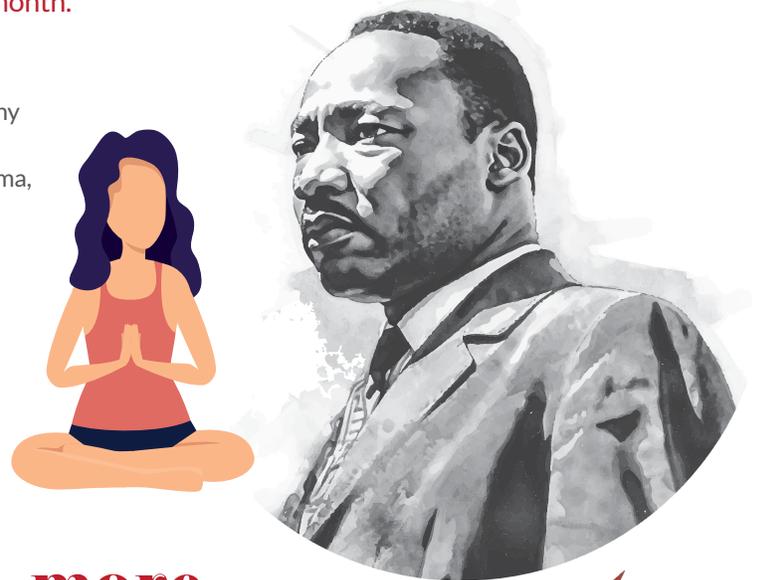


8 Reasons to Get Out of the House in January

The weather may be chilly, but don't let that keep you cooped up in the house. Make good on a New Year's resolution, stretch your legs, experience something different or just have some fun with these free activities offered this month.

- 1 LEARN something new.** January is National Hobby Month, so why not try out a new one? Attend a free hands-on class or workshop offered by retailers such as Hobby Lobby, Michaels, Williams-Sonoma, Apple, Home Depot and Lowe's.
- 2 SOAK up local history.** Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 15 by visiting the National Park Service site in Atlanta that highlights the leader's life. Admission is always free.
- 3 TAKE a hike.** Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve in Stonecrest hosts regular ranger-led hikes to explore the beauty of the Georgia piedmont.
- 4 STRETCH out.** Join a free yoga class surrounded by works of art in the galleries at the Georgia Museum of Art in Athens.
- 5 START the car.** Head to the Coweta County Visitors Center in Newnan to pick up a self-guided driving tour map leading to more than 50 historic homes.
- 6 PUSH the pedals.** Take that new bike you received for Christmas for a spin. Visit railstotrails.org for a list of the state's Top 10 trails.
- 7 BE a birder.** Georgia Audubon offers free expert-guided field trips to learn more about the state's resident and migrating birds. Find the January schedule at georgiaaudubon.org.
- 8 GO for a run.** Join one of the 23 Georgia chapters of the Road Runners Club of America and work toward the goal of participating in a competitive race like the annual AthHalf held each October in Athens.



more

Our Walton Wise blog provides more details about free experiences available this month. wالتongas.com/walton-wise



free and fun in february

Mark your calendar for Super Museum Sunday on Feb. 11. Georgia historic sites, house museums, art museums and other points of interest offer free admission for the day. Participating venues are listed at georgiahistoryfestival.org.

gas up the stove

Brownies

- INGREDIENTS**
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter
 - 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
 - 1/4 cup vegetable oil
 - 4 ounces dark chocolate
 - 2 eggs
 - 3/4 cup sugar
 - 1/4 cup brown sugar
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 1 cup mini M&M candies

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 F. Melt the butter in a saucepan. Then, add cocoa powder and oil. Whisk together. Once bubbling, remove from heat and stir in dark chocolate broken into pieces. In a bowl, whisk together flour, salt and baking powder; this is your dry ingredient mixture. In a separate bowl, use a hand mixer to combine sugar and eggs. Add vanilla and melted chocolate. Add dry ingredient mixture. Fold in chocolate chips and M&Ms. Pour the mixture into a greased 8x8 pan. Top with more M&Ms. Bake for 26 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean after being inserted into the brownies.

This year, we will highlight recipes submitted by the Walton Gas team.



“I bake mine using less time, so they come out chewy.”

— Madison Hutchins

Submitted by Madison Hutchins, senior natural gas specialist. Featured recipes are not independently tested, so we must depend on the accuracy of the cooks sending them. Always use safe food handling, preparation and cooking procedures from the recognized experts.



Do's and Don'ts of Fireplace Safety

Gas fireplaces are far safer than their wood-burning counterparts, but that doesn't mean owners should ignore basic precautions. To minimize the dangers posed by even the safest natural gas fireplace:

DO

- Schedule an annual inspection by a licensed gas technician.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every floor of your house. Change batteries twice a year.
- Follow the 3-foot rule, keeping flammable objects a safe distance from the fire.
- Leave the house, if you smell a “rotten egg” odor and suspect a gas leak. **Call Atlanta Gas Light at 877.427.4321 or 911 once you are in a safe place.**

DON'T

- Burn a fire without someone there to watch it.
- Touch the surfaces surrounding a fireplace, which can become very hot and cause injury.
- Allow children or pets to play within 2 feet of a working fireplace.
- Ignore warning signs. If fireplace won't light or heat, or there is a change in the appearance in flames or odor, discontinue use and have it checked by a professional.

Walton Gas reminds you to know and abide by these rules to keep your family safe and your fireplace operating efficiently.

GEORGIA PROUD
Walton GAS

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Front Counter Hours
Weekdays, 8 AM to 5 PM

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**Call Atlanta Gas Light
to report gas leaks or
emergencies anytime.**

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