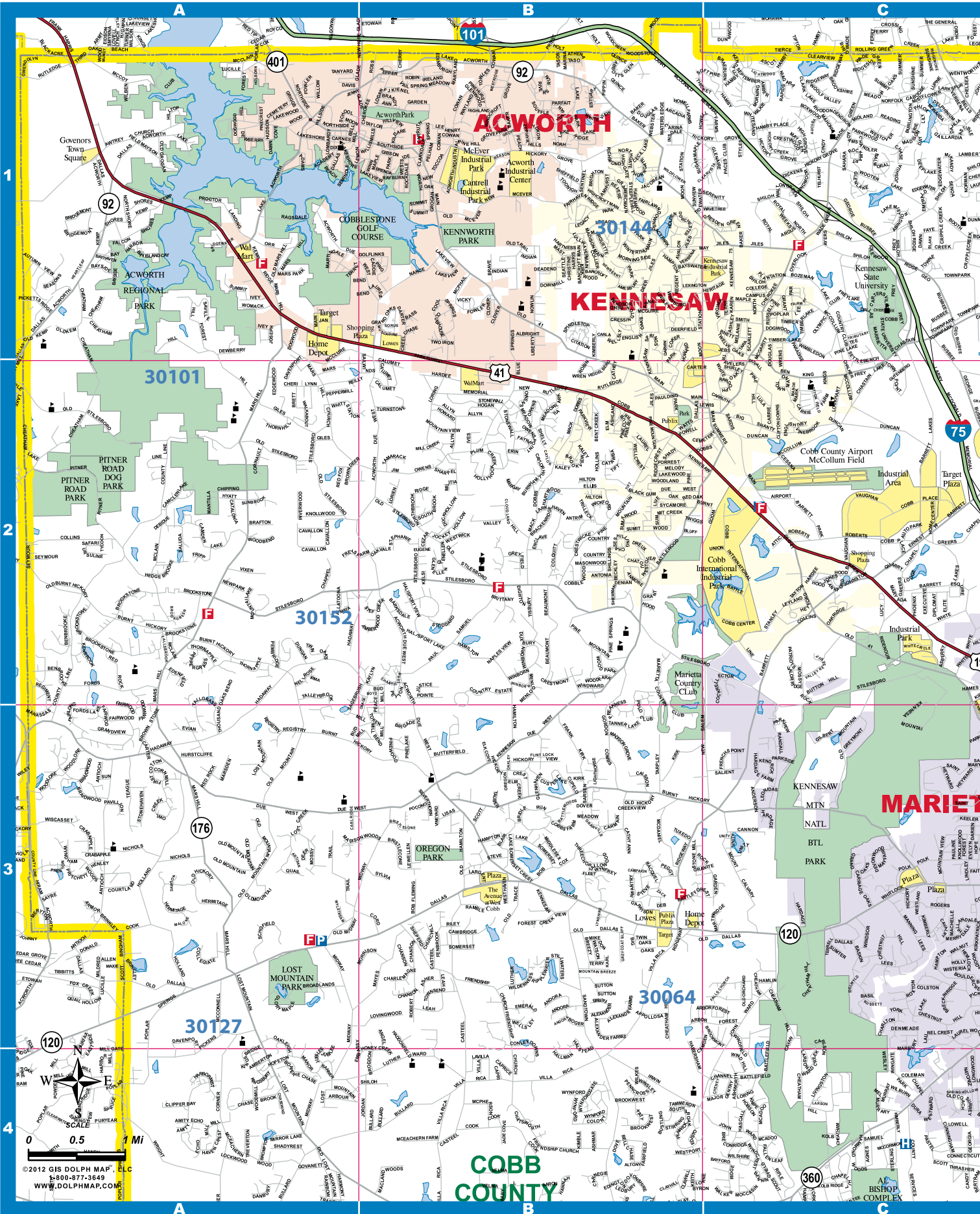
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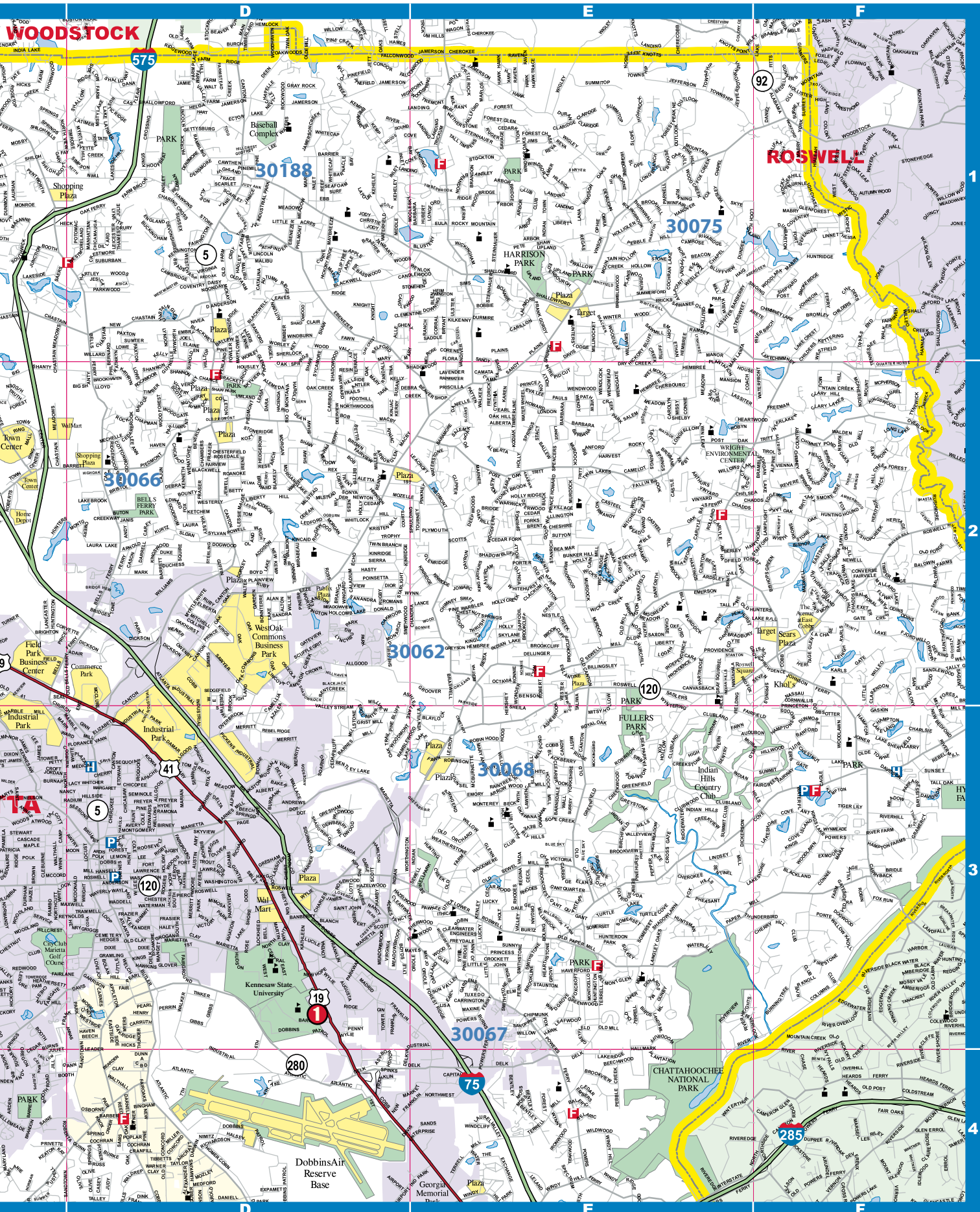
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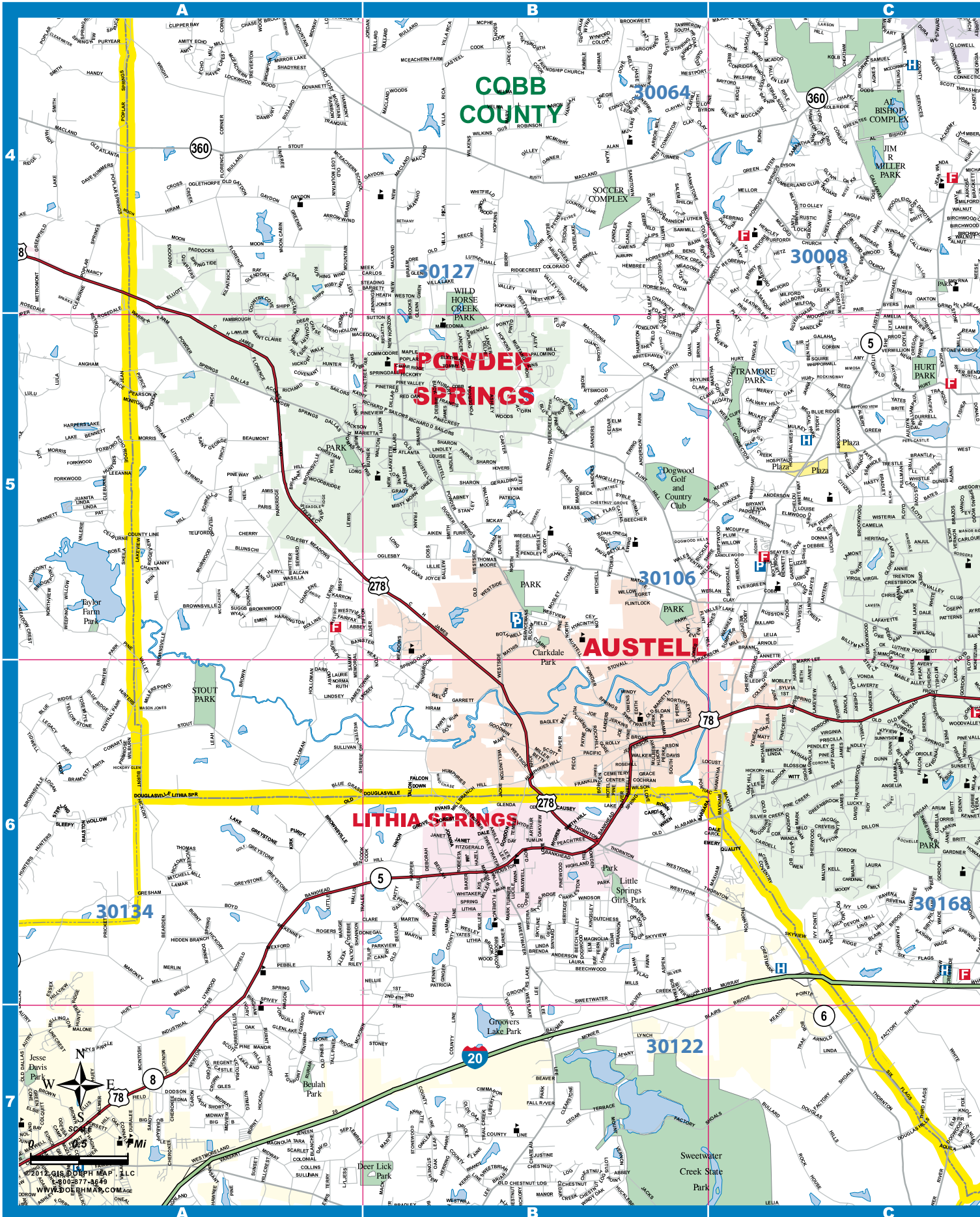


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