



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
EDUCATION  
Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting Summary  
November 9, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District) Education Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) met on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Harry West Room at the Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Members Present:**

Ellen Bauske, UGA Ext. Office  
Bob Bourne, Cobb County  
John Butler, Gwinnett County  
Terrell Clark, Paulding County  
Erica Dunbar, Paulding County  
Damon Johnson, DeKalb County  
Stephanie Lewis, Cobb County  
Jennifer McCoy, Cobb County

Shayla Nealy, Clayton County  
Terry Porter, City of Alpharetta  
Tim Pugh, Paulding County  
Mary Sheffield, UGA Ext. (Paulding)  
Michael Strickland, Clayton County  
Steven Strickland, City of Doraville  
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 outreach activities taking place throughout the region by local water educators:

- Cobb County continues to host Adopt-A-Stream. Cobb County is looking to expand their school program to include Outdoor Classroom Activities. Cobb County is partnering with other local governments to put on the annual Children's Water Festival scheduled for May 3, 2011, during Drinking Water Week.
- Paulding County is planning a few Adopt-A-Stream and Rivers Alive events.
- DeKalb County outreach is heavily focused on the community setting. As a part of the OneDeKalb Initiative, environmental educators are going into neighborhoods and educating residents about water issues. OneDeKalb is a new program that encourages DeKalb residents to contact DeKalb through a central location about their concerns or questions and DeKalb County dispatches their outreach staff to respond through meetings, community events, classes and workshops.
- City of Gainesville continues with Rivers Alive and school presentations.

- Clayton County just finished their Rivers Alive Event at Independence Park; close to 200 volunteers participated. The ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held for the Huie Constructed Treatment Wetlands.
- City of Alpharetta is hosting an electronic recycling day and a Household Hazardous Day and Paint Collection. For the first time, City of Alpharetta will collect old paint and recycle many of the collected materials into alternative fuel.
- Gwinnett County recently held a Detention Pond Workshop and is currently meeting with HOAs and civic organizations to hold “Stormwater 101” workshops, teaching residents the basics about water pollution. Gwinnett County is also working on revamping their Stormwater Outreach Program.

### **Public Awareness Discussion**

Ellen Bauske with UGA Cooperative Extension Office announced a new water conservation challenge called the 40 Gallon Challenge. This challenge is open to 7 states: Georgia, Texas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Alabama and Kentucky. This challenge will include an interactive website where state residents visit to pledge to conserve water through simple daily actions. The website will calculate gallons of water saved by each state. At the end of the year, the state with the most gallons saved will be declared the winner. This challenge will start mid January 2011 and continue through December 2011. To learn more information about the 40 Gallon Challenge, contact Paul Pugliese with the UGA Cooperative Extension Agency, Cherokee County Office.

Ms. Njoroge announced the winners of the 2010 Clean Water Campaign/Water Use It Wisely Essay Contest. The regional winner is Kenneth Doyle, a seventh grader from Redan Middle School in DeKalb County. The names and information regarding county winners can be found at the Clean Water Campaign website, [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com).

Ms. Njoroge announced the upcoming WaterSense “Fix-a-Leak Week” scheduled for March 14-20, 2011. Ms. Njoroge encourages TCC members to become individual partners of WaterSense but also explained all Metro Water District members are partners through the Metro Water District Partnership Agreement. Ms. Njoroge shared promotional materials with committee members and encouraged them to use them to promote “Fix-a-Leak Week”, next year.

Ms. Njoroge asked committee members to discuss their goals and major projects and focus for 2011. These are the new initiatives for 2011:

- City of Gainesville will work on incorporating the new water conservation measures into their current education plan, focusing primarily on retrofit.

- Other local governments agreed to continue with current water quality and conservation outreach activities.

The next education subcommittee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 10AM.**

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.