



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Etowah Basin Advisory Council
MEETING SUMMARY
July 23, 2008**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Etowah Basin Advisory Council met on Wednesday, July 23, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the R.T. Jones Memorial Library in Canton, Georgia.

Members Present

Dieter Franz
Marjorie Hicks
Dart Kendall, Vice Chair
Diane Minick
Ed Mullinax, Chair
Marilyn Stapleton
Roy Taylor
David Word

Welcome and Introductions

Joy Hinkle of the Metro Water District staff welcomed the Council and initiated introductions. Council members introduced themselves and shared their particular personal or professional interest in the Coosa basin.

Preliminary Draft Watershed Management Plan

Ms. Hinkle introduced Kim Shorter of Metcalf & Eddy to give an overview of the preliminary draft of the Watershed Management Plan. She explained the purpose of the meeting was to be an informal question and answer session about the preliminary draft plan and encouraged Council members to speak up about topics and sections where more information was needed. Council members provided the following questions and comments:

- Is connecting to sewer around Allatoona realistic? Could county governments be responsible for maintenance? Would need lots of coordination between the water authority and septic pumpers. Problem areas should be identified and solutions created for each area.
- Septic systems as point sources of pollution and other sources of phosphorus/fertilizers should be added as a Coosa Basin issue in the basin profile.
- The final bullet of the recommended strategies section of the basin profile should read, “Septic systems surrounding Lake Acworth and Allatoona Lake that are prone to failures are recommended to be repaired immediately or for connection to the sanitary sewer system.” Connecting to sewer shouldn’t be the only option.
- Fertilizer content policy recommendation: recommend legislation sooner, don’t wait so long to begin research, immediately ask for change in legislation so that local jurisdictions can regulate fertilizer at the local level.
- Bacteria standards policy recommendation: need to reword the last bullet – current wording is confusing and seems to indicate that local governments can remove streams from the 303(d) list rather than EPD.
- Storm drain stenciling: consider requiring all new storm drain covers to be pre-cast with education messages (last longer than stencils) in addition to or rather than stenciling.

Next Meetings

Ms. Hinkle announced there would be a joint meeting of all six Basin Advisory Councils on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 to review the preliminary drafts of the Long-term Wastewater Management Plan and the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. She encouraged Council members to look for email reminders and to check the website for meeting and plan update information.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.