



## **Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Education Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary August 12, 2008**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District) Education Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) met on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Harry West Room at the Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta, Georgia.

### **Members Present:**

Ellen Bauske, UGA Urban Ag.  
John Beale, Clayton County  
Bob Bourne, Cobb County  
Suzanne Brown, Clayton County  
Erica Dunbar, Paulding County  
Scarlett Fuller, City of Gainesville  
Mary Gazaway, Georgia EPD  
Nancy Howard, Fayette County  
Stephanie Lewis, Cobb County  
Monique Mae, DeKalb County

Jennifer McLaurin, Fulton County  
Tonja Mincey, Henry County  
Fernell Patterson, Fulton County  
Alicia Pennie, DeKalb County  
Terry Porter, City of Alpharetta  
Timothy Pugh, Paulding County  
Lisa Robbins, Gwinnett County  
Meredith Rundle, Gwinnett County  
Brian Wiley, City of Gainesville  
Cindy Wolfe, GA DNR

Charlene Njoroge welcomed the Education TCC, initiated self introductions and gave an overview of the agenda. The purpose of the meeting was to have a follow up discussion concerning the public education poll.

### **Planned and Ongoing Workshops**

Committee members announced a variety of events taking place within the next couple of weeks. The events vary from community workshops to Adopt-A-Stream and River Alive events. Now that schools are back in session many committee members will begin to get back into the classroom with their outreach activities.

Cindy Wolfe with Georgia Department of Natural Resources, encouraged committee members to involve schools within their jurisdiction with Georgia Green and Healthy Schools Program. Georgia Green and Healthy School Program provides environmental education resources for educators and school administrators in order to incorporate "green" lesson plans and practices throughout the classroom and school facilities. For more information about the program contact Cindy Wolfe.

### **Public Awareness Discussion**

Mrs. Njoroge announced the new law passed during the 2008 Georgia's Legislation Session, Water Conservation and Drought Relief Act. This act added water efficient, WaterSense products, to the list of approved tax exempt items during the tax free holiday, October 2-5, 2008. The Metro Water District will provide promotional materials, such as press releases, bill insert and electronic postcard to send to community members.

**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Education Subcommittee Meeting Summary**  
**Page 2**

Every year the Metro Water District 15 county area hires a research firm to conduct a telephone survey of residents within the 15 county areas to gauge the effectiveness of the Metro Water District's public education campaign on water conservation and water quality. During the February 2008 Education TCC meeting, the committee was presented the 2007 poll results. Many of the committee members agreed some of the questions were confusing and needed to be reworded. The committee agreed they would like to see some of the questions simplified to reduce confusion for the poll participant. As a result of those comments, the District staff will work to rephrase some of the poll questions for 2008 phone poll.

**Upcoming Events**

Mrs. Njoroge discussed the 2008 Clean Water Campaign/Water Use it Wisely Essay Contest and encouraged committee members to promote the essay contest within their communities. Mrs. Njoroge also asked for volunteers for the essay selection committee, who will meet immediately after the essay contest deadline, September 29, 2008. Volunteers were asked to email Mrs. Njoroge with their interest in joining the essay selection committee.

Mrs. Njoroge announced the Atlanta Regional Commission's photo contest, "Framing the Future". Mrs. Njoroge encouraged committee members to submit water related photos located within their jurisdiction.

**Meeting Announcements**

The next education subcommittee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 10AM.**

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.