



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
CHATTAHOOCHEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Meeting Summary  
July 15, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council met on Thursday, July 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Johns Creek Environmental Campus in Roswell, GA.

**Members Present**

Femi Adesanya	Jo Ann Macrina, Dekalb County
Patty Berkovitz, Watershed Alliance	George Martin, Georgia Power
Rick Blackwell, Let's Go Fishing USA	Tavia McCuean, Forestar Group
Bob Bunker, RM Bunker Associates LLC	Charles McMullen III
David Chastant, City of Sandy Springs	Doug Miell
Steven Culp, Veolia Water NA	William Millkey
Jared Daley	Michael Morton
Steve Foster	Kevin Norton, Paulson Mitchell, Inc.
Douglas Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation	John Oliver, URS Corporation
Martin George	Eric Olson
Jill Glascock	Glenn Page, CCMWA (Becky Mixon, Alt.)
Laura Hartt, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper	K. Scott Robertson, Sweetwater Environmental
James Hawkins	Wes Rogers
Patrick Heerdt	Nathan Shields
Travis Eugene Henry, Douglas Farm Bureau	Bryan Tolar, GA Agribusiness Council
Warren Howe	Billy Turner
Kenneth Kagy, Gwinnett County	Wayne Waldrip, Keep Smyrna Beautiful
Mike Kauffmann, City of Villa Rica	Butch Watson III, Croy Engineering
F. Keith Laguaite	Larry Wood, City of Villa Rica
John Lawrence, BAC Chair	Van Yon, ReMax Executives Inc.

**Members Not Present**

Keith Bentley, Keep Smyrna Beautiful	Matthew Floyd
Ginger Blackstone, GA Dept. of Labor	James Martell
Harry Boone	Jason O'Rourke, Council for Quality Growth
Alan Bowling, Cobb S&WC District	Catherine Pruitt, Stevenson & Palmer Eng.
William Braswell, West GA Board of Realtors	Yomi Sholarin, Comm. Board of Realtors
Ellis Cadenhead, Coweta W&S Authority	Martin Smith
Howard Carson Jr., Carson Developments, Inc.	George Taylor Jr., Oglethorpe Power Corp.
Daryl Cook, Watts & Browning Enter's Inc.	Mark Wolff
Lee Duncan	Kenneth Wood, Planners and Engineers Coll.
Katherine Feeman, Big Trees Forest Preserve	

### **Non Chattahoochee BAC Members Present**

Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water  
Russell Tinning, GA Soil & Water Conservation Commission

### **Metro Water District Staff Present**

Heather Moody, Senior Program Specialist  
Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner  
Corey Babb, Senior Environmental Planner  
Marisa Duff, Senior Environmental Planner

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Chattahoochee BAC Chair John Lawrence welcomed the group and asked the Council members to introduce themselves. He then introduced Mr. David Kubala, Cherokee County Board Designee, who began the meeting by welcoming the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board.

### **Discussion of Example Ordinance to Require New Car Washes to Recycle Water**

Matt Harper led a discussion of the example car wash ordinance developed to provide regulatory guidance for local governments in the Metro Water District. Measure 5.12 in the May 2009 Plan update requires local governments to have ordinances or regulations requiring all new in-bay automatic and conveyor car washes to recycle water by 2010. Mr. Harper explained that a public comment period for the ordinance was open from July 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> and said BAC members could submit their official comments via email.

BAC members had the following questions and comments during the discussion:

- Doesn't the car wash industry have its own water use certification process? *Yes, a certification program was developed in cooperation with Georgia EPD as a means for car washes to apply for exemption from water use restrictions during the drought.*
- If the state made acquiring certification a law instead of voluntary, the Metro water District could piggy-back on those requirements.
- Is there a reason this ordinance only applies to automatic car washes? *Truck washes should also recycle their water.*
- Self-service car washes should be included because they do not use a set amount of water per wash.
- What is the water use ratio for self-service car washes as compared to automatic car washes? *Self-service car washes typically use 15 gallons per wash, while the in-bay and conveyor washes typically use 50 and 35 gallons per wash respectively.*
- Are there any regulations on hand car washes? *This particular ordinance only addresses automatic car washes. Hand washes may be subject to outdoor water use restrictions through Georgia EPD. The Illicit Discharge Ordinance found in section 5 of the Watershed Management Plan would also apply if their wash water enters storm drains.*

### **Overview of Water Reuse**

Corey Babb with the Metro Water District presented an overview of the basic terminology surrounding water reuse. He described the different types of water reuse and discussed the limitations and benefits of each technology.

BAC members had the following questions and comments during the presentation:

- What are the treatment standards for reuse water? *That technical guidance is provided by Georgia EPD.*
- Although there is a need for water reuse, the balance of water retained in the river should also be considered. We need more data about how reuse will impact the river in times of drought.
- Is any return credit provided for water reuse? If not, doesn't that discourage water reuse? *Indirect potable reuse discharges treated wastewater to lakes or rivers, contributing to return flow and making that water available for downstream users. The Metro Water District was provided planning guidance by Georgia EPD to return 58% of the water withdrawn from the Chattahoochee Basin. That target is currently being exceeded and returns are planned to increase in the future. Non-potable reuse offsets the use of potable water. However, because it is not possible to measure the amount of outdoor irrigation water that travels back to the source water body, that water is not counted towards the return percentage.*

#### **Local Government Presentation on Water Reuse Projects**

Brandon Ward with the Johns Creek Environmental Campus described the water reuse projects implemented by Fulton County. Mr. Ward also provided an overview of the state-of-the-art odor and noise control technologies in operation at the facility.

During the presentation, Mr. Ward answered many questions from the BAC members about the technical specifications of the plant and Fulton's water reuse systems.

The next meeting will be held on October 21, 2010. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to begin the tour.

#### **Tour of Johns Creek Environmental Campus**

Fulton County staff members Brandon Ward and O.P. Shukla took the BAC members on an informative tour of the Johns Creek Environmental Campus. Our guides led the group through the new facility and described how their reclaimed water is treated to reuse standards.