



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
WATER SUPPLY AND WATER CONSERVATION
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
August 20, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Water Supply & Water Conservation Technical Coordinating Committees (WSWC TCC) met on Thursday, August 20, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Michael Carter, Paulding County
Todd Cleaver, Cobb County
Charles Corbin, Austell, Buford, Palmetto,
Union City, Hapeville
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County
Ernie Earn, Cobb County
Jameson Green, City of Villa Rica
Steve Green, Douglasville-Douglas County WSA
Connie Haynes, EPD
Margery Hicks, Cherokee County WSA
Bill Higgins, Cobb County
Keith Higgs, Douglasville-Douglas County WSA
Ken Jacobs, Cobb County
Abdul Karim Khan, City of East Point
Lee Kearns, City of McDonough
Eric Lacefield, City of Villa Rica
Charles Lambert, DeKalb County Watershed
Management
Billy Lunsford, City of East Point
Jennifer McLaurin, Fulton County

Tonja Mincey, Henry County WSA
Becky Mixon, Cobb County-Marietta Water
Authority
Ed Mullinax, City of Cartersville
Jackson Myers, City of College Park
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County
Glenn Page, Cobb County-Marietta Water
Authority
Guy Pihera, Clayton County Water Authority
Lee Pope, Rockdale Water Resources
Timothy Pugh, Paulding County
Richard Randolph, City of East Point
Ken Rearden, Hall County
Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock
Jack Tanner, City of McDonough
Mike Thomas, Clayton County Water Authority
Keith Watkins, Clayton County
Brian Wiley, City of Gainesville
Emily Wingo, Georgia EPD

Maia Davis of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

GAWP Asset Management Committee

Ken Jacobs of the Cobb County Water System provided a presentation on best management practices for asset management. The presentation included an overview of asset management and an explanation of the Sustainable Infrastructure Management Program Learning Environment (SIMPLE) tool. The Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Asset Management Committee worked with the Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) and the Water Research Foundation (WRF) to make the tool available to water systems in Georgia.

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District Toilet Rebate Program Marketing Plan Overview

Lora Nance, an intern with the Metro Water District Regional Toilet Rebate Program, presented the completed marketing plan for the program. Her presentation included an overview of the Toilet Rebate Program, key components of a marketing plan, and the goals of the Toilet Rebate Program. It was suggested that the created marketing materials could be provided to nongovernmental organizations and the Metro Water District staff should keep a list of the number of stores visited and associates trained. A TCC member requested that the water provider be notified of what stores in their area have been trained.

Draft Model Water Waste Ordinance Review

Abby Owens presented a draft version of the water waste ordinance. The ordinance states the purpose of the ordinance, defines water waste through a list of prohibited actions, provides a list of exceptions to the ordinance, references the State outdoor water use guidelines, and suggests procedures for enforcement of the ordinance. It was suggested that "any form of precipitation" in the prohibited actions section should be more clearly defined as raining. One TCC member suggested modifying the second exception to allow water to be applied as a dust control measure as required by erosion and sedimentation rules. It was suggested that the fifth exception should be clarified because currently it is unclear what traffic flow control devices are and how they waste water. It was suggested that three exceptions be added: power washing according to the Environmental Protection Division's rules, car washing if locally permitted, and draining of pools in accordance to local guidelines. A few TCC members felt the ordinance, as written, was unrealistically stringent. In general, the TCC did not support the ordinance and did not think it was a good approach. The cost of policing and administering the ordinance would far outweigh the minor water savings. It was recommended that education coupled with tiered conservation rates was a better approach. Staff will re-evaluate the approach based on the TCC comments.

Water Litigation Ruling Discussion

Pat Stevens presented a summary of the recent ruling by Judge Magnuson on the litigation in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Tallapoosa basin. Ms. Stevens suggested looking at additional water conservation measures with the directly affected parties to the litigation and then bring a list of suggested conservation measure back to the TCC.

Metro Water District HOA Watering Restrictions Research

Maia Davis presented a summary of the results found in researching what landscaping and outdoor water use requirements exist in homeowner association covenants or bylaws. According to the research, very few homeowners associations have requirements for landscaping that promote excessive water use. The most common item found was that rain barrels may be required to be in the rear of houses, buried, covered, or concealed. Maia suggested to the group that given the findings, further research and action would not be necessary on this topic and the group agreed.

TCC members were reminded to pick-up a copy of the Water Supply and Water Conservation Plan.

The meeting was adjourned.