



CONNECTIONS

Fulton County Public Works' Quarterly Newsletter



America Recycles Day

By: Jennifer McLaurin



The word "recycling" has been in our vocabulary for over 30 + years. We talk about the three "R's" of recycling; Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in our school programs, offices and in the media. While it may seem overwhelming to hear projections that by 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the world's oceans, and if we keep producing (and failing to properly dispose of) plastics at predicted rates, plastics in the ocean will outweigh fish pound for pound in 2050, www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_New_Plastics_Economy.pdf

Let's face the plastic facts. Humans are not doing our best to reuse or dispose of recyclables correctly. Plastic is versatile, strong, flexible and inexpensive. Good qualities right? Yes, but those "good qualities" in plastic are also slow to degrade; they become waste with staying power that show up in our rivers, lakes, and oceans. Plastics travel long distances. In 1992, twenty containers full of rubber ducks were lost overboard from a ship traveling from China to Seattle. By 1994, some had been tracked to Alaska, while others reached Iceland in 2000. The ducks (with a distinctive logo on their base) have been sighted in the Arctic, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. (Ebbesmeyer, 2003). Those plastic ducks show just how resilient a plastic product can be.

So, what now? We know the problem with plastic pollution is global; it will take worldwide effort to make a change. Here are a few SIMPLE ways you and your family can help reduce this growing problem in our homes and businesses?

Schools: Get your child's school involved! Learn how to hold a recycling event at your school! It's simple, free and a great way to introduce recycling at an early age. <http://www.abagslife.com/>

Communities: Check out this link to see if your community offers curb side recycling. <http://www.keepgeorgiabeautiful.org/AffiliateDirectory.asp>

Offices and Businesses: Become a leader in your office by implementing some of these great ideas on how to recycle at your office. <https://earth911.com/business-policy/start-office-recycling-program/>

Start today with a few of these recycling tips and make them part of your everyday routine! For more information on recycling and environmental education contact your amazing Fulton County Department of Public Works Education Team!

IN THIS ISSUE

America Recycles Day
Pg. 1

Director's Corner
Pg. 2

Employees Recognized for Years of
Service with Fulton County
Pg. 2

Transportation Farewell
Pg. 3

Little River Expansion Update
Pg. 4

California



India



Norway



Director's Corner



David Clark

I hope everyone that everyone has begun to enjoy the holiday season and hope that you all will be able to take a little time off over the coming month to enjoy the meaning of the season and be with your family and friends.

It has been a busy summer and fall for the Public Works Department. At the forefront, was the transition of transportation services from Fulton County to the City of South Fulton. Even the

simplest transitions are challenging though this one was extra difficult because of South Fulton's decision to contract the services out to a professional firm instead of bringing Fulton County staff over as City of South Fulton employees. The transition has recently been completed and I am proud of the professionalism that all of Public Works showed in making the transition be as positive as possible.

Because of the elimination of transportation division within Public Works, I will be using the first few months to refocus Public Works on the Airport and Water Resources responsibilities that we have to the citizens of Fulton County. I will be using this opportunity to increase on our customer service and how we respond to the public needs and requests. Therefore, be on the lookout for small changes in the Department over the coming months.

Again, here's hoping that each of you have a joyous holiday season and a prosperous 2019!

Upcoming Events

November 22nd & 23rd
FC Thanksgiving Holidays

December 5th 9am
Art Calendar Reception
Peachtree Level Cafe'
41 Pryor St SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

December 24th & 25th
FC Christmas Holiday

Dec. 31st & Jan 1st
FC New Year's Holiday

January 8, 2019 11am
Winterization Display Table
WROC
11575 Maxwell Road
Alpharetta, GA 30009

Public Works Employees Recognized for Years of Service

On July 19, 2018 two of our very own Public Works employees were recognized for their many years of service to Fulton County. Mabel Green was recognized for 25 years of service to the county and Abdul Akbar was recognized in celebration of 30 years of service with Fulton County Public Works. We would like to congratulate and recognize their dedication to Fulton County as well as their many years of service with public works. Below is an excerpt from Abdul Akbar's speech given at the awards ceremony.

"After 30 years of service, I have been rewarded today to work with individuals who are professional in their work and are pleasant to work with. The men and women I work with in the Department of Public works today have a vision of the future that will shape the future of Fulton County in a way that will have a positive and significant impact on future generations."



Mabel Green-25 Years of Service



Abdul Akbar-30 Years of Service

Welcome New Employees!

Timothy Beggerly
Airport Manager

Mark Aral
Development Site Inspector

Ryan Rucker
Heavy Equipment Operator

Sadie Spear
Records & Doc. Coordinator

Promotions

Antonio Benford
General Supervisor Water/Sewer

Jenna Cook
Quality Assurance/Control Officer

D'Mitri Brown
Accountant II

Retirees

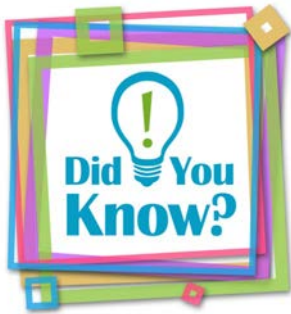
Renard Caudle

Jerry Baker

Keith Baker

Michelle Lawrence

Doug Barrett



The FOG Diet Works for Everyone!

Jennifer McLaurin

Starting a diet is EASY! Yes, we said it! Putting your sewer system pipes from your home on a diet is simple and saves you money! Wait a minute, why am I telling you to put the sewer system on a diet? In the sewers there is a situation called FOG (Fats, Oil, Grease), that can cost homeowners and your municipality thousands of dollars each year. Sewer back-ups can be very stinky and a costly mess! FOG will clog up your sewer pipe resulting in sewage backing up into your house or yard! Keeping FOG out of the system reduces backups and overflows. Help keep our water systems clean and FOG free!



How does this FOG diet work?



- Do not pour oil, grease, or fats down the drain.
- Soak up the grease after cooking with a paper towels or use a FOG scraper and put it in the trash.
- Refrigerate larger amounts of used cooking grease into containers to harden, and then place in the trash.
- Minimize the use of your garbage disposal. Put food scraps into the garbage.



Public Works by the Numbers October 2018		
Water Resources	905.25	Total Water Distributed (MG)
	6.32%	Non-revenue Water (annualized)
	42	Meters Replaced
	1,256.03	Total Wastewater Treated (MG)
	6.5 M ft ²	Sewer Easement Cleared
	192	Water and Sewer Permits Processed
	1	Sewer Overflow >10,000 Gal
	3	Sewer Overflow <10,000 Gal
	5,700	Citizens Reached by PEO staff

The End of the Road

By: Roussan Francois

Transportation Division of Fulton County
From the heart...

On November 18, 2018, the Department of Public Works transitioned to the City of South Fulton. I wrote a few articles during my 18+-year tenure with the department. However, this one is semi-personal and probably the most emotional piece of writing I had to do. Also, this may be the last article from the transportation division soon to dissipate under the umbrella of Public Works and transition to the newly-formed city of South Fulton.

Looking back, I was very fortunate and blessed to have been involved in some very exciting projects, worked along side of knowledgeable, passionate, and energetic people; some of whom I still talk with regularly, others randomly and those I have yet to meet. I met some great minds, participated in good- some heated discussions, and went through some rewarding, turbulent and unpredictable times. I was privileged to lead the team for a couple of years and worked with some talented and champions to draft among others the County's first comprehensive transportation plan and several studies, of which some of the projects are being executed today.

The future looks bright and promising. Most of us will join Jacobs Engineering, the company hired by the city to run the day-to-day operations of Public Works, others will remain with the County and a couple will work in neighborhood agencies/counties. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of a great department surrounded by a melting pot of people with a thirst to serve, with no tolerance for mediocrity, and an eye for innovation and creativity.

Little River Expansion Update

By: Timothy Mullen



August 2017



August 2018



November 2018

Construction is underway at the Little River Wastewater Reclamation Facility to increase the size of the facility from 1.0 MGD to 2.6 MGD. The Contractor, Lane Construction Corporation, LLC, is on schedule to complete the project in May 2020. The proposed facility will incorporate all of the latest technology for the treatment of wastewater including membrane systems and odor control. All treatment at the facility will be enclosed within the main building or within enclosures adjacent to the building. The facility will be computer operated and designed to function with a staff of 2. The facility will also generate reuse water to provide irrigation for the adjacent golf course. The building has been designed with aesthetics towards the neighboring residential properties.

Concrete work has been completed on the entire first floor of the facility and portions of the second floor have been poured. Work has begun on the upper walls. The contractor is scheduled to begin installation of the mechanical system within the lower portion of the building this month.

Public Education Group Hosts Pop-Up Water Stops for FC Residents

By: Amy Warnock

This summer, in order to get our citizens thinking about their water and the work that goes into providing it, the Public Education and Outreach group hosted two “Pop-Up Water Stops” for residents. The first event, in late August, took place at the Wolf Creek Library while the second coincided with opening day sports at Bell Memorial Park in Milton. Residents who stopped by were offered cold, delicious tap water along with conservation materials and information, including the annual Drinking Water Quality Report.

One of the main goals of public education for water utilities is to build positive relationships with customers and help them become good stewards of both our water resources and our water and wastewater systems. The Pop-Up Water Stops are a great way to foster positive interactions with residents, get important information into their hands, and help them understand the services we provide and the value of their public water system.



Important Contacts for Employees

For payroll, leave, or overtime questions:
[Cherylyn Griffin](#) 404.612.7444

For direct deposit, credit union, MARTA, or tax questions:
[Maxine Wright](#) 404.612.7724

For 457b questions:
[Tomekia Mance](#) 404.612.7668

For 401a questions:
 Mass Mutual 800.743.5274

For pension (old plan) questions:
 Finance Department 404.612.7600

For employee benefits questions:
 Finance Department 404.612.7605

For ADA questions:
[Nadine Oka](#) 404.612.7390