



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

40 Courtland Street NE | Atlanta, Georgia 30303

**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
EDUCATION
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
February 4, 2015**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District) Education Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) met on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Harry West Room at the Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Deirdre Blackard, Rockdale County
Yolanda Boazman, City of Atlanta
Bob Bourne, Cobb County
Tara Brown, Henry County
Terrell Clark, Paulding County
Kim Davis, City of Atlanta
Sheri Dorn, UGA Extension
Chris Faulkner, Metro Water District
Jennifer Flowers, City of Gainesville
Dane Hanson, City of Sandy Springs
Jennifer McCoy, Cobb County
Heather Moody, Gwinnett County
Michael O'Shield, DeKalb County

Rhonda Peck, Forsyth County
Erica Pope, Paulding County
Terry Porter, City of Alpharetta
Michele Prescott, Rockdale County
Lyndsey Sargent, Douglas County
Mary Sheffield, UGA Extension Paulding
Cornell Sims, Clayton County
Marjorie Thomas, National Park Service
Kostoula Vallianos, Metro Water District
Amy Warnock, Cobb County
Brian Wiley, City of Gainesville

Kostoula Vallianos, Metro Water District staff, opened the meeting by welcoming Education TCC members and initiating self-introductions.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2015 Fix a Leak Week Material

Ms. Vallianos reviewed the material provided to education partners including: WaterSense Fix a Leak Week logos, logo instructions, Metro Water District press release and newsletter blurb. Ms. Vallianos discussed the Metro Water District's Fix a Leak Week promotional outreach efforts with corporate Home Depot partners and store managers. In addition, education partners were reminded that the next Water Drop Dash conference call was scheduled for February 5, 2015.

2015 School Contests

Education partners were reminded to promote the 2015 High School Video Contest. The contest deadline is Friday, March 27, 2015. This year's theme is "Here's the Scoop on Pet Waste." All contest information and forms can be found at <http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/education-awareness/high->



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[school-video-contest](#). In addition, Ms. Vallianos facilitated the revision of the 2015 Middle School Water Essay Contest question. The 2015 question is focused on storm water pollution prevention. Outreach for the 2015 Middle School Essay Contest will begin in August.

2015 Children's Water Festivals

Children's Water Festivals are scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at the National Park Service Paces Mills Unit and Friday, May 8, 2015 at Clayton County's Shamrock/Blalock Reservoirs. Upcoming planning meetings are scheduled for March 3rd and March 27th respectively. Partners are encouraged to participate in these events.

The Region's Plan

Chris Faulkner, Metro Water District staff, provided an overview of the Atlanta Regional Commission's Region's Plan, an update of Plan 2040. The Region's Plan is transportation plan, but includes many components including land use and stormwater management. The Natural Resource Division of the Atlanta Regional Commission is working closely with other Atlanta Regional Commission staff on the Region's Plan. Education partners were encouraged to promote the Metroquest survey associated with the plan update. The survey can be accessed at www.atlantaregional.com.

Ticket to Ride Program

Marjorie Thomas, National Park Service staff, discussed the National Park Service program called "Ticket to Ride." Fulton County and Cobb County have both partnered with the National Park Service to bring Title I students to the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area for hands on water education. County partners conduct in class visits with students before and after their fieldtrip. Ms. Thomas encouraged other education partners to consider using this program model.

Water-Wise Landscape Guide Next Steps

Sheri Dorn, UGA Extension staff and Ms. Vallianos discussed next steps in the UGA and Metro Water District collaboration known as the Landscape Water-Wise program, which will include workshops, certified demonstration gardens, speaker's bureau. Tentative schedules for each program activity were also discussed.

Other

- Plan Update
 - The Metro Water District has selected a consultant for the Metro Water District Plan update. One of the consultant's first tasks will be to assess the 2009 plans and report back to the TCCs.
- 2015 Education TCC Meeting Dates
 - May's Education TCC will be cancelled. August 5th and November 4th are the remaining Education TCC meeting dates scheduled for 2015.
- 2015 Photo Calendar Contest
 - The 2nd Annual Calendar Contest will open sometime in the spring 2015. Theme and deadlines are being determined.
- Event Highlights
 - Education activities for the next quarter were discussed and reviewed.