



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
COOSA / ETOWAH BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
October 27, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Coosa/Etowah Basin Advisory Council met on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the RT Jones Memorial Library in Canton, GA.

Members Present

Doris Cook, Etowah W&S	William Francis, GAWP
William Grizzle, Cherokee Co Farm Bureau	John Hicks, LAPA
Nolton Johnson	Dart Kendall, GOWA
David Kubala, Cherokee W&SA	Barry Mansell, BAC Chair
Carol Moson, GA Association of Realtors	Ed Mullinax, LAPA/Cartersville Water Dept
Donald Salkman	Douglas Sowar, Paulding Co Farm Bureau
Christina Williams, City of Cartersville	

Members Not Present

Patricia Braithwaite	David Cervone, Obrien & Gere
James Durham	Celia Klardie, City of Canton
H. Luke Mayes, Cobb Co Farm Bureau	Robert Morrison, LAPA
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Assn of GA	Roy Taylor
Martha Williams, Georgia Lakes Society	

Non Coosa/Etowah BAC Members Present

Diane Minick
Deborah Millsap
Marjorie Hicks

Metro Water District Staff Present

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner
Steve Haubner, Principal Water Resources Engineer
Heather Moody, Senior Program Specialist

Welcome and Introductions

Barry Mansell, Coosa/Etowah BAC Chair, introduced Mayor Rick Roberts, Cherokee County Board Designee, who began the meeting by welcoming the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board.

About the Metro Water District

Heather Moody gave a brief presentation on key aspects of the Metro Water District. She first explained where the District acquires its funding. Ms. Moody then provided more information on the Implementation Survey process and described the structure of the Annual Report. Lastly, she gave members an overview of the Georgia EPD audit process and how it relates to Metro Water District plan enforcement.

In response to a question, BAC Member David Kubala spoke further about his experience with the EPD Audit process. A member also asked Mr. Kubala about the status of the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir. He replied that the reservoir level had risen but Safe Dams Act provisions did not allow them to hold all the rainfall back.

Review of the Watershed Management Plan

Steve Haubner of the Metro Water District staff reviewed the newly adopted Watershed Management Plan. Mr. Haubner presented an overview of key watershed management issues and showed the BAC where to find specific information in the Plan. All BAC members were provided with a hard copy of the District's Watershed Management Plan.

Council member David Kubala reminded the group that non-point source pollution can also be caused by natural loads that may be considered pollutants but are part of the natural environment. At certain times, natural loads can cause a body of water to exceed permitted levels.

In response to a question about how EPD ensures compliance with the plans, Steve Haubner explained that audits are triggered by the permitting and renewal process or through application for GEFA funding. He added that only a few small cities in the District do not pursue permits or GEFA funding.

A member asked for an example of what was meant by the term Green Infrastructure. Steve Haubner replied that green space or vegetated swales in lieu of concrete ditches would be one example.

Facility Tour

Diane Minick, Executive Director of the Upper Etowah River Alliance gave BAC members a tour of the impressive grounds surrounding the Alliance's headquarters. Participants saw many outstanding examples of stormwater control techniques including rain gardens, rainwater collection cisterns, swales and a pervious parking pad.