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# COBB COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

## Communications & Education Division

# ANNUAL REPORT

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June 2024 - May 2025



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23,507 people reached

EDUCATION & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES - 5,276 PEOPLE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES - 18,231 PEOPLE

- Community Programs: 2,658 participants, 161 events, 160 contact hours
- School Programs: 14,384 students, 101 schools, 544 classrooms, 352 instructional hours
- Volunteer Programs: 1,225 participants, 1,234 events, 3,960 service hours *(includes 1,209 hours of training)*

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This report summarizes Cobb County Water System's efforts to support and protect the community by educating residents on practices that help enable the public to make informed choices related to water resources, fosters good habits and responsible behaviors, and creates an ethic of stewardship and community service.

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Cobb County Water System's Communications & Education Division (CED) plans and facilitates activities and events designed to fulfill Cobb County Water System's education requirements as outlined by the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD), Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS).

## OUR VISION

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We envision a community in which all residents and businesses value our water resources, upholding with integrity their responsibility for water quality, conservation, and environmental health.

## OUR MISSION

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Our mission is to engage and educate the Cobb community, providing them with the knowledge, opportunities, and resources to implement responsible water practices that protect and conserve our water resources.

## MESSAGE FROM STAFF

In the same way that water fills every space and gap of the area it is in, our Communications and Education Division has worked hard this past year to fill with knowledge as many Cobb residents as possible through communication efforts, school programming, volunteer opportunities, and community events.

Having settled into our new shared space, we've found new ways to work together and support each other's efforts more effectively. Our programs and communications initiatives have been revitalized and enhanced, leading to recognitions by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (Program of Excellence for the Senior Programming) and the Environmental Protection Division's Adopt-A-Stream Program. A special mention goes out to Mike Kahle for receiving the Adopt-A-Stream Trainer of the Year Award!

The Outreach Volunteer Program's training changed from a six-evenings to a one-evening session, making it possible to recruit volunteers four times a year. During the spring, we proudly celebrated the achievements and accomplishments of our dedicated volunteers. Some of them received special recognitions for their efforts and contributions.

Our division is also pleased to welcome two new team members to our School & Youth programs: Justin Johnson and Holly Bishop. Their fresh perspectives and talents have already made a meaningful impact. On the other hand, the time came to say goodbye to our Seasonal Puppeteer, Kristin Picken, and our Intern, Gabriel James. Both were with us for over two years. We wish them the best of luck in their new adventures.

The past year has been one of connection, team building, and communication. As we look ahead into the new year, we are energized by the work we've made and are eager to continue educating the community about the protection of the environment and our most vital resource: water.

*- The Communications & Education Division*

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# OUR TEAM

CED is comprised of three teams: Communications, School & Family Programs, Volunteer & Adult Programs. Collectively, this group educates the community on issues impacting local water quality & conservation, propagates alerts and updates from the utility, and encourages respect for our natural resources.

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- **Holly Bishop, Program Leader (Part-Time)** - joined the Cobb Water team in August 2024. She has volunteer and professional experience in farming, community gardening, sustainability, and working with children.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Public Health), College of Charleston, 2018*

- **Sarah Dunn, Environmental Programs Coordinator** - taught high school biology and chemistry at private schools in Atlanta and New Orleans before joining our team in June 2023.

*Education: Master of Science (Fish and Wildlife Sciences), Mississippi State University, 2007*

*Bachelor of Science (Fish and Wildlife Sciences), Mississippi State University, 2003*

- **Kristina Ha, Communications Specialist III** - has worked for CCWS since 2008, serving primarily as website manager. In addition, she oversees graphic design for marketing and education materials.

*Education: Bachelor of Fine Arts (Interior Design), Georgia State University, 1999*

*Associate of Fine Arts (Multimedia Web and Graphic Design), Art Institute of Atlanta, 2001 (56 hours completed)*

- **Gabriel James, Intern (Part-Time)** - joined the team in May 2023. Her previous experience includes working as the Public Programs intern at Zoo Atlanta.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) and Bachelor of Art (Theatre Performance Studies), Kennesaw State University, 2025.*

- **Justin Johnson, Environmental Programs Coordinator** - joined the team in June of 2024. He has previous experience as an Environmental Educator and Team Lead for the Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Environmental Studies), University of Central Florida, 2023*

- **Mike Kahle, Environmental Programs Supervisor** - joined our team in October 2011, initially as a part-time educator. He previously worked as program coordinator and naturalist in California.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Geographical Sciences), University of Nevada, 2008*

- **Julie Knobbe, Environmental Programs Coordinator** - was a STEM Instructor before joining our team in June 2022. Previously, she was a naturalist and garden educator in Missouri, New York State, and Maryland.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Ecology), University of Illinois, 1988*

- **Angie Marcus, Environmental Programs Supervisor** - joined our team in July 2015. Her background includes work in youth counseling as well as environmental education with Virginia 4-H and Learning Tree Farms.

*Education: Master of Social Work (Family & Children), Kennesaw State University, 2014*

*Master of Education (Outdoor Education Administration), Georgia College & State University, 2000*

*Bachelor of Arts (Sociology), Lenoir-Rhyne University, 1997*

- **Jennifer McCoy, Division Manager** - worked for CCWS since 2000 as a volunteer manager, educator, and compliance inspector. Prior work includes biologist, environmental consultant, and naturalist/educator.

*Education: Master of Public Administration (Nonprofit Management), Kennesaw State University, 2011*

*Master of Science (Ecological Teaching & Learning), Lesley University, 2007*

*Bachelor of Science (Biology), Kennesaw State University, 1997*

- **Kristin Picken, Program Assistant (Part-Time)** - hired in 2022 to facilitate the Brooke & Branch Puppet Show. Previously, Education Specialist (pediatric respiratory therapy) with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta-Scottish Rite.

*Education: Bachelor of Science (Respiratory Therapy), Georgia State University, 1999*

- **Virma Vélez, Communications Specialist II** - has worked at CCWS since 2018 and joined our team in 2020. She has experience working with children and youth in outdoor and classroom settings.

*Education: Master of Arts (Communications - Writing), Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, 2015*

*Bachelor of Arts (Communications - Public Relations & Advertising), Universidad de Puerto Rico - Río Piedras Campus, 2011*

# EDUCATION & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Cobb County Water System is required to develop and distribute education materials and messages and perform outreach to inform the community and target audiences about water conservation and the management of water resources, wastewater, and watersheds.

## COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

### Bill Messaging & Newsletters

#### Monthly Education Campaign

Developed to align with seasonal happenings, educational messaging and imagery are created to help engage the community. This theme is carried across all channels (social media, website, newsletters, signage, Lunch & Learn programming, etc.) to reinforce the learning opportunity.

Summer Theme & Giveaway	Fall Theme & Giveaway	Winter Theme & Giveaway	Spring Theme & Giveaway
Pick It Up - Pet Waste Bags	Septic Smart Week - Kitchen Aerators	FOG - Jar Grippers (Nov & Dec)	Fix-A-Leak - Shower Heads
Stay Cool - Hydration & Cooling Towels	Shower Better - Shower Heads	Healthy Habits - Spigot Covers	Rate Adjustment - Rain Gauges
Every Drop Counts - Shower Timers	FOG - Sink Strainers (Nov & Dec)	Clog Prevention - Drain Snakes	Outdoor Water Use - Hose Nozzles

#### Community Newsletter: Water Matters

Four issues of the quarterly newsletter, *Water Matters*, were published this year. Approximately 1,200 paper and more than 16,000 electronic copies were distributed to our subscribers.

### Brochures & Digital Display Content

#### Brochures, Fact Sheets & Rack Cards

Printed material is available for visitors at the Customer Service, Operations, and Stormwater buildings' lobbies. They include: seasonal newsletter, educational content related to our monthly PR campaigns (FOG, Pet Waste, Indoor/Outdoor Water Use, etc.), New Hire rack cards, and factsheets on general information like Water & Wastewater 101, Tobacco Litter, and How to Read Your Meter. The lobby TV at the Customer Service building runs ads for upcoming volunteer opportunities, employee recognitions, and seasonal messages.

#### Customer Service Campus Digital Sign

Located at a busy intersection stop light, messaging is posted on monthly educational themes, priority info, upcoming programming, and relevant community notices. Sign content is created and managed by CED staff through a content management portal and instantly updates.

### Website

[www.cobbcounty.gov/water](http://www.cobbcounty.gov/water) & [www.cobbcounty.gov/water/ed](http://www.cobbcounty.gov/water/ed) (formerly [cobbwater.org](http://cobbwater.org) & [cobbstreams.org](http://cobbstreams.org))

The CED is responsible for managing the websites with information about the utility, local ordinances, bill pay, and other customer services. The Water website averages 213,600 hits per month. The Water Education website serves as the clearinghouse for all CED activities, providing education and promotional information to the community. The Water Education website averages approximately 3,675 hits per month.

### Local Government TV Station Programming

#### CobbTV

CCWS coordinates with Cobb County Communications, who manages the local government access channel, to provide public education content and information. Staff cover events, promote programs, and publish important messaging. For example, the publication of our Annual Water Quality Report is announced as a crawl message that runs across the bottom the screen from July-August each year. Special advisory communications are also published on the channel. For example, during the 2024-2025 reporting year we pushed out info about forecasted freezing conditions.





## Press Releases

### CMOM

The CED division receives press releases from the Capacity, Management, Operations & Maintenance Program (CMOM) reporting wastewater overflows into our creeks or the Chattahoochee River, and uploads them to the website. During the 2024-25 reporting year, 43 press releases were published on CMOM Program webpage.

### Special Advisories

Press releases for special messaging are sent to Cobb County Communications for distribution to the media, county newsletter, and social media. These messages included the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program discount for Cobb residential and commercial property owners, Septic Smart Week, and the submission of the Water Service Line Inventory.

### Announcements

Press release are issued to announce the opening and winners for each CED contest: Coloring Book (elementary school), Calendar (middle school), and Photography (high school). Model Water Tower Competition and Volunteer T-Shirt artwork recognitions are also published. In addition awards given by and received by CCWS are released.

## Social Media

### Platform Engagement

The CED manages all social media efforts for CCWS, actively engaging across several platforms including: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, Eventbrite, and Nextdoor. These platforms are utilized to more effectively update customers on upcoming programs and emerging issues such as unplanned water outages. Content is posted daily on Facebook and Instagram. Nextdoor is utilized for FOG and wipes messaging, targeting specific communities where blockages and overflows attributed to FOG and wipes are occurring. LinkedIn is used weekly for *Water Professional Wednesday* posts that spotlight staff roles and accomplishments as well as *We're Hiring* posts for staff recruitment. Several metrics (e.g., reach, interactions, visits, impressions, etc.) are utilized to track, evaluate, and improve these efforts.

## Signage

### Meeting Notification Signage

Cobb DOT Sign Shop fabricated and installed road signage for CCWS, notifying residents of the Biosolids Handling Community Meeting held in February.

### Watershed Signage

Our watershed signage and water quality monitoring volunteer recognition program places signs at stream crossings denoting adoption sites. In cooperation with Cobb County DOT, 6 locations received watershed and stream name signage with sponsor blades across the county.



## Video

### Production

The CED team continued to produce educational videos. Efforts included: [Imagine A Day Without Water](#), [Eco-Logical...Tips to Reduce Your Footprint - Stormwater & Illicit Discharges](#). We also produced a series of how-to videos year the billing system that launched in spring 2024: Intro to Customer Self-Service Portal, How-to Apply for a Leak Adjustment, How-to Start New Service. Videos are published as a playlist on [YouTube](#).

**8,184 views**

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## LANDSCAPE PRACTICES DEMONSTRATION SITES

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Created in 2004, Cobb's Wildlife & Rain Garden was developed to show the community ways to address common stormwater issues. Located at the CCWS Water Quality Laboratory in Marietta, visitors are able to access the site 24/7. Trails and educational signage allow for getting close to the plantings to observe the features being profiled, learn about stewardship practices they can implement in their landscape, and gain an improved understanding of the land ethic. The site has been certified as a Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation, a Monarch Waystation by the University of Kansas, and a Pollinator Habitat by Monarchs Across Georgia. Our community educational garden showcases methods for stream bank stabilization, residential and commercial rain gardens, and habitat creation. CED staff partner with Cobb County Master Gardeners and community members to maintain the site. See volunteer program section of this report.

## OUTREACH EFFORTS

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### Community Meetings

#### *Biosolids Handling*

Two community meetings were conducted this year. An Open House at Vinings Library (2/27/25) and a formal presentation during the Vinings Village Homeowners Association Annual meeting (5/5/25) were facilitated to share proposed upgrades involving restarting the WRF's incinerators to handle the disposal of biosolids at the end of the treatment process. Staff and technical experts were on hand to discuss the upgrades.

#### *Stormwater Funding*

A series of meetings was held in the spring of 2024, prior to the Board of Commissioners considering a proposed Stormwater Utility Fee in June based on impervious surface. The proposal was not adopted.

### Elected Officials' Education

#### *BOC Communications*

In addition to presenting agenda items to the Board for upcoming projects, CCWS develops quarterly flyers for each District outlining public education activities occurring in their area. CED also communicates with the BOC prior to board meetings on any pertinent events for promotion during their community announcements and/or for their newsletter.

#### *New Commissioner Orientation - District Two, Erick Allen*

Due to the special election held in April, Commissioner Allen was just sworn in to office this spring. Education materials were assembled and shared in May by the Agency Director along with a WRF Tour and campus walk thru.

### Outreach at Community Events

#### *Community Programs & Tabling Events*

**13 events, 3,762 participants**

In addition to facilitating community workshops, staff accept invitations to speak to community clubs, partner on community program presentations, and table at community events. This year we fulfilled requests for talks on water smart landscaping, wildlife, and pollution prevention from local clubs and civic organizations. Tabling events for this reporting year included the Water Drop Dash 5K and Fun Run, Cobb EMC Annual Meeting, National Night Out, and multiple Family Fun Safety Days, Cobb's Sustainability Forum, Earth Day with Kennesaw State University.

#### *Pet Waste Education Initiatives*

**52 pledges**

CED staff and volunteers promoted the *Pick It Up Pals Pledge Program* through tabling events, social media campaigns, a lobby drive-thru giveaway day, and presented to an after school pet club. Images of our pledged pets are organized into annual albums [2024 Album](#) and [2025 Album](#) on flickr (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cobbwater/albums/>). We also continue to support volunteer *E. coli* testing, distribute pet waste education materials (approx. 5,249 brochures) during storm drain marking projects, and explicitly discuss responsible pet owner stewardship practices during our *What Is A Watershed?* school outreach programs and Adopt-A-Stream workshops.



### FOG (Fats, Oils, & Grease) & Wipes Education

43 Nextdoor posts, 1,514 households\*

CCWS explicitly covers FOG and wipes education as a content area during our Adopt-A-Stream Chemical and Bacterial workshops, through targeted Nextdoor posts following sewer blockages caused by grease and wipes, and by distributing our FOG fact sheet and the Metro North GA Planning District's *Your Toilet is not a Trashcan* rackcard during storm drain marking events, in the Customer Service lobby, and at tabling events. In addition, we continued our annual holiday FOG campaign in November and December, reaching community members via Cobb County's CobbLine newsletter and on social media. \*Events are counted in volunteer reporting on page 15.

### Mascot Program

#### Tappy Turtle

10 appearances

CED's official mascot, Tappy Turtle, promotes best practices for water conservation, and an appreciation for the environment and its creatures. Tappy Turtle visits and greets students at our receptions for the Elementary School Coloring Book Contest, featuring him demonstrating water conservation tips, and the Middle School Calendar Contest. He also makes appearances at community programs such as the Family Fun Safety Days and International Festival, plus staff events like the CCWS Employee Holiday Party and the County Employee Appreciation Day.

## PLANNING RESOURCES

### Integrated Education Plan

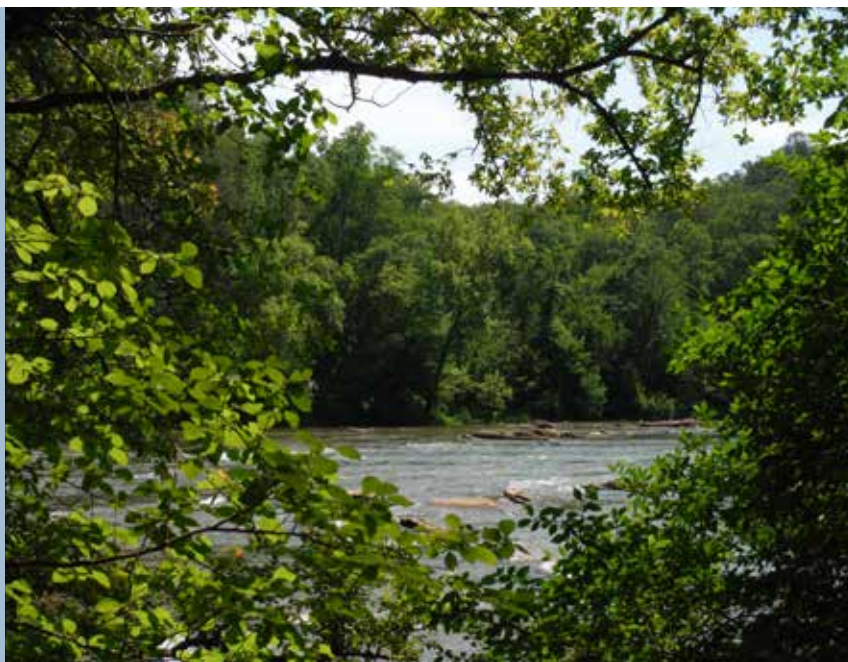
The [Communications & Education Plan](#) outlines how CED staff will fulfill the CCWS Public Education and Public Involvement Requirements as described in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits, Watershed Protection Plans/Assessment Reports/Studies, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plans, Metro North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) Water Resources Management Plan, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Community Rating System (CRS). CED develops, executes, evaluates, and refines program components to ensure professional quality, responsive engagement, and appropriate implementation.

### Communications Implementation Plan

The [Communications Implementation Plan](#) outlines the goals, objectives, strategies, and tactics designed to enhance the CED's role in serving both the community and the environment, along with supporting internal communication efforts. The plan is adjusted to meet the developing needs of CCWS, the CED, and the community it serves. It is a guide for managing communication responsibilities with staff and Cobb County residents, customers, and other key stakeholders.

“...all aspects of our lives are tied to the health of our free-flowing streams.”

– President Jimmy Carter



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Cobb County Water System is required to provide opportunities for community members to participate in programs and actively engage in the implementation of water resource activities.

CED staff develop and teach free ecological education programs for community members throughout the year, offering lifelong learning opportunities to our residents. During the 2024-2025 reporting year, we reached 2,658 individuals via 161 events, providing 160 contact hours.

## Summary of Community Engagement

	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	Water Lab	Totals
# of events	34	36	18	15	58	161
# of people	688	662	270	766	272	2,658

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

### Facility Tours, Open Houses, & Festivals

#### Water Quality Lab Tours

2 tours, 48 participants

Tours include an overview of the analytical processes performed by CCWS staff including wet lab stations, nutrient analysis, and metals spectroscopy.

#### Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Tours

16 tours, 209 participants

In addition to standard tours, two special WRF events were facilitated this year: Trick or Treatment at R.L. Sutton WRF (10/19/24) and Fats Tuesday Mardi Gras Festival at Northwest WRF (3/4/25).

#### Wildlife & Rain Garden Tours

7 tours, 75 participants

While the demonstration gardens at Cobb's Water Quality Lab are always open for visitors, we also organize and facilitate guided tours and programs with age-appropriate content developed for each audience. The garden is also utilized by the Cobb County Extension Services for their community and professional training workshops throughout the year.

### Community Workshops

#### Rain Barrel Make & Takes

9 events, 79 participants

In this free workshop, participants built their own rainwater harvesting barrel (donated by Coca-Cola Bottling) using power tools and provided supplies. This is a seasonal workshop offered monthly, spring - fall.

#### Lunch & Learns

9 events, 47 participants

In response to common questions and concerns about topics related to water quality, pollution prevention, and water conservation, CED presents monthly Lunch & Learns, usually on the last Friday of the month from 12:00-12:45 pm. Topics include: Composting, Rain Gardens, Irrigation, Winterizing, Household Hazards.

#### Youth & Family Programs

24 events, 571 participants

CED leads a variety of seasonal programs including Fairy Habitat Helpers, Frog & Salamander Strolls, and Creek Stomps. We also partner with local Cobb County Libraries for their summer reading program. The program this year was *River Adventures*, aligned with their summer reading theme *Adventure Begins at Your Library*.

#### Adult Programs

36 events, 596 participants

Programming includes requests to speak to clubs (Sierra Club, garden clubs, Rotary, etc.), HOA's, and other private groups as well as presenting (e.g., household hazardous waste, water efficient landscaping, composting, winterizing, and wildlife) with local libraries and parks.





### Interactive Exhibit

Located in the lobby of our Customer Service facility, an educational exhibit is maintained for visitors, providing giveaways and educational resources that reinforce the message. 400 giveaway items are budgeted each month for distribution via the CCWS lobby exhibit. For 2024, we created a stream habitat with local fauna and currently have a cross section of a home on display. Updated monthly, we educate about best conservation practices and pollution prevention.

### Household Hazardous & Pharmaceutical Collection

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Reduction**

**Medication Disposal**

**Community Recycling**

**1 event, 550 households**

**571 households\***

**1,282 households\***



Several efforts are implemented to educate Cobb County residents on hazards in the home including disposal events. Organized in partnership with Keep Cobb Beautiful (KCB), Cobb County's HHW Amnesty Day was held on October 18, 2024. KCB hosted two pharmaceutical disposal events, held in October 2024 and April 2025, collecting almost three thousand pounds of medication. Education focused on the importance of removing expired and unused medications from the home and the problems associated with flushing these products into the sewer system. KCB also hosted a Community Recycling Event where residents were provided an opportunity to recycle textiles, scrap metal, old sneakers, hard to recycle items, and electronics (for a fee). *\*Data not included in our participant totals.*

## INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES - COMMUNITY

### Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Partnership\*

**60 tires = \$900**

As in previous years, we offer the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area (CRNRA) tire disposal services for all tires removed from the river and contributing tributaries within the Cobb County jurisdiction. National Park Service delivers the tires to our waste transfer station and CCWS pays the disposal fees for the transaction. *\*We also partner on school programming at CRNRA. Data is included in School Programs.*

### Flume Loaner Program - Award Winning

**33 events, 33 households**

CCWS allows customers to borrow a Flume Smart Home Water Monitor system to install at their home, at no charge, for up to 90 days. These systems help customers detect leaks and track usage. In person meetings are scheduled for both check out and return to teach the customer how to use the device, address their specific concerns, and review their findings.

### Senior Programs - Award Winning

**24 events, 450 participants\***

Participating in both tabling events and direct presentations, CED ensures relevant educational topics are presented to our Senior customers. This year 24 presentations were facilitated at 6 Senior Centers focusing on a variety of topics including pollinator gardening and wildlife, household hazards, composting, and water conservation. We also provided information about incentive programs, leak detection, and hydration during the Cobb County Senior Expo, reaching 736 participants. *\*Senior Expo numbers are included under Outreach tabling events on page 6.*



## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Program staff visited local schools routinely, offering free water-related education programs to K-12 students in Cobb County, Marietta City, and private schools. In the 2024-2025 school year, our programs directly reached 14,384 students at 96 public schools and 5 private institutions, serving 544 classrooms, and providing 352 instructional hours. We estimate the cost of this service at \$28,317.

### Summary of Public School Engagement

	Elementary Schools			Middle Schools			High Schools			Total		
	# served	total #	% served	# served	total #	% served	# served	total #	% served	# served	total #	% served
Cobb County School District	56	67	84	20	26	77	13	17	76	89	110	81
City of Marietta School District	7	8	88	0	2	0	0	1	0	7	11	64
Total Schools	63	75	84	20	28	71	13	18	72	96	121	79

### School Classroom Education

#### *Adopt-A-Stream - Bacteria*

**34 students, 2 classrooms, 2 presentations, 4 instructional hours**

Across the globe, waterborne illnesses have become an increasing threat to public health. Explore the major sources and effects of water contamination in U.S. water supplies. Students practice laboratory procedures by monitoring a local water source for *E. coli* and determining if or why levels exceed a healthy baseline.

#### *Adopt-A-Stream - Chemical*

**689 students, 32 classrooms, 29 presentations, 33 instructional hours**

Collect water samples and measure water quality parameters including dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, and conductivity. This hands-on chemistry activity incorporates the scientific method and provides students the opportunity to collect and analyze water quality data.

#### *Adopt-A-Stream - Field Study*

**83 students, 3 classrooms, 5 presentations, 8.5 instructional hours**

Tailored to meet curriculum needs, students meet at a local stream or pond where they will be separated into groups to explore and use research methods to assess water quality (e.g., Habitat, Bacterial, Chemical & Macroinvertebrate). At the end of the program, data is compiled to produce a water quality assessment for the focal habitat.

#### *Adopt-A-Stream - Macroinvertebrates*

**98 students, 4 classrooms, 4 presentations, 4 instructional hours**

Aquatic macroinvertebrates (stream bugs) are excellent indicators of water quality. Learn how to collect and identify these aquatic organisms. Participants also learn how to categorize each macroinvertebrate by pollution tolerance and assess overall water quality based on the results of the activity.

#### *Brooke & Branch Puppet Show*

**5,157 students, 256 classrooms, 46 presentations, 46 instructional hours**

Brooke is a little girl who goes on a big adventure! Join her as she learns about water quality & biodiversity from the friends she meets along the way. This whole grade, assembly style program emphasizes ecological concepts & vocabulary while demonstrating how individuals can help the environment.

#### *Campus Explorer*

**125 students, 5 classrooms, 5 presentations, 5 instructional hours**

Nature is everywhere - offering the perfect setting and basis for instruction! Classes are guided on an engaging and inquiry-based interpretive walk thru campus. Students use their senses to explore, apply scientific processes, and journal observations.

#### *Career Days*

**1,012 students, 20 classrooms, 15 presentations, 18 instructional hours**

Learn about the various roles and careers in the water industry. Staff provide information about career pathways, training programs, and water career opportunities for entry and advanced skill levels that require a high school diploma/GED, special certifications, or a college degree.

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### ***Clean Water Lab***

***2,045 students, 77 classrooms, 77 presentations, 81.5 instructional hours***

In this cooperative hands-on lab, students explore the water treatment process from river to tap. A wide variety of scientific principles are introduced as students utilize chemicals, tools, materials, and techniques to remove contaminants from their water samples.

### ***Ecoregions of GA***

***183 students, 9 classrooms, 9 presentations, 9 instructional hours***

Georgia ranks sixth in the nation for overall species diversity, particularly due to our five distinctive ecoregions! Students learn the characteristics and natural history facts about each ecoregion by exploring how geographical topography contributes to biological diversity.

### ***Ecosystems & Adaptations***

***687 students, 29 classrooms, 25 presentations, 25 instructional hours***

Explore ecosystems by looking at living and nonliving factors affecting interdependency, determine plant and animal adaptations and limitations, follow energy as it moves through food chains and food webs, and conclude how human impacts make a difference.

### ***Every Kid in a Park - Sibley Pond Experience***

***258 students, 13 classrooms, 65 presentations, 16 instructional hours***

With funding from the Chattahoochee National Parks Conservancy (CNPC) and in partnership with the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA), Title-One schools are invited to participate in water quality, stewardship, and outdoor learning experiences. Students receive multiple lessons (wildlife, decomposers, food web, pond study, and nature journaling) at the Sope Creek Unit. Sponsorship through CNPC covers transportation costs to bus the students to the park for a day of lessons. Participants also receive a National Parks pass for their family.

### ***Erosion & Weathering***

***499 students, 22 classrooms, 20 presentations, 18.5 instructional hours***

Erosion and Weathering - what's the difference? Students visit lab stations to study the causes and effects of erosion, weathering, and sediment deposition while discovering how these forces change the landscape and aquatic habitats. Using a wetland model, students decide how to mitigate the consequences of human impacts and how natural systems are beneficial to the hydrologic cycle.

### ***Investigating Urban Habitats***

***245 students, 16 classrooms, 8 presentations, 4 instructional hours***

Students visit a local park and learn about wildlife, adaptations, food web, and habitats through exploration of the park. This program includes a live snake presentation.

### ***Model Water Tower***

***15 students, 1 classrooms, 1 presentations, 1 instructional hours***

Students design and build functioning model water towers with limited specifications. These towers are then tested to make sure they meet the specifications for both materials and dimensions. Students participating in the Model Water Tower Competition are not included in these numbers.

### ***Monarchs & Insect Life Cycles***

***190 students, 8 classrooms, 8 presentations, 8 instructional hours***

Students explore how a butterfly grows from an egg into an adult, features the migration of the Monarch from Canada to Mexico, and discusses habitat needs and conservation efforts to address human impact.

### ***Science Nights***

***1,878 students, 5 presentations, 26.5 instructional hours***

Students and their families explore hands-on topics including animal adaptations, erosion, point source and non-point source pollution, and area ecosystems. Events are conducted as either a tabling station or formal presentation, dependant on the school.

### ***Snakes of Georgia & Their Adaptations***

***100 students, 1 classroom, 3 presentations, 2 instructional hours***

Some people fear them, some are attracted to them, but almost nobody is indifferent toward snakes. How have snakes adapted to survive in their environment? Which species in Georgia are venomous and how can you tell? Most importantly, how do they benefit our ecosystem? This lab includes the use of live specimens.

### ***What Is a Watershed?***

***1,086 students, 46 classrooms, 42 presentations, 42 instructional hours***

Diving into the watershed concept, students learn how topography, climate, and infrastructure influence the movement of water across landscapes and explore the impacts of human activities on environmental and public health using an EnviroScope watershed model. Program is facilitated by student-led inquiry and decision-making.

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## Contests

### ***Adventures of Tappy Turtle Coloring Book Contest***

***353 student entries, 11 schools***

Fourth and fifth grade students are invited to draw Tappy Turtle, CCWS's mascot, demonstrating water conservation tips. 15 submissions of hand-drawn artwork are selected and assembled into the [annual coloring book](#), featuring water conservation tips in English and Spanish, and distributed throughout the community.

### ***Annual waterSmart waterArt Calendar Contest***

***194 student entries, 10 schools***

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are invited to create a 2-D work of art that answered the question "How is water important to me?" The 12 winning entries are featured in the [waterSmart waterArt calendar](#) that is distributed throughout Cobb County.

### ***Model Water Tower Competition***

***18 student entries, 2 schools***

Hosted annually by CCWS, Marietta Water, and the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority this interdisciplinary undertaking requires students to design and build functioning towers with limiting specifications. The competition provides middle school students with hands-on learning about water resource engineering, infrastructure, water treatment, and water conservation as they present their design and interact with engineers and other water professionals.

### ***Volunteer T-shirt Design Contest***

***18 participants***

Since 2002, CCWS has partnered with local graphic design professors to incorporate a real-world project for students into their course curriculum. The design, featured on the 2025 volunteer t-shirt, was inspired by the quote "...all aspects of our lives are tied to the health of our free-flowing streams." by President Jimmy Carter. The artist, Kennesaw State University Graphic Design graduate Nicholas Rosati, received a \$300 gift card.

### ***waterSmart Photography Contest***

***45 students, 76 entries, 9 schools***

Local high school students are invited to enter a image in one of 6 categories: Water at Play, Water at Work, Water in Nature, Water and People, Protecting Water, and Conserving Water. The [winning entries](#) received a cash prize and are created into note cards that are distributed throughout the county.

### ***waterSmart Event Reception***

***120 participants***

Each *waterSmart* contest culminates in a celebration honoring the winners and revealing the winning artwork. For our Middle School calendar contest, winning entries were displayed at CCWS. Middle School calendar contest winners and Elementary School coloring book winners were celebrated during in-person receptions, attended with their family, friends, and teachers. During these events, the winning submissions chosen for the front covers were unveiled. For our High School photography contest, winning submissions were displayed at the Mable House Arts Center from March 11 - May 16, 2025.

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## INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES - SCHOOL

### ***Green School Initiative*** ***24 schools, 417 teachers, 2,856 hours of environmental education, 21,840 students***

CCWS recognizes Cobb County and City of Marietta schools that have an active environmental education and outdoor learning program. The program also encourages teachers to facilitate ecological enrichment and appreciation for the natural world with their students. Commendation is tiered based on % of classrooms participating within the school. Achievement levels: 20% for Green, 30% for Silver, 40% for Gold, 50% for Platinum. Activity and school levels are documented in [Green School Annual Report](#). Schools receive a sign, certificate, and are recognized on the water education website.



### ***Traveling Trunks & Lending Library***

***19 schools***

CCWS has curated two antique streamer trunks with educational resources including children's literature, field guides, and nature games. Each treasure trunk, delivered to elementary schools for one month, is moved around the county throughout the school year. CED also loans educational resources to teachers for use in their classroom, including water testing kits, nets, boots, curriculum activities, preserved insect specimens, Enviroscape tabletop models, etc.



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## TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR TARGET AUDIENCES

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### Plumbers

Currently in initial planning, CED staff intend to conduct annual training for local plumbers (*Plumber School*). The curriculum for this effort, similar to the content described below for the real estate professionals, focuses on how plumbers can better address customer plumbing challenges and troubleshooting common concerns like leaks, water pressure, thermal expansion, efficient fixtures, and scope of county services and property owner responsibilities. Program logistics (where, when, how long, etc.) are in the early stages of development.

### Real Estate Professionals

Using Cherokee County's septic tank workshop as a model, our staff has developed a similar training for Real Estate professionals with a broader scope, to include common residential concerns and customer knowledge gaps, enabling participants to better troubleshoot issues for their clients. Topics include: safe/potable water (CCR, water heater, filtration, emerging contaminants, backflow prevention), service line material, property owner vs. county responsibility, illicit discharges and storm drains, pools and spas, irrigation systems, meter reading and billing, sewer backup/overflow causes and prevention. We hope to pilot this developing effort in the fall of 2025.

### Water Utility Staff

72 participants

CED facilitates new hire orientation, providing staff with a simplified version of our Water 101 training. We also routinely publish several internal communication documents: a *Weekly Update* highlighting our Water Professional Wednesday post and sharing timely updates, a monthly *Operations Update* with info from each division, and our staff newsletter, *The Pipeline*. We also maintain an intranet site to facilitate communication and compile employee resources for easy access. These resources educate staff on utility operations including sustainability and pollution prevention practices. In addition, field staff receive snake education each spring facilitated by CED staff with our program snakes as part of routine safety training. The session includes venomous vs. non-venomous species in the area, likely places for encounters, and first aid protocols for a snake bite.

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## INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES - TECHNICAL TRAINING

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### Leadership Development Program (LDP)

12 new graduates, 25 continuing ed participants

The goal of LDP is to support employees that demonstrate potential and interest in developing enhanced leadership and interpersonal skills to further their career at CCWS. Applicants are selected annually to participate in a training cohort that consists of 6 hands-on sessions that explore a diverse foundation of key components that reflect the characteristics of respectful and responsible leaders. Ongoing quarterly continuing education is offered to program graduates.

### Professional Presentations & Partnerships

313 participants\*

CED staff routinely provide expertise and support at conferences, professional development meetings, and seminars. In the 2024-2025 reporting year, we presented at several events including the Georgia Association for Water Professionals (GAWP) Annual Conference, GAWP Spring Conference, Adopt-A-Stream Annual Confluence, Cobb County School District STEMaPalooza, the Environmental Education Alliance Annual Conference, and the Outdoor Learning Symposium. We also facilitated our annual *Life Is A River* training for teachers conducting stream monitoring. \*Adopt-A-Stream training participants are only calculated in volunteer program numbers.



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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

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Cobb County Water System facilitates volunteer opportunities throughout the year including providing the training and tools needed to volunteer. During the 2024-2025 reporting year, 1,225 volunteer participants gave 3,960 hours of volunteer service. The estimated value of Cobb's volunteer water stewards is \$129,215\*

*\*Based on the current estimated value of volunteer time in Georgia (\$32.63 by Independent Sector, 2025 report).*

### Cleanup Events

#### **Privet Pulls & Other Invasives Removal**

**67 participants, 8 events, 159 service hours**

The removal of invasive privet is a popular stewardship project, especially with older students seeking community service hours. Volunteers seeking to organize a project are asked to complete a project proposal, identifying the site location and vegetative waste disposal plan. CED assists by providing tools and logistical support. In addition, we are working with the GA Native Plant Society and Cobb County Parks to help recruit volunteers for ongoing privet removal efforts at Heritage Park along Nickajack Creek.

#### **Waterway Cleanups**

**268 volunteer participants, 124 events\*, 542 service hours**

Cobb County asks residents to help clean local waterways and raise awareness about water health. Scout groups, church groups, schools, and homeowner associations across the county are provided with gloves, bags, and planning assistance throughout the year to encourage trash removal efforts. *\*Calculation includes GA AAS's volunteer reporting of cleanup activities during monitoring events. 97 small collection events were recorded via this mechanism.*

### Stream Monitoring Program - Adopt-A-Stream

#### **Bacterial Monitoring**

**115 volunteers trained, 309 monitoring events, 434 service hours**

Volunteers learn how to monitor *E. coli* levels in their streams. This workshop focuses on proper collection of a water sample, processing samples for incubation, and interpretation of results. Volunteers must attend a certification workshop and adopt their site for monthly monitoring.

#### **Chemical Monitoring**

**219 volunteers trained, 556 monitoring events, 1,421 service hours**

Chemical monitoring consists of collecting water samples and testing for pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and conductivity. These chemical tests provide information about the aquatic habitat and the ability of the stream to sustain life. Participants are required to attend a certification workshop and adopt their site for monthly monitoring.

#### **Macroinvertebrate Monitoring**

**62 volunteers trained, 15 monitoring events, 391 service hours**

Participants monitor the population and diversity of benthic macroinvertebrates that act as bioindicators of water quality. Individuals interested in macroinvertebrate monitoring are required to attend a certification workshop, adopt their waterway site, and commit to monitoring once per quarter.

#### **Visual Monitoring & Habitat Assessments**

**76 volunteers trained, 14 monitoring events, 205 service hours**

Volunteers learn how to use maps to delineate and assess their watershed. Land use and impervious surface are discussed as it pertains to the watershed survey data forms. The second half of the workshop is spent at a stream conducting the visual stream survey, learning how to do a stream cross-section, and assessing habitat.



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## Storm Drain Marking

### Storm Drain Marking

**256 volunteer participants, 26 events, 469 drains marked, 285 service hours**

To emphasize the connection between runoff and water pollution, volunteers help mark storm drains around Cobb County. Participants are provided with marking kits including aluminum markers, adhesive disks, gloves, garbage bags, and education materials.

## INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES - VOLUNTEER

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### Amphibian Monitoring

**46 volunteer participants, 30 monitoring events, 37 service hours**

Volunteers are trained to identify frogs and salamanders. Data from participants is contributed to our historical species distribution record.

### Internships & Mentorships

**3 volunteer participants, 262 service hours\***

Three students were mentored this year. The Kennesaw Mountain High School mentee performed chemical monitoring at 5 sites on Allatoona Creek. The student from Walton High School organized privet pulls, waterway cleanups, and monitored 4 sites. We also worked with a Wheeler High School student who performed chemical and bacterial monitoring on Sope Creek. In addition, CED also hosted two paid interns. The summer intern, from Boston University, helped with programs. The other student, from Kennesaw State University, worked throughout the school year assisting with administrative work, programs, and developed videos. *\*Calculated in volunteer programs.*

### Outreach Volunteers

**17 participants (4 volunteers trained), 69 events, 278 service hours**

Volunteers apply, interview, and complete required training, providing a foundation of understanding on conservation, stewardship, pollution prevention, and the services that Cobb Water provides. Upon completion, Outreach Volunteers engage and educate fellow residents, extending the reach of our community engagement.

### Rottenwood Creek River Rendezvous

**14 volunteers, 20 monitoring sites, 84 service hours**

Several sites along the stream are visited simultaneously by teams who collect field data (dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, temperature) as well as collecting samples for analysis by Cobb's Water Quality Lab (metals, nutrients, BOD, COD). Water samples are also plated for *E. coli* analysis using AAS protocol.

### Wildlife & Rain Garden Workdays

**85 volunteer participants, 63 events, 124 service hours**

Community volunteers assist with site maintenance including new plant installations, pruning, weeding, labeling, and leading tours. We also conduct Compost Workdays to maintain our compost demonstrations utilizing vegetative waste from our garden. These events also serve to teach community members about the sustainable practice of composting and are designed to teach participants how to successfully compost at home. Participants include local Master Gardeners, community members, and those interested in gaining practical experience. Project days are planned for most Tuesday and Thursday mornings, providing a consistent opportunity for those interested in helping.

### 2025 Volunteer Appreciation & Steward Fair - April 3, 2025

**37 participants\***

The Volunteer Appreciation & Steward Fair recognizes our volunteers and partners. This fellowship event, hosted in the CCWS Water Quality Lab Training Room, celebrates the good work done by our volunteers through food, networking, and awards. *\*Not included in the volunteer calculations.*





## SUMMARY OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: CHATTAHOOCHEE WATERSHED

WATERSHED	GROUP	# SITES	DISTRICT #	YEAR INITIATED	ACTIVITY TYPE
Chattahoochee River	Water Stewards	1	3	2008	CL
	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	1	2	2016	AM
Mud Creek	McEachern High School	1	1	2007	CL, SD
Nickajack Creek	Water Stewards	1	4	2004	CL, PP, AM
	Keep Smyrna Beautiful	3	4	2010	CH
	Kahle	1	4	2011	CH, BAC, VS, MAC, CL
	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	1	1	2016	AM
	Concord Woolen Mill	1	4	2019	CH, BAC, CL
	Turkey Feather	2	4	2020	CH, BAC
	AAS Devious Duo	1	4	2024	BAC
	Cox Group	1	4	2024	BAC, CL
	Kelly Fry	1	4	2024	CH, BAC
	The Whitefield Academy	1	4	2024	CH
Noses Creek	Pic	1	1	2008	CH, CL
	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	1	4	2016	AM
	Noses at Silver Comet	1	4	2018	BAC
	McEachern High School	1	4	2023	CL, SD
	Shirley Murphy	2	1	2024	SD
	Stacy Sheikh	1	1	2024	SD
Olley Creek	Donna	1	4	2012	CH
	Water Stewards	2	4	2012	CL, PP, AM
	Children of the Deer	1	2	2021	CH, BAC, VS, CL
	Liam Mielke	1	4	2022	CH, CL
	Stephen T	1	4	2024	CH, CL
	Saenz-Morris	1	4	2025	AM
Poplar Creek	Anne Ledbetter	1	4	2012	CH, BAC
	Keep Smyrna Beautiful	2	4	2012	CH
	Wood Family	1	4	2021	CH, BAC, CL
Powder Springs	McEachern High School	3	4	2022	SD
Rottenwood Creek	Sierra Club Centennial Group	3	2,3	2004	CH, MAC, BAC, CL
	Water Stewards	21	2,3	2004	CH, BAC, MAC, VS, CL, PP
	UL Solutions	1	2	2023	CL
Sewell Mill Creek	Bushart	1	3	2012	CH
	Water Stewards	2	3	2012	CL, PP, AM
	Heather Glazebrook	1	3	2019	CH, BAC, CL
	Amy K-H	1	3	2021	CH, BAC
	Friends of East Cobb Park	1	2	2022	CL
	Cookie	2	3	2023	CH, BAC, CL, PP
	Sewell@McGarity	3	3	2023	CH, BAC, CL
	Joseph Huggins	1	2	2023	CH
	Pack 815	1	3	2024	CL
	Sid Mala	1	3	2024	CH, BAC
Sope Creek	Casa Montessori	1	3	2008	CL
	Team Salty	1	3	2012	CH, CL
	Sedalia Park Elementary School	1	3	2012	CH, VS, CL
	Water Stewards	1	3	2020	SD
	Cookie	2	3	2022	CH, BAC, CL
	Grant Minor	1	2	2023	CH
	Sope Creek Stewards	2	2	2023	CH, BAC, CL
	Natalie Trimble	2	2	2024	CH, BAC, MAC, CL
	Wheeler High School ROTC	1	3	2024	CL, SD
	Holly Springs Crossing HOA	1	3	2025	SD
	Walton Clean Water	1	3	2025	PP
Sweetwater Creek	SG5	1	4	2024	CH
	Water Stewards	1	4	2024	SD



Trib of Chattahoochee	Friends of Mulberry Creek	1	2	2003	CH, BAC, MAC
	Crooked Branch	1	2	2011	CH, BAC, MAC
	Water Stewards	1	2	2019	AM
	Chatt Stream Stewards	1	2	2019	CH, CL
Ward Creek	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	1	1	2016	AM
	Ernstes on Ward	1	1	2020	CH, CL
	Saenz-Morris	1	1	2025	AM
Willeo Creek	Tritt River Kids	1	2	2004	CH, CL
	Village North Highlands Subdivision	1	2	2012	CH, BAC
	Grams Collins Gals	1	2	2019	CH, BAC
	Hannah Harris	1	3	2020	CH
	Fox Creek	1	2	2020	CH, CL
	Inez Danukarjanto	1	3	2024	SD
	Laurie Wheeler	1	1	2025	CH

## SUMMARY OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: ETOWAH WATERSHED

Allatoona Creek	Kahle	3	1	2010	CH, VS, CL
	Richard's Creek	1	1	2014	CH, BAC, CL
	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	2	1	2016	AM
	Water Stewards	2	1	2016	SD, PP, AM
	Beving on Allatoona	1	1	2018	CH, BAC, CL
	Michael Marshall	1	1	2020	CH, BAC
	Duck Duck Goose	1	1	2021	CH, BAC, CL
	The Luffman Local	1	1	2024	CH, BAC, VS, CL, SD
	Team H	1	1	2024	AM
	Sawshark	5	1	2025	CH, CL
Butler Creek	Butler Creek Kennesaw	2	1	2009	CH, BAC, VS, CL
	RayEA, LLC Ecological Applications	1	1	2012	CH, BAC
	The Luttrells	1	1	2024	CH
Lake Acworth	George Aycock	2	1	2014	CH, CL
Noonday Creek	Jenn & Gemma Fletcher	1	3	2016	AM
	AAS KSU	1	1	2020	CH, CL
	Bryan Luffman	1	3	2024	SD
	The Garden School	1	2	2024	CH, BAC
	Learning Lewis	1	2	2024	CH
	Lori Laliberte	1	3	2024	SD
	Sprayberry High School APES Class	1	3	2024	CL
	Team Talbot	1	2	2024	CH, CL
	Chalker Elementary School - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	1	3	2025	SD
	Dani Calhoun	1	2	2025	AM
Pickett's Mill Creek	Manic Pixie Stream Girl	1	2	2025	CH, BAC
Proctor Creek	Longos	1	1	2020	CH, BAC, CL
	Butler Creek Kennesaw	1	1	2020	CH, BAC
	Good Guy Greg	1	1	2020	CH, BAC
Rubes Creek	Sarah Anglin Legacy Park	1	3	2024	CH, BAC, CL
	McCleskey Middle School	1	3	2006	CH, CL, PP
	Ric Donato	1	3	2008	CH, BAC
	Lassiter High School APES	1	3	2010	CH, BAC
	Water Stewards	1	3	2011	PP
	Amy K-H	1	3	2021	CH
Tanyard Creek	The Miz Family	1	1	2023	CH, CL
	Seth Moore	1	1	2024	CH, CL

### Activity Type Key

AM Amphibian Monitoring CH Adopt-A-Stream Chemical Monitoring MAC Adopt-A-Stream Macroinvertebrate Monitoring SD Storm Drain Marking  
BAC Adopt-A-Stream Bacteria Monitoring CL Clean-ups PP Privet Pull & Other Invasive Removal VS Adopt-A-Stream Visual Monitoring

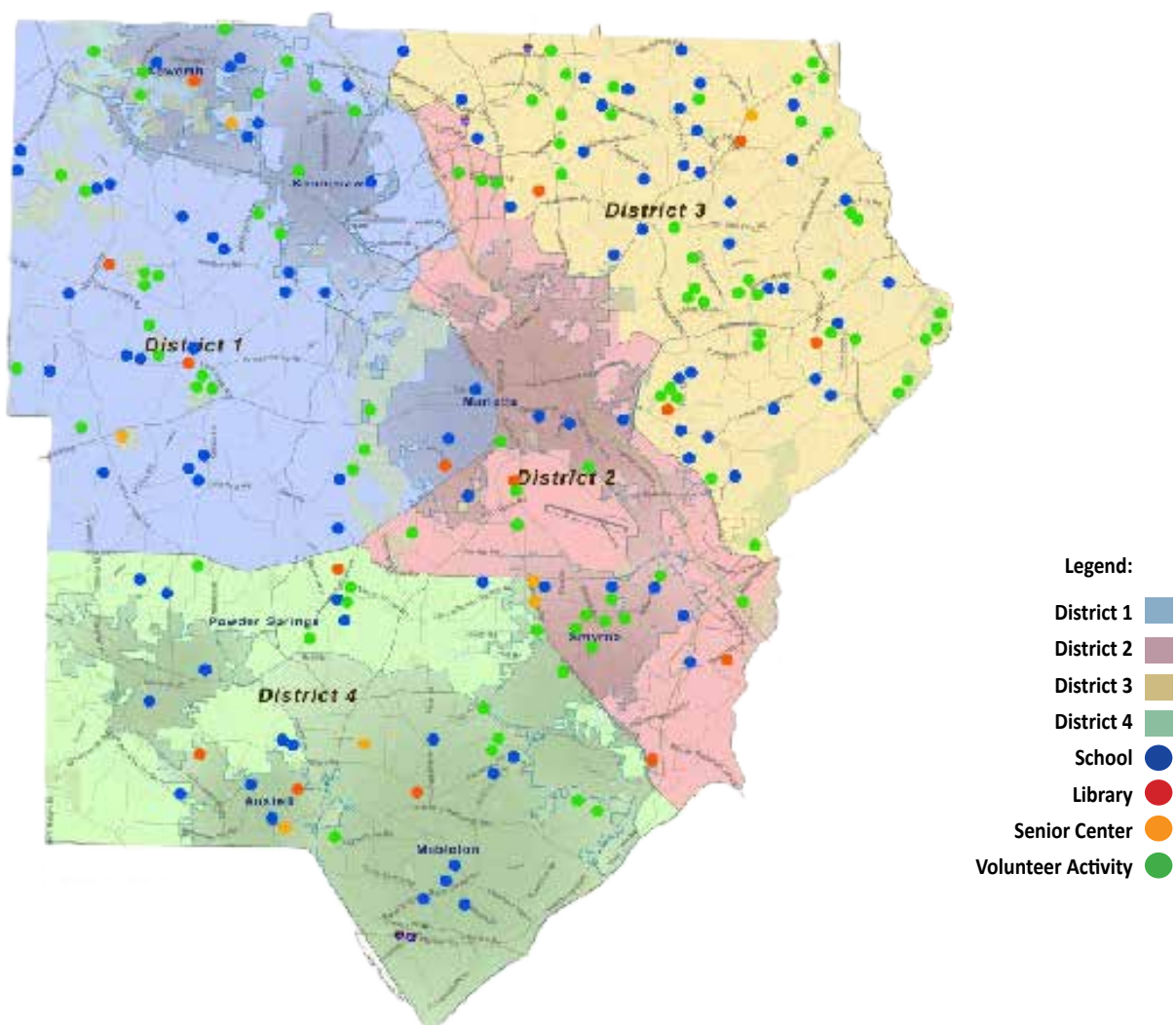
## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY BY WATERSHED

Watershed	Community Program Activities	School Program Activities	Volunteer Program Activities			
			Cleanup Events	Stream Monitoring	Storm Drain Marking	Amphibian Monitoring
<b>Chattahoochee</b>	•		•			
Buttermilk	•					
Mud		•	•		•	
Nickajack	•	•	•	•		•
Noses	•	•	•	•	•	•
Olley	•	•	•	•		•
Poplar		•	•	•		
Powder Springs		•			•	
Rottenwood	•	•	•	•		
Sewell Mill	•	•	•	•		•
Sope	•	•	•	•	•	
Sweetwater	•	•		•	•	
Tribs of Chat	•		•	•		•
Ward		•	•	•		•
Willeo		•	•	•	•	
<b>Etowah</b>				•		
Allatoona	•	•	•	•	•	•
Butler	•	•	•	•		
Lake Acworth		•	•	•		
Noonday	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pickett's Mill			•	•		
Proctor	•	•	•	•		
Rubes	•	•	•	•		
Tanyard			•	•		

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY BY COMMISSION DISTRICT

Location	Community Program Activities	School Program Activities	Volunteer Program Activities			
			Cleanup Events	Stream Monitoring	Storm Drain Marking	Amphibian Monitoring
CCWS Campus	•		•	•	•	
District 1	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 2	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 3	•	•	•	•	•	•
District 4	•	•	•	•	•	•

Map of Activity Locations (color coded by Community, School, and Volunteer)



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## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

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### Water Supply & Conservation

#### Customer Incentives

**36 Residential Toilets Replaced**

**24 Commercial Toilets Replaced**

**215 Flume Systems Installed**

**\$3,600 Residential Rebates Awarded**

**\$1,200 Residential Rebates Awarded**

**\$21,500 Flume Rebates Awarded**

CCWS offers single-family and commercial account customers a toilet rebate for the purchase and installation of ultra-high efficiency toilets in properties built prior to 1993. Residential customers can also receive a \$100 bill credit for the purchase and installation of the Flume Smart Home Water Monitoring System. This system monitors water use and can detect leaks and high usage.

#### Low-Flow Retrofit Kit Distribution

**39 Residential Customers**

CCWS offers customers free fixtures to help them lower their bills and save water. The indoor kit includes a WaterSense-labeled showerhead, water-efficient kitchen and bathroom sink aerators, plumber's tape, leak detector tablets, and a 5-minute shower timer. The outdoor kit includes a rain gauge and a handheld hose nozzle. Kit requests are submitted online and are picked up in-person.

#### Residential Water Assessments

Your plumbing system consists of all the pipes and fixtures on your property after the water meter connection. Maintaining your plumbing system is essential to prevent water loss and excessive water bills. Regular inspection can save you water and money. Through community Lunch & Learns, Senior and Library adult programs, advertising in the lobby and at tabling events, CCWS promotes ways to find and repair common household leaks and habits to reduce water consumption.

#### Residential Water-Efficient Landscape Practices

Irrigation systems require routine maintenance and inspections, like any other part of your home. Mismatched sprinkler heads, over spray onto driveways and sidewalks, broken sprinklers, leaking valves, and cracked pipes can easily waste thousands of gallons of water a month. With Cobb County using about 60% more water in the spring and summer, a malfunctioning system can waste thousands of gallons of water a month. Through social media posts, community workshops, a Home Irrigation System Audit, and information on the website, CCWS teaches homeowners how to better understand their irrigation system. Workshops also focus on planting choices and watering the correct time for participant's soil.

### Wastewater Management

#### Rags & FOG Disposal

CED continues to promote FOG education as a content area by distributing our FOG fact sheet through the storm drain marking program. In addition, we continued our annual holiday FOG campaign in November and December, reaching community members via Cobb County's CobbLine newsletter and on social media. CED also discusses FOG and wipes during our *Adopt-A-Stream* Volunteer Monitoring workshops, community programs, and our *What Is A Watershed?* and *Clean Water Lab* school programs.



### Watershed Management & Integrated Water Resources Management

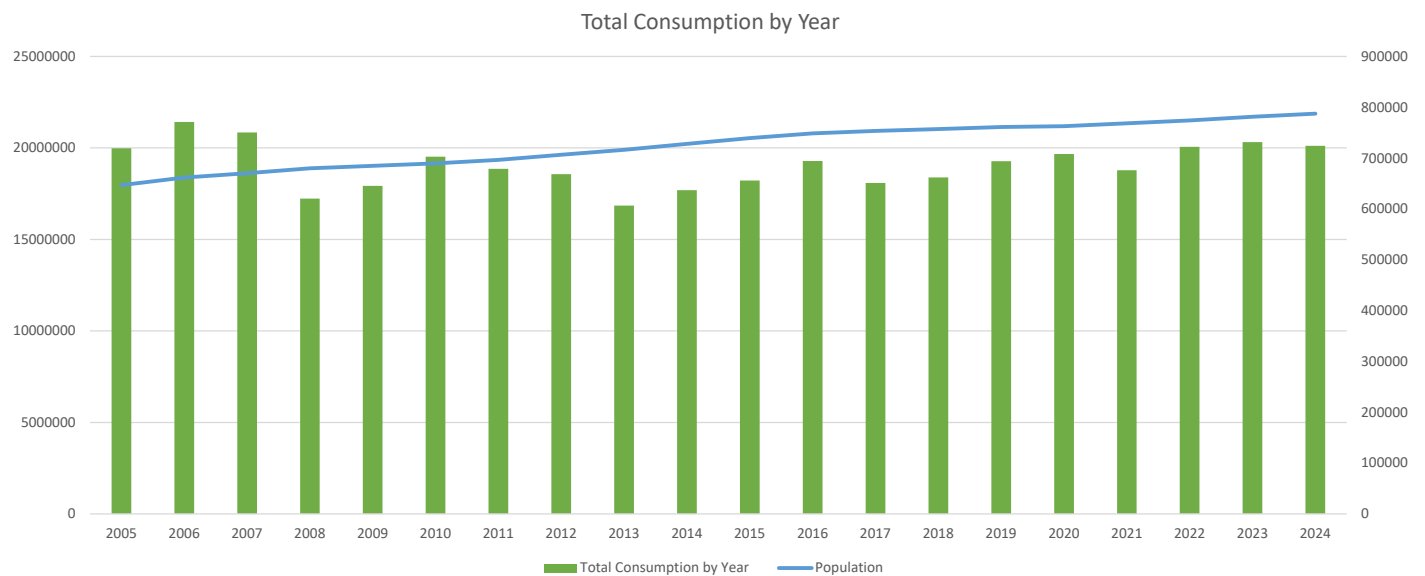
#### Septic System Maintenance & Pollution Prevention

In conjunction with Metro North Georgia Water Planning District's septic-focused campaign during Pollution Prevention/Septic Smart Week in September, we included EPA's septic system education materials in our social media postings. We also presented septic maintenance content as a community lunch & learn topic in partnership with the Cobb and Douglas Public Health Department (CDPH). Cobb Water's website included information about CDPH's \$250 Septic Tank Pumping Rebate Program and the Low-Income Septic System Pumping and Repair Project.



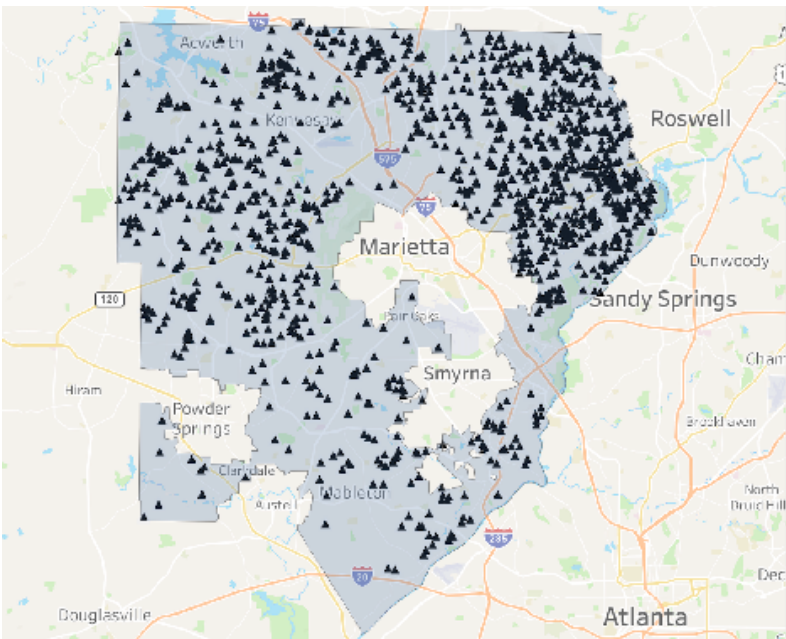
## Graph of Water Conservation & Population Over Time

In 2007-2008, Georgia experienced an historic drought that resulted in severe water use restrictions. Since that time, focus has been placed on water conservation education and stressing the importance of conserving water even when not in a drought. When water conserving habits are established during times of normal rainfall, the impact of drought and water use restrictions are lessened. For example, when lawns are deeply irrigated only when soil becomes dry (rather than a regular schedule), grass roots grow deeper resulting in a more drought tolerant lawn. In 2012 another drought was experienced, but with water conserving habits in place by area residents, demand remained below supply and water restrictions were not necessary. During times of high rainfall, water conserving habits remain pertinent to help avoid watering restrictions during inevitable times of drought.



## Flume Smart Home Water Monitoring System's Installed in Cobb County

Since the Flume rebate program began in October 2022, 1,394 CCWS customers have installed a Flume system and 1,056 rebates have been issued. The Flume system enables the owner to monitor their water usage and be immediately notified of leaks.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

As active practitioners in Georgia's environmental education community, CCWS CED partners with many organizations and our staff members serve on numerous boards and committees. These activities enrich local programs and ensure Cobb County remains engaged with other water and environmental professionals.

## BOARDS, COMMITTEES, LEADERSHIP ROLES

- Alliance for Water Efficiency: Education & Outreach Committee
- American Water Works Association: Member
- Council of Outdoor Learning: Steering Committee Chair
- Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia: Executive Committee, Advisory Council Chair, Board Member
- Georgia Adopt-A-Stream: Community Coordinator, Technical Advisor, Conference Planning Committee
- Georgia Assoc. of Water Professionals: Public Ed, MWTC, H2Opportunity & Water Loss Committees
- Georgia Water Wise Council: Past-chair
- Metro N. GA Water Planning District: Education Committee , Water Supply & Water Conservation Committee
- Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County: Project Chair
- Monarchs Across Georgia: Steering Committee Member
- North American Association for Environmental Education: Member
- Residential Energy Services Network (RESNet) Standards Development Committee (SDC): 1100 Tech Sub Com
- Rivers Alive: Advisory Board, Education and Messaging Committee Chair
- Southeast Environmental Education Alliance: Chair

## PARTNERSHIPS

- Alliance for Water Efficiency
- Amphibian Foundation
- Chattahoochee National Park Conservancy
- City of Smyrna
- Cobb County Community Development
- Cobb County DOT
- Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority
- Cobb County PARKS
- Cobb County Public Library System
- Cobb County Public Safety
- Cobb County School District
- Cobb County Senior Services
- Cobb & Douglas Public Health Department
- Cobb EMC
- Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia
- Georgia Association of Water Professionals
- Georgia EPD Outreach Unit
- Georgia Green Industry Association
- Georgia Southern University
- Keep Cobb Beautiful
- Keep Marietta Beautiful
- Keep Smyrna Beautiful
- Kennesaw State University
- Life University
- Marietta City Schools
- Marietta Water
- Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County
- Metro North Georgia Water Planning District
- National Park Service
- Vickery Hardware
- Sierra Club Cobb Centennial Group
- The Irrigation Association
- UGA Cooperative Extension
- USEPA WaterSense

# THANK YOU... TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS:

Nikki Adkins	Candy Cook	Keli Gambrill	Joseph Huggins	Mark Mandica	Maureen Perry	Adam Sukenick
Ina Allison	Joe Cook	Scott Ganues	Wanda Hunter	Robert N. Marley	Pic Petelle	Mike Sumpter
Sarah Anglin	Angelle Cooper	Jerome J. Garcia	Kristine Hwang-Kim	Michael Marshall	Dana Peterson	Whitney Sutherland
George Aycock	Beth Cooper	Katie Gaudette	Janis Hylton	Matthew Martwinski	Julie Phillips	Angelo Teachout
Sandra Barclay	Ryan Coover	Sylvia Gerbovaz	Patty Ingalsbe	Lakil Mason	Tim Phillips	Dave Thomas
Jonathon Barfield	Annie Couch	Connie Ghosh	Rufina Iruka	Crystal Mast	Stacy Pitts	Stephen Thomas
Delon Barfuss	Conner Cox	Alicia Giddens	Gabriel James	Bhavya Mathur	Mary Plauché	Phoebe Torres
Julie Barwig	Evie Cree	Geoffrey Gillie	Molly Jirasakhiran	Linda May	Brad Plumley	Natalie Trimble
Kyra Bassett	Julia Cree	Frank Gipson	Matt Johnson	Tonya McCain	Rebecca Power	Patrick Tu
Tammy Bates	Rosemary Crump-Sims	Heather Glazebrook	Zachary Johnston	Glennis McGee	Daniel Price	Ronny Tutt
Ashley Bellamy	Marvin Cruz	Kaiya Glazebrook	Judy Jones	Melissa McKeenan	John Purcell	Matthew Ulmer
Morica Bellotto	Lisa Cupid	Charmaine Godley	Celeste Jouanet	Dr. Jackie McMorris	Mark Ray	Maria Valenzuela
Kathy Bergwall	Mollie Cushing	Marlan Goines-Ballard	Kara Kalra	Grady McWhorter	Mike Reddick	Rohil Vallabhaneni
Kendra Berry	Jessica Cutler	Lee Goldberg	Swapna Kaimal	Ruth Mead	Know Reichert	Melanie VanVickle
Linda Beving	Cathy Czarnonycz	Jackie Gramer	Trevour Kelleher	Brandy Medlin	Joanie Ricketts	Sharon Wagner
Steve Beving	Jennie Dang	Guy Gray	Keith Kellett	Jennifer Mercure	Edward Richards	Allison Walker
JoAnn K. Birrell	Inez Danukarjanto	Kameron Greene	Monica Kilpatrick	Jason Methvin	Jerica Richardson	Lynn Walston
Brian Blakenship	Rakesh Darji	Carolyn Griffin	Noah Kincaid	Susan Meyers	Margaret Richlin	Bill Walton
Bill Blythe	Ayanna Daughtry	Carey Grimstead	Brian Kim	Deidre Meiggs	Charlotte Roberts	Laura Warner
Jacob Boling	Maura Davies	Joey Guinta	Holly Kirkpatrick	Ian Mielke	Holden Robertson	Jessica Warren
Roger Boss	Gretchen Davis	Gina Gullo	Heidi Kling	Liam Mielke	Alexa Robinson	Morning Washburn
Robert Bourne	Kerstin Davis	Stacey Haire	Chris Kodani	Ashley Miller	Nestor Rodriguez	Harry Webb
David Breaden	Kai DeMeritt	Lindsey Hamburg	Catherine Kommer	Elizabeth Miller	Emilie Rose	Robert Weir
Megan Brent	Sandra DeMoya	Daniel Harbert	Beth Kozlowski	Jackie Miller	Casey Saenz	Beth Wheeler
Debbie Broadnax	Cheryl Dix	Harold Harbert	Aubrey Lachance	Austin Mizerek	Brandon Salyers	Laurie Wheeler
Sally Brooking	Savannah Dixon	Paul Hardie	Tyler Lahti	Wendy Mizerek	Amanda Sanders	Chelsea Whitesell
Mike Brown	Maria Dominguez	Judy Hardin	Lori Laliberte	Charlie Monroe	Merl Saunders	Anita Wender
Joe Brunner	Ric Donato	Allison Hardy	Jennifer Lana	Seth Moore	Javier Sayago	Jack White
Randall Buchanan	Beth Doran	Elizabeth Hardy	Erin Landers	Cara Mooty	Carol Schneier	Cathey Williams
Bernadette Buonocore	Katrina Dunn	Hannah Harris	Leslie Lang	Jim Moran	Justine Schwartz	Ryan Williams
Paige Bushart	Liz Dunn	Michael Harrison	Laura LaQuaglia	Debbie Morgan	Stephanie Shamblin	Trimanda Williams
Col. Thomas Butler	Amanda Dusse	Dean Hendricks	Ashleigh Lattizori	Sean Morris	Monique Sheffield	Bernard Wilson
April Bryant	Jeremy Eaves	Jane Hendricks	Keyan Laviviere	Nancy Morrison	Stacy Sheikh	Kaye Wilson
Brian Camp	Jake Ehrie	Richard Heying	Donna Leavell	Maggi Moss	Tammy Shiflett	Andrew Wiseman
JJ Campbell	Oluseyi Ewemoje	Kerrie Higginbotham	Jesse LeBoeuf	Stefan Moss	Kimberly Sigsbee	Bill Witherspoon
Mateo Castaño	Will England	Bill Higgins	Anne Ledbetter	Shirley Murphy	Diane Sieverson	Evelyn Wood
Ty Cauthen	Mike Ernstes	Jerry Hightower	AikWah Leow	Candice Murray	Olivia Simmons	Jacob Wood
David Chamberlain	Gurbet Eysel	Penny Hightower	Phillip Lesh	Michael Musser	Annette Simpson	Julie Wood
Kahle Chaney	Norman Fagge	Christie Hill	Susan Lester	Steve Nestor	James Simpson	Karan Wood
Melinda Chaney	Aniqa Feerasta	Kevin Hill	Shane Lewis	Travis Neumuller	Emily Skibinski	Amber Wooley
Julie Chow	Erin Feichtner	Jeff Hite	Simon Locke	Dung Nguyen	Sarah Skinner	Shen Yaocen
Daniel Cochran	Gemma Fletcher	Abbie Hocutt	Madra Long	Kathy Nguyen	Dawn Smith	Chuck Youmans
Nancy Cole	Jenn Fletcher	Eloise Holland	Cynthia Longo	Eric Olson	Meghan Smith	Sandra Zons
Richard Cole	Lori Forrester	Kim Holland	Richard Longo	Laura Oubre	Kathryn Spak	
April Coleman	Alison Foster	Laurie Howard	Bryan Luffman	Tamatha Papadeas	Curtis Spiva	...and to
Jeanne Coleman	Sam Foster	Madison Howell	Julie Lutrell	Erin Parks	Celia Steigerwald	anyone we
Joan Coleman	Pathenia Freeman	Amy Hrebenak	Nan Maddox	Julie Pearson-Clarke	Mary Stricker	inadvertently
Chilatu Collins	Kelly Fry	Deirdre Hubbard	Sid Mala	Carlos Perez	Joseph Stuart	forgot

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## CED HISTORY

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### 2025

- Website migration from .org: cobbwater.org & cobbstreams.org move to cobbcounty.gov/water & cobbcounty.gov/water/ed.
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD.
- WS Staff receives Trainer of the Year Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteer (Sam Foster) at McCleskey MS receive Excellence in Education Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteers (Cathy Czarnonycz and Carol Schneier) receive Nymph Award from EPD.
- CCWS receives Education Program of Excellence Platinum Award from GAWP.
- CCWS receives Innovative Initiatives Award for Senior Services Program from GAWP.
- CED recognizes: Mary Plauche & Nan Maddox as Outreach Volunteers.

### 2024

- CCWS receives Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- CCWS receives WaterSense® Excellence in Education & Outreach.
- WS Volunteers (McCleskey Middle School) receive Rivers Alive: Georgia Schools Award.
- WS Volunteers (Sierra Club Cobb Centennial Group) receive Rivers Alive Clean-up Award.
- WS Volunteer Group (Turkey Feather) receives Red Flag Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteer (Rohil Vallabhaneni) receives Nymph Award from EPD.
- CED recognizes: April Coleman as Outreach Volunteer, Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority as Partner, Jackie Miller as AAS Volunteer of the Year.

### 2023

- CCWS receives Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- CCWS receives Innovative Initiatives Award for The Flume Smart Home Water Monitor Loaner Program from GAWP.
- CCWS receives WaterSense® Excellence in Outreach & Promoting Labeled Products Award from EPA.
- CED returns to normal operations for in-person community and school programming.
- CED staff restructure finalizes with Specialist positions upgraded to Coordinator.
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteers (Tim Phillips & Stacey Haire) receive Red Flag Award Adopt-A-Stream Award from EPD.
- CED recognizes: Destinee Rivera as Outreach Volunteer, Connie Ghosh for Commitment to Stewardship, and Officer Justice with Partnership Award.

### 2022

- CCWS continues COVID-19 safety by conducting programs virtually and in-person.
- CCWS receives the WaterSense® Sustained Excellence Award from EPA.
- CCWS receives Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- CCWS receives Innovative Initiatives Award for Sibley Pond Experience from GAWP.
- CCWS receives New Media Award for Water Professional Wednesdays from GAWP.
- CED staff receives recognition from EPD for 10 and 20 years of Trainer service for Adopt-A-Stream.
- WS Volunteer (Anne Ledbetter) receives Innovation in Adopt-A-Stream Award from EPD.

### 2021

- Cobb County lifts limited operations with COVID-19 safety protocols in place.
- CCWS receives the WaterSense® Sustained Excellence Award from EPA.
- CCWS receives Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- CED staff receives New Trainer of the Year Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteers (Tritt Elementary) receives Excellence in Education Award.
- WS Volunteers (Lakewood Colony) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award.
- CED recognizes: Patty Ingalsbe as Garden Volunteer, Kennesaw Mountain NBP as Education Partner, Anita Wender as New Volunteer.

### 2020

- Cobb County enters limited operations due to COVID-19.
- WE receives WaterSense® Excellence in Outreach & Promoting Labeled Products Award from EPA.
- CCWS receives Comprehensive Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD.
- CED recognizes: Janice Overbeck as Partner, Tiffany Davidson as Steward, George Aycock as AAS Volunteer of the Year.

### 2019

- WE, WS, and Communications join to form Communications & Education Division (CED).
- WE receives WaterSense® Sustained Excellence Award from EPA.
- CCWS receives Comprehensive Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- WS staff receives Trainer of the Year Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteers (Tritt Elementary) receives Rivers Alive School of the Year Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteer group (Pope High School) receives AAS School of the Year Award from EPD.
- WS recognizes: Cobb Progressives Earth First as Watershed Group, Osborne High School.

### 2018

- WE receives WaterSense® Sustained Excellence Award from EPA.
- CCWS receives Comprehensive Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- WS Volunteers (Tritt Elementary) receive Rivers Alive Clean-up Award.
- WS recognizes: Eddie Richards as Garden Volunteer, Rosco Peters as New Volunteer, Richard & Nancy Cole for Data Collection.

### 2017

- WE receives WaterSense® Sustained Excellence Award from EPA.
- WE receives Outstanding Drought Response STREAM Award from MNGWPD.
- WE receives Cobb EMC Partner of the Year Award.
- CCWS receives Comprehensive Education Program of Excellence Award from GAWP.
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD.
- WS Volunteer (Anne Ledbetter) receives Red Flag Award.
- WS Volunteers (ERM Atlanta) receive Nymph Award.
- WS Volunteers (Ford Elementary) receive Rivers Alive Clean-up Award.
- WS recognizes: Keep Smyrna Beautiful, Keheley Elementary, Anne Ledbetter for Stewardship In Action.



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## 2012-2016

- WE receives WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year from EPA (2016).
- WE receives Water Supply & Water Conservation Program of Excellence STREAM Award from MNGWPD (2016).
- WS staff receives recognition from Cobb County Board of Commissioners for Excellence in Customer Service (2016).
- WS Volunteer (Norm Fagge) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2016).
- WS Volunteers (Pope High School) receive Rivers Alive Clean-up Award (2016).
- WS recognizes: Norm Fagge as Volunteer of the Year, GA AAS as Partner, Sedalia Park Elementary, Simon Locke for Stewardship In Action (2016).
- WE receives WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year from EPA (2015).
- WS Volunteers (Fairfax Consulting Services) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2015).
- WS recognizes: Fairfax Consulting Services for AAS, CRNRA as Partner, DAR Fielding Lewis Chapter as the Stewards of the Year (2015).
- WE receives WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year from EPA (2015).
- CCWS receives 2014 Best Direct Media Award for *The Thälweg* from GAWP (2014).
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD (2014).
- WS staff receives New Trainer of the Year Award from EPD (2014).
- WS receives Rivers Alive: Club Award from EPD (2014)
- WS Volunteer (Ina Allison) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2014).
- WS recognizes: Ina Allison as Volunteer of the Year, Kennesaw State University School of Art and Design as Partner, Pope HS (2014).
- WS in partnership with KCB receives a \$2,000 grant for our Cigarette Litter Prevention (2013).
- WS Volunteer (Morning Washburn) receives AAS in Action Award (2013).
- WS Volunteer Group (Sierra Club Centennial Group) receives Extraordinary Volunteer Watershed Effort Award (2013).
- WS recognizes: Simon Locke as Volunteer of the Year, Lakewood Colony Group as Monitoring Group of the Year, Lassiter High as School of the Year (2013).
- CCWS receives 2012 Innovative Initiative Program Award for *Eco-Logical...Tips to Reduce Your Footprint* from GAWP (2012).
- WS Volunteer (Eric Lee) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2012).
- WS Volunteer (Cheryl Ashley-Serafine - Nicholson Elementary School) receives Adopt-A-Stream in Action Award (2012).
- WS recognizes: Carla Loosier for Community Organizing, Eric Lee for AAS, Nicholson Elementary, Diane Powell for Rain & Wildlife Garden (2012).
- WS staff serves as President of EEA and receives Volunteer Service Award from EEA (2012).

## 2007-2011

- WE receives WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year from EPA (2011).
- WS staff expands to include additional part-time Program Assistants to perform the Brooke and Branch Puppet Show (2011).
- WS receives Watershed Award from GA Environmental Protection Division (EPD) (2011).
- WS Volunteer (Connie Ghosh - McCleskey Middle School) receives Red Flag Award (2011).
- WS recognizes: Amy Boggs for Community Organizing, Pam Subalusky for AAS, Tritt Elementary (2011).
- WS staff serves as President of EEA (2011).
- WS staff received volunteer service award from EEA (2011).
- WS receives \$5,000 grant from Royal Bank of Canada for the Demonstration Rain Garden (2011).
- WS receives Adopt-A-Stream in Action Award from EPD for the Brooke & Branch Puppet Show (2010).
- WS staff receives Georgia Project WET 2009 Facilitator of the Year (2010).
- WS recognizes: The Donnelly Family for Storm Drain Marking, Ric & Sharon Donato for Anuran Monitoring, Terri Tornroos for AAS, Walton HS (2010).
- Historical flooding in Cobb County (2009).
- WE receives WaterSense Promotional Partner of the Year from EPA (2009).
- WS staff receives recognition from Cobb County Board of Commissioners for Excellence in Customer Service (2009).
- WS Volunteers (Tim Phillips and Stacey Haire) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2009).
- WS staff receives 2008 Monarch Across GA Service Award (2009).
- WS recognizes: Girl Scout Troop 21 for Storm Drain Marking, Connie Ghosh for Anuran Monitoring, Tim Phillips and Stacey Haire for AAS (2009).
- WS receives Watershed Award from EPD (2008).
- WS Volunteer (Didi Johnson) receives Outstanding Outreach and Partnership Award (2008).
- WS staff receives Teaching Conservation Facilitator of the Year from GA Conservancy (2008).
- WS staff receives recognition from Rivers Alive for Most Clean-ups Attended (2008).
- WS recognizes Didi Johnson as AAS Volunteer of the Year (2008).
- Georgia declares Level 5 Drought (2007).
- WS & WE staffs expand to include part-time Program Assistants (2007).
- WE receives Fox McCarthy Award from GAWP (2007).
- AAS changes name to Watershed Stewardship (WS) (2007).
- AAS receives Adopt-A-Stream in Action Award, for *Color Your Watershed Mural Grant Program* from EPD (2007).
- AAS Volunteer (Judy Cox - Dodgen Middle School) receives Outstanding Outreach Award (2007).
- WS recognizes Judy Cox as AAS Volunteer of the Year (2007).

## 2006-2001

- CCWS receives Public Education Award from GAWP (2006).
- CCWS Demonstration Rain Garden receives certification as a Back Yard Wildlife Habitat, a Monarch Waystation, and a Pollinator Garden (2006).
- CCWS is designated as a WaterFirst Community (2005).
- Cobb Water Efficiency Program Coordinator is hired and WE program launches (2005).
- AAS staff expands to two full-time employees (2005).
- AAS receives Rivers Alive: Outstanding Large Clean-up Award (2005).
- Demonstration Rain Garden is installed (2004).
- AAS receives Watershed Award from EPD (2004).
- AAS Volunteer (Greg Linton) receives Excellence in Data Collection Award (2004).
- Georgia experiences historic drought (2002).
- AAS receives Outstanding Outreach and Partnership Award from EPD (2002).
- CCWS receives Public Education Award from GAWP (2002).
- AAS Program Coordinator is hired and program launches (2001).

### Abbreviation Key

AAS - Cobb County Adopt-A-Stream  
CCWS - Cobb County Water System  
EEA - Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia

EPA - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
EPD - GA Environmental Protection Division  
GAWP - GA Assoc. of Water Professionals

MNGWPD - Metro N. GA Water Planing District  
WE - CCWS Water Efficiency Program  
WS - CCWS Watershed Stewardship Program

# REFLECTIONS



We hosted community events and teacher trainings, as well as participated in educational tabling events.



School programming continued in both Cobb County and City of Marietta schools.







Our community service projects and programs covered a wide range of topics and reached a diverse audience.



We encourage hands-on, experiential, outdoor learning during our programs.





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Cobb County Water System  
Communications & Education  
688 South Cobb Drive  
Marietta, Georgia 30060



## **CONNECTING COMMUNITY TO LOCAL ECOLOGY**

**[www.cobbcounty.gov/water/ed](http://www.cobbcounty.gov/water/ed)**

The Water System's Communications & Education programs are funded through the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, grant programs, and sponsors.

***Judy B. Jones, Agency Director***



### **Cobb County Board of Commissioners**

Lisa Cupid, Chairwoman  
Keli Gambrill, District One  
Erick Allen, District Two  
JoAnn K. Birrell, District Three  
Monique Sheffield, District Four  
Dr. Jackie McMorris, County Manager

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This is an official publication of the Cobb County Water System, an agency of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners.