

MAKE EVERY

DROP COUNT

2018 High School Video Contest Fact Sheet

Metro Atlanta has a unique water story. The 15 counties of metro Atlanta rely almost entirely on surface water (lakes, rivers, and streams) to meet the water needs of the region. Here are the facts:

- » Surface water makes up 99 percent of metro Atlanta's total water supply.
- » A thick layer of granite extends under a large part of our region, significantly limiting the amount of water that comes from the ground.
- » Unlike many major cities, Atlanta wasn't developed because of its proximity to a major water source. Atlanta developed around railroad industry and was known as Terminus because it was the end of several railroad lines.
- » The rivers and streams in metro Atlanta are the headwaters of five major river basins and are rather small.
- » The region's streams are fed by rainwater. Rainfall in metro Atlanta can vary dramatically from year to year. On average metro Atlanta receives about 50 inches of year. Though in some years rainfall can be as low as 30 inches and other years it can exceed 70 inches. Drought is cyclical.
- » Conservation is key!
- » We encourage you to use additional information found at www.mydropcounts.org and www.epa.gov/watersense

Water conservation is a critical component to sustainably managing our region's water resources and being a good upstream neighbor. Each of us must do our part everyday to conserve water. Turn off the tap while brushing teeth and scrubbing dishes, find and repair leaky faucets and fixtures, and reduce your outdoor water use. By conserving water, we are sure to make every drop count!

