



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
EDUCATION  
Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting Summary  
August 10, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District) Education Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) met on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Harry West Room at the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), Atlanta, Georgia.

**Members Present:**

John Butler, Gwinnett County  
Terrell Clark, Paulding County  
Erica Dunbar, Paulding County  
Kevin Finney, City of Gainesville  
Mary Gazaway, Georgia EPD  
Nancy Howard, Fayette County  
Brice Martin, Coweta County  
Jennifer McLaurin, Fulton County  
Fernell Patterson, Fulton County

Alicia Pennie, DeKalb County  
Terry Porter, City of Alpharetta  
Timothy Pugh, Paulding County  
Paul Pugliese, Cherokee County  
Michael Strickland, Clayton County  
Tracy Thigpen, Coweta County  
Brian Wiley, City of Gainesville  
Emily Wingo, GA EPD

Charlene Njoroge opened the meeting by welcoming the Education TCC members, initiating self introductions and giving an overview of the agenda.

**Outreach Activities**

The following is a list of past and current outreach activities within the Metro Water District:

- DeKalb County, Paulding County, Clayton County, Towne of Tyrone and the City of Gainesville are all partnering with Rivers Alive for river cleanups in their respective jurisdictions.
- UGA Extension Office (Cherokee County) is hosting a Landscape Design Workshop for Homeowners during September and October.
- Adopt-A-Stream will have their Confluence Conference March 26, 2010 at the Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center.
- DeKalb County is hosting a Rain Barrel Workshop on August 28, 2010.
- Gwinnett County is planning a Lawn Care Workshop and is in the processing of updating all educational materials such as brochures and public displays.
- Coweta County is planning their Rivers Alive event in conjunction with the county fair. Participants in the river clean up will receive free tickets and lunch at county fair.
- Paulding County is participating in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Heritage Festival. Paulding County is having a Middle School Art Contest. Students will draw and color pictures related to water. Twelve winners will be selected and their artwork will be made into a calendar.
- Fulton County is hosting a Rain Barrel and Household Hazardous Waste Workshop. Fulton County is also following up with homeowners who were experienced sewer system blockages.

**Public Awareness Discussion**

The new Fats Oils and Grease (FOG) brochure was given to committee members. Ms. Njoroge asked for any questions and feedback related to the brochure. The committee noted this brochure contained all information needed to educate the food industry about minimizing the amount of FOG entering the sewer systems.

Ms. Njoroge would like to expand the educational materials offered by the Clean Water Campaign. Steve Haubner, Metro Water District Stormwater Engineer, proposed six brochure topics for the committee to review and rank by level of need. The topics included the following:

- Solid Waste Management (focusing on dumpsters and trash storage areas)
- Outdoor Pressure Washing and Cleaning
- Outdoor Painting and Finishing Activities
- Fueling Operations (including gas stations and mobile fueling activities)
- Salvage and/or Recycling Facilities
- Asphalt Production and Installation

The committee suggested combining Outdoor Pressure Washing and Cleaning and Outdoor Painting and Finishing Activities. The committee also suggested creating a brochure that would educate residents about general recycling practices and solid waste management. A few other topics suggested were:

- How to Dispose of Uncommon Household Materials
- Homeowner Landscaping/ Erosion/Sediment Control for Homeowners

Ms. Njoroge announced the recent WaterSense “We’re for Water” event on July 26, 2010. The U.S. EPA created “We’re for Water” as a national campaign to educate consumers about water saving behaviors and WaterSense labeled products. This event was held at the Georgia Aquarium. Some of Georgia’s WaterSense Partners who participated included Metro Water District, City of Atlanta Watershed Management Department, The Home Depot, Inc., TOTO USA, Inc., The Georgia EPD’s waterSmart Program, Georgia DNR, Cobb County Water Systems and Clayton County Water Authority. All partners displayed water conservation information and some provided interactive games for the aquarium visitors.

Ms. Njoroge logged onto the WaterSense website and gave the committee members a quick overview of some new promotional materials for the “We’re for Water” Campaign. This campaign encourages consumers to detect and replace leaks and retrofit their homes with WaterSense labeled products. The new promotional materials include PSAs, press releases, news articles and promotional event ideas.

Ms. Njoroge reminded and encouraged committee members to promote the 2010 Clean Water Campaign/Water Use It Wisely Essay Contest within the school and communities in their jurisdiction, flyers and entry forms were provided.

The next education subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 10AM.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.