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## Clayton County Board of Commissioners



### PRESS RELEASE

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### **County Website Receives National A+ Rating** *Clayton County website receives national recognition for a second year*

**Jonesboro-** For the second consecutive year Clayton County's government website received an A+ rating for its openness and accountability in displaying information to the public from the Sunshine Review. The county's site is among 112 nationally recognized county websites to receive the honor. The 2011 Sunny Awards, which more than double last year's number of entries, recognized the best state and local government websites in America that exceeded transparency standards.

Since its inception in 2008, the Sunshine Review has analyzed the governmental transparency websites of all fifty states and 6,000 local governments. Grading takes into account the proactive disclosure of information regarding budgets, meetings, elected and administrative officials, permits and zoning, audits, contracts, lobbying, public records, and taxes, as well as the ease of use and availability of information.

"The A+ transparency rating that Clayton County received for its website speaks volume to the Board of Commissioners' efforts to keep the residents of the county informed regarding the day-to-day operations of the county", stated the county's director of information technology, Brett W. Lavender. "When we began developing our new website design last year one of our goals was to retain the same degree of transparency that had existed previously. With our website receiving another A+ rating for the second consecutive year, we obviously achieved that goal. I am proud of all of the hard work and effort by the entire IT team that went into the design, implementation and launch of our new, award winning site."

In 2010 Clayton County was just one of two counties in the state of Georgia to receive an A+ ranking by the national website disclosure program. This year's 2011 Sunny Award winning Georgia counties also include Cobb, Henry and Richmond.

Any concerned citizen, who is interested in monitoring their local and state government, as well as their local school districts, can take an active role in the review process by joining the Sunshine Review community. To review Clayton County's A+ rating log on to the county's website at [www.claytoncountyga.gov](http://www.claytoncountyga.gov) or to obtain additional information about the Sunshine Review visit their website at [www.sunshinereview.org](http://www.sunshinereview.org).

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