

CONNECTIONS

Fulton County Public Works' Quarterly Newsletter



2018 Art Calendar Contest Winners Honored

By: Gwen Brinkley

Another year has come and gone and the Public Education and Outreach team has sponsored their seventh annual art calendar contest for Fulton County students grades K-12.

We're excited to announce this year's cover winner is Shivam Jain, an 8th grade student at Fulton Science Academy. Shivam's title "Water, Don't Let It Plop, Save Drop By Drop" captures the heart of our theme this year: "Conserving our Water Resources".

We received a total of 307 submissions and along with the cover winner, twelve monthly winners and nine honorable mentions were featured in the 2018 Art Calendar. All of the winning students were recognized on December 20th, 2017 at a breakfast reception in the Government Center and recognized by the Board of Commissioners with a proclamation.

We're always looking for creative ways to raise awareness and educate our citizens on the importance of protecting and conserving our water resources. The art calendar is one such way and it is our hope that the students' artwork will encourage you to conserve daily. We hope you're

enjoying the 2018 art calendar and remember to tell your family and friends in Fulton county schools (k-12) about the contest. They just might be a winner in 2019!

The full art calendar can be [viewed and downloaded](#) from the Public Works website.



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Upcoming Events

February 15 7p-8p
Septic Tank Basics Workshop
11575 Maxwell Rd
Alpharetta, GA 30009

February 16 10a-12p
Land Cleanup along Utoy Creek
3520 Cascade Rd SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
(Rain date: March 16)

February 22 7p-8p
Septic Tank Basics Workshop
5600 Stonewall Tell
College Park, GA 30349

February 23 11a-12p
Winterize Your Home Workshop for Seniors
Northside Shepherd Senior Center

March 19-25
USEPA Fix a Leak Week
Workshops and Events

March 24 7a-11a
Water Drop Dash 5K and Festival
Chattahoochee Nature Center

Director's Corner

By: David Clark

Happy New Year! I hope that 2018 will be a joyous one for each member of Public Works and your families.

Now that we are in the middle of the winter season, it is a good time to review the role Public Works provides in ensuring that the public infrastructure (water mains, sanitary sewer lines, roadways, and the Fulton County airport) remains operational for the public's use during any inclement weather event.

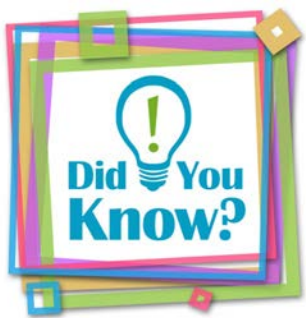
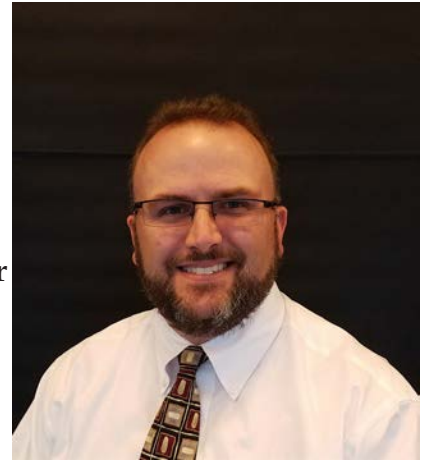
Public Works provides a vital service to the residents of Fulton County every day but even more importantly during periods of inclement weather. It is my expectation that all staff must be ready to respond as requested to ensure that our infrastructure remains functional and reliable. All employees are expected to work their normal shifts unless the Fulton County government is closed. The decision to close is made by the County Manager's Office and not at the Department level. If Fulton County closes early, those employees that are designated as "essential" will remain on their shifts until dismissed by their supervisors. All "non-essential" employees will be dismissed in accordance with the direction provided by the Manager's Office - unless it is determined by the Department of Public Works that additional staff members are needed to respond to the inclement weather event. Therefore, it is possible that "non-essential" employees will assume essential roles during these events.

I am committed to ensure that all employees are properly compensated for the hours worked during inclement weather events in accordance with the County's Policies and Procedures. Typically, all hours worked above 40 hours in a pay week (Wednesday through Tuesday) will result in overtime for non-exempt employees. Generally, exempt employees are not eligible for overtime - however, there are some cases where compensation time will be accrued by exempt employees. Please note: essential employees will not accrue any overtime or compensation time during the periods of the government being closed until you have reached 40 hours of work during that pay week.

Additionally, it is equally important that employees adhere to safety measures during these events. Driving in inclement weather requires increased levels of concentration and awareness. Drivers should never use the radio or cell phones while driving. Employees must remember to dress for the weather conditions and to take frequent breaks.

I appreciate all of your commitment in serving the residents of Fulton County and remember to be safe in 2018.

-David



Litter is an unsightly and expensive problem. It's estimated that over 9 billion tons of litter ends up in our oceans every year and approximately \$11.5 billion is spent yearly cleaning up litter. With 528.7 square miles and a population of more than 1 million, Fulton County has a large volume of litter entering our greenways and waterways daily. Each year the Public Education (PEO) team hosts and supports cleanups to help keep our communities clean and to promote teamwork for schools, civic groups, and other organizations.

Are you interested in hosting a community cleanup but not sure where to start? The PEO team can help! We regularly donate trash bags and loan out trash grabbers, safety vests, and gloves. Clean-ups are suitable for both children and adults. The education staff can also provide helpful tips on organizing and preparing for a cleanup. If you're interested in holding clean-up in your community or working with one of our cleanups, please contact **Jennifer McLaurin** at **404-612-8745** or Jennifer.McLaurin@fultoncountyga.gov



Public Works by the Numbers December 2017		
Water Resources	684.1 MG	Total Water Distributed
	8.51%	Non-revenue Water (annualized)
	21	Meters Replaced
	1,252.56	Total Wastewater Treated
	5.78 M ft ²	Sewer Easement Cleared
	172	Water and Sewer Permits Processed
	1	Sewer Overflow >10,000 Gal
	2	Sewer Overflow <10,000 Gal
Transportation	1,250	Citizens Reached by PEO staff
	1	Project in RFP Phase
	10	Projects in Design Phase
	1	Project in Construction Phase
ISPLOSI	5	Projects Completed
	12	Projects in Design Phase
	2	Project in Letting Phase

Airport Update

By: Jason Pinnix

Fulton County Airport-Brown Field (KFTY) is located six miles west of downtown Atlanta and is home to several large flight departments operating a wide range of corporate aircraft for a handful of major employers headquartered in the Atlanta Metro area, and it is poised to make a real splash in the region! Brown Field has numerous multi-million dollar infrastructure projects slated to begin for 2018 and is currently wrapping up a \$4.4 million land development project located on its northern borders that should be a boon for hangar construction and a major attraction to companies interested in relocating to Fulton County. Upcoming projects at the airport will provide a greater degree of safety and efficiency for aircraft operating on the airfield and are a welcome upgrade to the facility. Two projects in particular, the Taxiway J & K Stub relocation project (\$1.25 million), as well as the North Terminal Area (NTA) access initiative (rehabilitation of Taxiway J north of Runway 8/26), federally funded at an additional \$1.25 million, will be key upgrades that will help to propel the County into a new era of growth and prosperity.

As previously mentioned, the Airport is about to complete the first phase of a series of airfield upgrades that will allow it to capitalize on surplus acreage within its holdings in order to spur investment in the facility and further contribute to the County's General Fund (i.e. revenue base). The \$4.4 million land development project begun in late 2016 and spilling over into 2017 has produced an extra fifty acres of developable land for hangar and apron construction. The effort has been a monumental accomplishment undertaken and brought to fruition through a public-private partnership between Fulton County, Majestic Realty Inc., and GDOT/FAA officials. Building on this first phase, the Airport plans to pursue additional Federal and State funding even more vigorously in FY2018 and beyond, so that it can better position Fulton County as the preferred county to do business with in the State of Georgia.



2nd Annual Fulton County Model Water Tower Competition

By: Amy Warnock

On November 29, 2017 Fulton County Public Works held its 2nd annual Model Water Tower Competition at Amana Academy in Alpharetta. The Georgia Model Water Tower Competition began with a partnership between the Georgia Association of Water Professionals and the Georgia section of the American Water Works Association, with the first competition in Henry County in 2012. The competition has expanded to several other municipalities since, with Fulton County holding its first competition in 2016. Forty-three students, all seventh graders at Amana Academy, participated in this year's competition. The students received a basic introduction and a list of criteria for their towers to meet. They then researched water infrastructure and hydraulic concepts, and worked in small teams to design and build functioning model water towers.

On competition day, volunteers from Public Works and from other utilities and organizations in Georgia came together to help judge the competition and lead activities for the students. Each tower was tested and scored based on its structural and hydraulic efficiency. The towers were also scored on artistic merit and each team had an interview with our panel of judges, which included David Clark, Michelle Lawrence, and Anthony Spencer. The students also learned about conservation, pollution prevention, and stream ecology with hands-on activities and raced each other to assemble water meters with the Meter Madness activity.

Thank you to everyone who helped out with this year's Model Water Tower Competition. The students enjoyed the day and learned some valuable lessons about water resources. We hope to see you all at the 2018 competition.



Thank you to all of our volunteers!



This year's grand prize winners, Team ISR, receive their prize from Public Works Director David Clark



Volunteers test a model water tower at the Dimensions station



Students practice assembling water meters with the Meter Madness activity

Halloween High Jinks



Lab employees celebrated the holiday with a costume party and pumpkin carving contest!

Tech Talk: Proactive v. Reactive Strategies for RDII

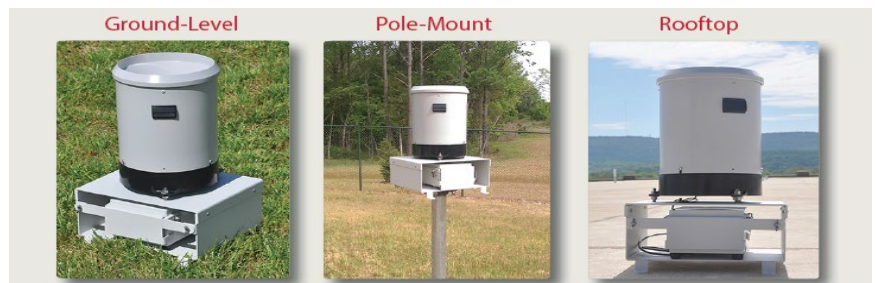
By: Terry Peters

One of the most important functions our department performs is the safe collection, transport, and treatment of wastewater. That mission can be severely compromised if the capacity of the pipes and other facilities that make up our system is exceeded. The capacity of our collection system is most tested during intense rain events. The additional water that enters our system due to defects or higher water tables is referred to as RDII (rain deduced inflow & infiltration). That additional flow reduces available capacity and makes the system more susceptible to sanitary sewer overflows (SSO's). Sanitary sewer overflows present serious dangers to the public and environment at large. A large portion of the analytical work we perform goes to identifying these sources of RDII and reducing their ability to enter the system.

Technical Services has recently embarked on another task to help get ahead of this issue. The two steps being taken to help improve our storm readiness and potential spill response are as follows:

- 1) Increase the rain gauge coverage throughout our service area from 16 sites to 26 sites and
- 2) Set parameters on the rain gauges to alert/alarm at specified rain intensity.

There are several expected benefits that should come with increased rain gauge coverage. By utilizing these tools the Department is hoping to reduce the chances of RDII induced SSO's even further. Currently there are sixteen (16) rain gauges throughout the County.



ADS RainAlert III Rain Gauge
The ADS RainAlert III Rainfall Monitor with tipping bucket and sun shield, provides automated remote rainfall measurement and alarming.



All of those rain gauges are in the

process of being upgraded to communicate on a 3G and newer network. In addition ten (10) more gauges will be added within the next several months to increase our coverage and to provide more detailed information about rain events and how they impact our collections system.

The initial rainfall levels for the alarms at each location will be based on historic information when previous SSO's have occurred. The alarms will alert staff to the presence of storms that have an intensity that can potentially pose a SSO risk. Being alerted and ready to act in order to relieve RDII capacity issues will put the department in a more proactive

stance. Understanding what storms pose the most risk will allow staff to properly deploy during events in order to address any potential SSOs.

Green Tips For Our Lives

Use these tips in 2018 to put a little green in your routine - and your wallet!

Drive to work with a friend

The average commuter goes through 340 gallons of gas annually, which creates a 3.4 ton cloud of carbon dioxide, according to *The Live Earth Global Warming Survival Handbook*. YIKES. Ride with one extra passenger and shrink that number by 50%!

Drink that coffee from a mug

A study in the journal *Food and Chemical Toxicology* found that chemicals in styrofoam can leach into foods or liquids when heated. With few recyclers accepting styrofoam, your coffee cup will likely end up in a landfill--pretty much forever--or littering the ground somewhere.

Shop wisely

On average, we toss \$43 in the garbage each month, in the form of about 20 pounds of wasted food. Planning meals ahead of time, using a shopping list, buying from bulk bins, and avoiding impulse buys can save money and prevent waste. Don't forget those reusable bags!

Transportation Update: Execution is Key

By: Roussan Francois

Over a year ago, the city of South Fulton among the fourteen cities in Fulton County approved a 3/4-cent to fund transportation for the next 5 years. The State started collecting funds in April 2017 and the City of South Fulton received its first disbursements in May. Residents in these areas expect the cities to hit the ground running as soon as the funds become available. This is exactly what the transportation division of Public Works has done for the last eight months. At the same time, staff were responsible to draft, put out, and process bids; outline an action plan for the coming year based on trends and funding expectations; and keep both elected officials and the public at large informed, while at the same time executing a six-year capital improvement program and a local infrastructure maintenance program.

Below are our calendar year 2017 accomplishments in numbers:

- Illegal Dumping (Tons of Materials picked-up): 2,450
- Litter Pick-up (Pounds of Materials picked-up): 49,995
- Grass Cutting- (Linear Miles Cut): 3,016
- Street Sweeping-(Linear miles swept): 234
- Winter Storm Response (12/8-10)
 - Tons of sand applied : 220 tons
 - Pounds of calcium chloride spread: 2,650 pounds
 - Number of traffic signals reset: 16 signals
 - Total Man-hours worked: 1,046 hours
- Total Work orders completed: 1,918
- Traffic Signals Maintained- based on work orders: 793
- Signs Maintained- based on work orders: 953
- Facility signs fabricated: 152

Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

- Projects completed: 4
- Projects in Construction: 1
- Projects in Design: 10

TSPLOST

- Corridor miles resurfaced: 10.5
- Number of subdivision road miles topped: 13
- Number of Operation and safety projects in Design: 9
- Number of bridge projects in Design: 9
- Number of bicycle/pedestrian projects in Design: 2



Resurfacing Fulton County roads Fall 2017

Welcome New Employees!	Willie Franklin	Staff Engineer
	Beenies Willis	Receiving & Inventory Specialist
	Clarence Blackman	Maintenance Worker, Senior
	Richard Crawley	Heavy Equipment Operator
	Michael Pritchell	Maintenance Worker, Senior
	Elbert Jones	Maintenance Worker, Senior
	Chad Pendley	Maintenance Worker, Senior
	James Smart	Heavy Equipment Operator
	Craig Daniels	Heavy Equipment Operator
	Jonathan Burden	Maintenance Worker, Senior
	Aaron Freeman	Maintenance Worker, Senior
Yolanda Banks	Administrative Specialist	
Hickbal Clarke	Staff Engineer	

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