



**FORSYTHCOUNTY**  
Department of Communications  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FORSYTH COUNTY'S INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE**  
**RATING IMPROVED**

*Rating improvement means potential insurance savings  
for residents, businesses*

**FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia** – An Insurance Services Office study was conducted in both Forsyth County and the city of Cumming in August 2008. This study audited Forsyth County's ability to serve the public through an examination of three key areas of public safety. Fire protection, E-911 service and water services were studied in a two-week exhaustive analysis, so as to appropriately define the ISO rating for Forsyth County residents and business owners. The analysis was followed by months of study and evaluation by ISO, which resulted in an improvement of the county's rating from a 6/9 to a 5. Those located within five road miles of a fire station will benefit from the rate change from a 6 to a 5. Those formerly classified as a 9 will also now be classified as a 5.

ISO ratings are on a scale from 1 to 10, with lower numbers representing better levels of protection. Ratings are based upon a number of factors, including fire response and equipment, E-911 call handling and efficiency, and fire hydrant volume and pressure availability.

Insurance companies were able to begin recognizing the new rate effective July 1. What does the rate change mean to residents and businesses? It means potential insurance savings. Residents and business owners are encouraged to contact their insurance provider for specific information on how the rate change may impact their insurance.

“The results of the inspection and rating reflect the dedication our troops have to the protection of life and property from the ravages of fire and further reflects the strong commitment the Board of Commissioners and the county administration have to our

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citizens' safety," Fire Chief Danny Bowman said. "The county has experienced remarkable growth over the years, so to not only maintain our rating but also improve it says a lot about how the county has worked to grow services along with the population increase."

The last time an ISO study was conducted in Forsyth County was 1996.

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