Educating Our Future Customers

By: Amy Warnock

The Public Works Public Education and Outreach (PEO) team works hard to educate our customers on the services provided by our Department. Through presentations, workshops, community events, and media, our staff teaches customers daily how they can help to protect and conserve the County’s water resources and infrastructure. One way that the team accomplishes this is by reaching out to our future customers: those younger residents of Fulton County who don’t yet own homes or pay bills, but will one day be responsible for doing so.

By partnering with Fulton County schools we are able to reach students of all ages, from Pre-K through high school, and introduce the basic concepts and behaviors that produce good water habits. Our programs are offered free of charge to both public and private Fulton County schools. Each program is aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence, to fit with teachers’ curriculum goals, and also aligned to the mission of the Public Works Department and the PEO team, to help our young residents develop into responsible citizens and stewards of our water resources.

During the 2018-2019 year, along with the thousands of students reached through community events, summer camps, and library programs, we served over 5,000 Fulton County students with in-classroom programming. Reaching students in the classroom with these programs gives more time for focused interaction in an environment where students are already in “learning mode”, allowing us dive a little deeper and leave a lasting impression. Some of our schools have several grades participate in our programs each year. By visiting the same students multiple times with our programs, we are able to reinforce those messages and potentially influence the behavior of both the students and their families.

As teachers return to school for pre-planning during the first week of August, we will begin scheduling programming for the 2019-20 school year. Teachers can get more information or schedule programs for their students by emailing Amy.Warnock@fultoncountyga.gov or calling (404) 612-8006.
Thank you all for the preparation and participation in the annual Public Works Week celebration at the end of May. While we had to share the week with Human Resources employee recognition events, I believe that we still had a full and successful week. Thank you for all of the Public Education staff and the others within the department that volunteered time and talents. This event needs a lot of hands to make it all work as well as it does – so all of your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Public Works Week was started in 1960 by the American Public Works Association as a way to energize and educate the public on the importance of public works to their daily lives. Too often the general public simply expects that public infrastructure will be there for them. They do not acknowledge the efforts that all of us take on a daily basis to ensure that it is fully operational for their use whenever they want it to be available. To me that is what Public Works Week gets to highlight. Whether it is the tours, public service projects, or the displays in the atrium of Government Center, we consistently use the week as a way to reinforce our contributions to the County residents and visitors.

Of course the pinnacle of the week is the training session and equipment rodeo that caps off a busy week. Although this portion of Public Works Week is more geared internally, I believe it is an equally important part of the week and allows all of us to continue forming bonds within the work environment that are often called upon during times of crisis.

I am grateful that the Board of Commissioners continue to support Public Works Week and I look forward to Public Works Week in 2020.

Welcome New Employees

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Chequelous Covin</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker, Sr.</td>
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<td>Waquanzo Barrett</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker, Sr.</td>
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<td>Alberto Bechara</td>
<td>Professional Engineer, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Skipper</td>
<td>Staff Engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mica Tuff</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker, Sr.</td>
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<td>Rhett Smith</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Cullen</td>
<td>Maintenance Worker, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alleen Morris</td>
<td>Administrative Specialist</td>
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<td>Jonathan Gauthier</td>
<td>Assistant Airport Manager</td>
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Promotions

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<tr>
<td>Kevin Phillips</td>
<td>Staff Engineer, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela Keel</td>
<td>Staff Engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Parks</td>
<td>Utility Locate Tech</td>
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Important Contacts for Employees

For payroll, leave, or overtime questions: Cheryllyn Griffin 404.612.7444
For direct deposit, credit union, MARTA, or tax questions: Maxine Wright 404.612.7724
For 457b questions: Tomokia 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
New Life for an Old Manhole

By: Roy Barnes, Deputy Director

Fulton County Water Reclamation Division implemented a new manhole rehabilitation method utilizing fiberglass manhole inserts giving new life to old and worn out manholes.

The manhole fiberglass inserts allows us to completely rebuild a manhole in under 8 hours; a procedure that usually take two days or more to complete. The process is quite simple. It starts with taking measurements for depth and circumference, sending the order into the factory and when the insert arrives on site, cutting the holes in the bottom and slide into place. We order the inserts a little smaller than the circumference of the manhole. For instance if the manhole is 48 inch in diameter we would order a 46 inch insert.

Once the insert is in place, we seal the edges around the bottom. The annular space is filled with a high performance filler. Once completed we have a new manhole that's corrosion proof and good for another 80-90 years. To top it off, we install a water tight composite manhole cover that is also corrosion proof.

The new refurbished manholes provide the County with multiple benefits, here are just a few:

- elimination of inflow into the manholes,
- water tight manholes that can be submerged,
- corrosion resistant to Hydrogen Sulfide, Sulfuric Acid and other corrosive chemicals
- substantial reduction in time and labor for rehabilitation

Fulton County is the first county in the state to use this technique for rehabilitating manholes. We look forward to providing Public Works with new and creative ideas that will make the County a better place to live and work.
The Pine Valley repair of a 48” trunk line is moving along and the Fulton County Public Works Technical Services Division plan to see completion of installation and restoration of service in August 2019. Cleanup efforts will continue through the Fall of 2019 including easment restoration, site cleanup, temporary bypass removal and establishment of grassing. Corrosion of the previous pipe created a need for replacement and upgrade of the wastewater collection infrastructure in South Fulton. Staff provided door-to-door notifications to the residents surrounding the collapse site which included providing information on the work needing to be done and Public Works contacts for updates on progress relating to this repair. Listed below are some of the activities completed to date relative to the project scope.

- Installed approx. 3,371 LF of the 4,074 LF project, or 82.0% of the project
- HOBAS® pipes are being used for replacement of the trunk line which addresses corrosive piping issues
- Coordinating with contractors to clean and prepare manhole structures by sealing to prevent water infiltration
- 50% of manholes have been sealed, repaired, and replaced in the project scope
- Daily odor checks at pump stations near residential areas and businesses in the project vicinity

PEO Hosts Educator Workshop for Fulton County Public School Teachers

This June, 25 educators with Fulton County Public Schools were certified in 3 environmental education curriculums: Project WET, Project WILD and Project Learning Tree. Each of the curriculums provides educators with a guide book of activities that will engage their students or program participants in a variety of hands-on lessons relating to a variety of subjects.

The workshop, led by Hannah Penn, was conducted over two days at the Teaching Museum South in Hapeville, GA and involved partners from the Fulton County Public Schools, GA Wildlife Resources Division, Cobb County Marietta Water Authority, and the City of Roswell.

Participants walked away from the workshop with examples of lessons, instructions on how to incorporate the lessons into their classrooms this school year, adaptations for lessons that can be used across multiple grade levels, resources to use in the classroom, and some wonderful memories!

Educators interested in participating in future trainings at their school, please contact Hannah Penn at 404-612-0415 or hannah.penn@fultoncountyga.gov.