



# CONNECTIONS

*Fulton County Public Works' Quarterly Newsletter*



## 2019 Art Calendar Awards

By: Gwen Brinkley

The annual art calendar contest sponsored by the Public Education and Outreach (PEO) team was a success for the 9th year!

Each year we ask Fulton County students grades K-12 to submit artwork displaying how they use water efficiently as well as how to keep pollution out of our rivers, lakes, and streams. The theme for this year is "Water's Worth It". The education campaign was revived by the Water Environment Federation in 2018 to provide education to the public about how connected we are to water in our daily lives. Protecting our water resources is vital to the access and usage of water at the very affordable rates we pay.

The 2019 Art Calendar Cover Winner is Cecelia Phillips, a 12th grade student at Independence High School. Her title "rub a dub dub use less water in your tub",

reminds us to conserve water on a daily basis. Our students can make a huge impact simply by using water wisely at home and changing the way their families and classmates use water.

We received a total of 146 art submissions that were very creative and often thought provoking. In addition to the cover winner, twelve monthly winners and nine honorable mentions were selected and featured in the 2019 Art Calendar.

The winning students were recognized individually on December 19th, 2018 at a breakfast reception in the Government Center as well as during the Board of Commissioners meeting with a proclamation.

Even a few small changes can end up saving hundreds of gallons of water every year.

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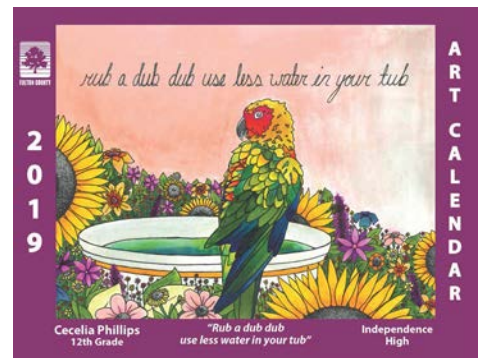
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We hope you're enjoying the 2019 art calendar and remember to tell your family and friends in Fulton county schools (k-12) about the contest. They just might be a winner in 2020!



2019 Calendar Cover Art

# Director's Corner

By: David Clark

Welcome to 2019 and I hope that everyone had a joyous holiday season.

The Board of Commissioners have finalized the operating budget for 2019 and one of the key components of the budget is the Pay for Performance program. As many of you know, the Pay for Performance program has two main elements – 1) an overall customer service goal of 80% of all Fulton County residents being satisfied or extremely satisfied with the level of service provided and 2) five key performance measures tied directly to Public Works providing services to the citizens. For those departments that meet both of these elements, a bonus will be paid to all current employees who have been employed with Fulton County since July 1, 2018.



It is with great pride that I can announce that Public Works has met all of the customer service standards and the 2018 key performance measures. Therefore, Public Works staff should expect to receive a 3% bonus for our hard work in 2018. All bonus checks will be presented to staff on February 22nd. It will be a separate check issued that will be taxed at a flat rate of 22% for federal taxes and 5.75% for state taxes. For those employees that participate in the Deferred Compensation program, your normal contribution will also be made based on the bonus amount and the percentage you have elected.

Additionally, as part of the 2019 Operating Budget, the Board of Commissioners decided to include a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all employees. These COLAs will be included in the first pay check after July 1, 2019. Thank you for your commitment to Customer Service and efficient operations of Public Works in 2018. It is my intention to continue raising the delivery of services provided to the residents of Fulton County in 2019. Be on the lookout for our goals for 2019 in the coming weeks.

## Green Tips for Our Lives

New year means a new opportunity to add a little green to your routine! Use the pointer below to make a difference in your water footprint this year.

**Take a shorter shower:** You'll help avoid dry skin and cut down on your water and energy bills at the same time. The average daily shower habit adds up to 204 pounds of pollutants being emitted annually for an electric-powered water heater and 94 pounds for a natural gas-fueled water heater according to the NRDC. Aim to limit your shower to 5 minutes or less, and turn off the water when shaving!

### Public Works By the Numbers December 2018

WATER RESOURCES	666.31 MG	Total Water Distributed
	9.58 %	Non-revenue water (annualized)
	28	Meters Replaced
	1,960.75 MG	Total Wastewater Treated
	6,883,956 sf	Sewer Easement Cleared
	192	Water and Sewer Permits Processed
	5	Sewer Overflow >10,000 gallons (major spill)
	0	Sewer Overflow <10,000 gallons (minor spill)
500	People Reached by PEO Staff	

Welcome! New Employees
Lee Bass Environmental Water Technician
George Byroo Maintenance Worker, Sr.
Joffre Larkin Maintenance Worker, Sr. (Returning Employee)

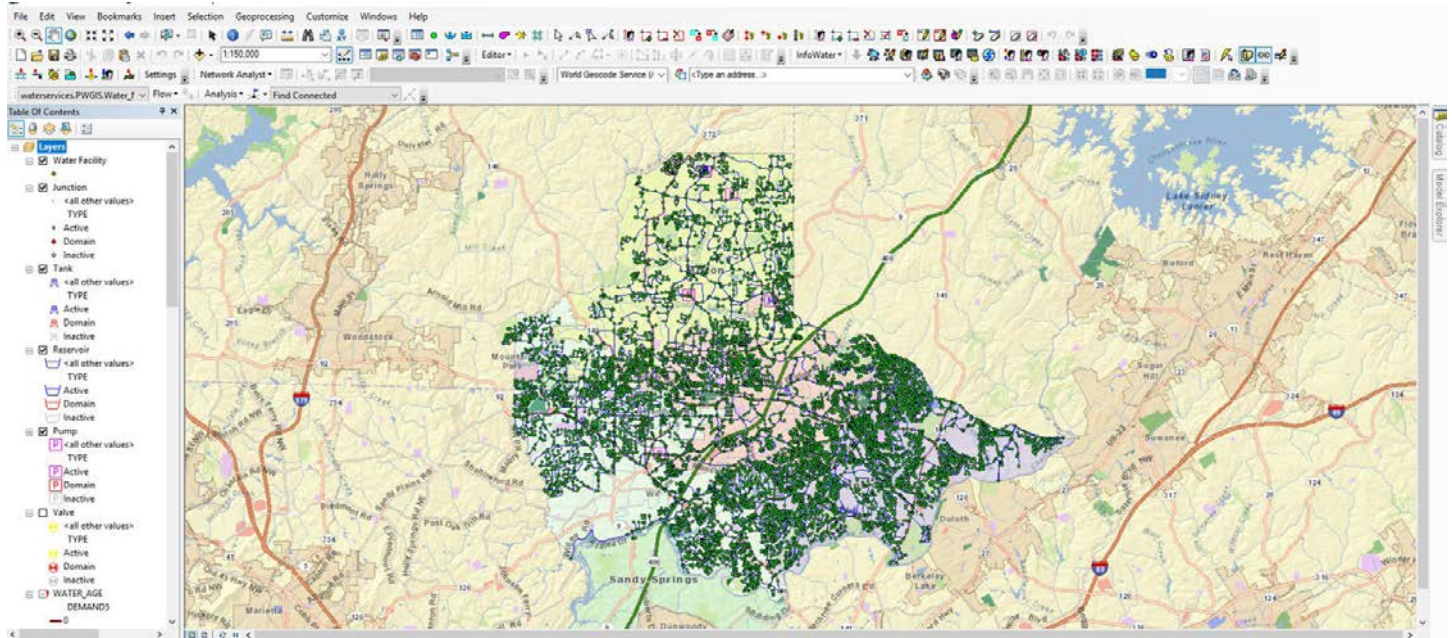
Promotions
Desmond Kajim Crew Supervisor, Sr.
Aaron Freeman Crew Supervisor, Sr.
Nicole Wright Contract Operations Administrator
Michael Pendley Crew Supervisor Sr, Water & Sewer
John Cochran General Supervisor, Water & Sewer



# Technical Services: Water Modeling

By: *Adriana Bustillos Lefkovits*

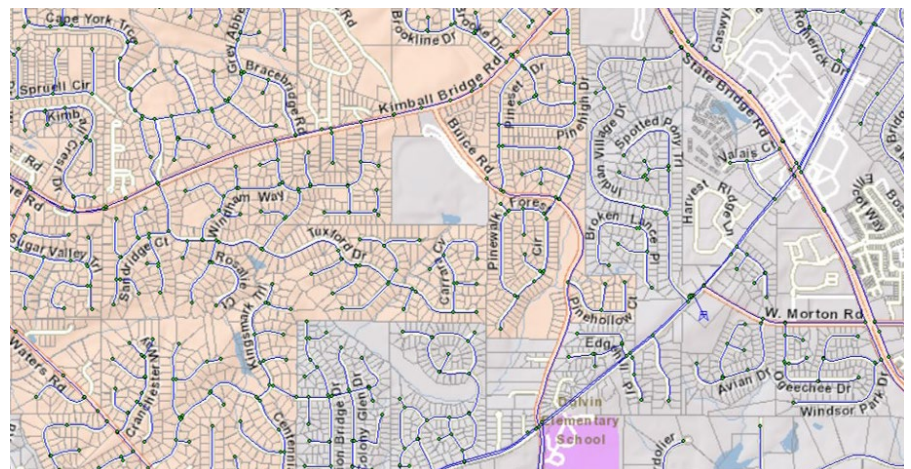
A hydraulic model is a computer simulation of a water system used to predict the performance of it. Water models are tools used not only to evaluate system pressures, flows and hydraulic grade lines but also to solve a wide variety of issues including system planning, energy management, water loss, emergency response, water quality such as water age, track disinfectant residuals, reduce disinfection by-products, among other applications.



**Model of the North Fulton Water Distribution System**

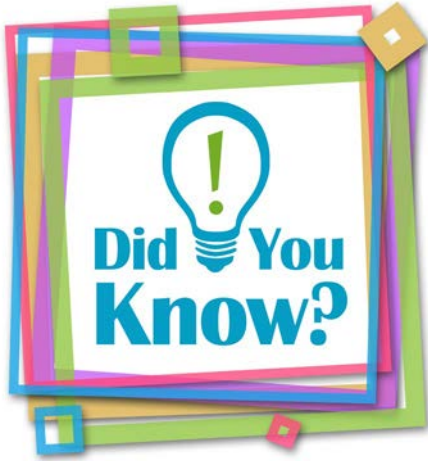
Fulton County water distribution system covers the northern area of the County from north of the Chattahoochee River which is our drinking water supply. Water is treated to above drinking water standards at the Tom Lowe Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant, and distributed to our system to satisfy a maximum demand of 45 MGD. The system serves the cities of Johns Creek, Alpharetta, Milton, and 80% of Roswell; and approximately 243,000 people. It consists of around 1,200 miles of pressurized water lines with diameters ranging from 8 to 54 inches, three booster pump stations, three ground storage tanks, nine elevated tanks (for a total storage capacity of 16.7 MG), 15,000 fire hydrants, and approximately 21,000 valves and related equipment. The Technical Services Division is currently working with a consulting firm to update the water model to reflect the most recently developments and their associated demands.

Fulton County's Water Resources staff is always seeking to provide customers with a safe, reliable, continuous supply of high-quality drinking water while managing operation costs. We have found our water model to be a powerful tool that helps us understand the infrastructure and operations needed to support a network of growing residential and commercial consumers as well as enable more proactive and responsive decision making, delivering better customer service, and ensuring employee satisfaction.



A zoomed view of the water distribution system shows clean water supply marked as a standard by the color blue. Pipes, junctions, and tanks are present on the map based on their GPS location on the ground.





When sub-freezing temperatures hit, your home's plumbing system can be at risk for frozen and burst pipes, which can cause costly water damage. By taking a few simple precautions before and during a freeze, we can save ourselves this worry and expense.

Wrapping any exposed pipes with insulation, sealing openings in your home's foundation or walls, and installing covers on outdoor faucets can help prepare your pipes for winter.



When a freeze hits, let a pencil-tip sized stream run from your faucets to keep water moving, and open your under-sink cabinets to allow heat to circulate. In case the worst should happen, be sure that everyone in your home knows where to find your main water shutoff and how to operate it.

If you do have a frozen pipe in your home, shut off the water, allow the pipe to thaw, and inspect it for any signs of stress or damage. When in doubt, call a licensed plumber to inspect or replace the pipe before turning the water back on.



You can download our winterization fact sheet from the Public Works web page, or contact:

Amy Warnock  
at 404-612-8006 or  
amy.warnock@fultoncountyga.gov  
for more information.

Winterization Fact Sheet



## Fulton County Sewer: Pine Valley Project

By: Mike Loggins

The South Fulton sewer system experienced a pipe failure on a 48" sewer line that flows to the Deep Creek pumping station. This was discovered two days before Christmas and South Fulton sewer employees along with Veolia worked over the holidays to coordinate efforts to bypass this section of pipe. South Fulton sewer maintenance, along with Tech Services, have been working with the contractor to plan pipe repair/rehab methods. Work is ongoing and could take a month to complete.



**County Manager Dick Anderson visits pipe repair/rehab project in South Fulton in the early days of 2019.**

*Pictured L-R, Mike Loggins-South Fulton Sewer Superintendent, OP Shukla- Operations Administrator, Dick Anderson-County Manager, Ellis Kirby-Deputy Chief Operating Officer Infrastructure, Roy Barnes-Deputy Director Water Reclamation/Wastewater*

## Upcoming Events

**Quarterly Meetings (Public Works Staff)**

- February 12th WROC 2:30 PM
- February 13th Gov't Center 1:30 PM
- February 14th SFMOC 7:30 AM

**Winterization Workshop**

QLS Acres Senior Center  
4001 Danforth Rd Atlanta, GA 30331  
February 11, 2019 10:00 AM

**FC Holiday-President's Day**

Monday, February 18, 2019

**Adopt-a-Stream Chemical Workshop**

Johns Creek Environmental Campus  
8100 Holcomb Bridge Rd Roswell, GA 30022  
February 23, 2019 9:00 AM

**World Water Day**

**Storm Drain Stenciling Project**  
Johns Creek Environmental Campus  
8100 Holcomb Bridge Rd Roswell, GA 30022  
March 22, 2019 9:00 AM

Contact the PEO department at (404) 612-7400 to learn more about how to register for events.

# vol-un-ter-ism: What does that mean to us?

By: Jennifer McLaurin



Volunteerism is defined as: the principle of donating time and energy for the benefit of other people in the community as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reasons. It wasn't until the Great Awakening in the 19th century that formal charitable organizations started showing up, providing opportunities for citizens and corporations with volunteer opportunities. Groups like the YMCA, American Red Cross and the United Way started out and paved the way for so many volunteer organizations. Why is it important to volunteer our time and expertise? A simple answer is this. In general, the more we give, the happier we feel. Your role as a volunteer can give you a sense of pride and identity and a way to pass down expertise and knowledge.

How does volunteerism fit into the environment? One way you can volunteer your time and help your community is with the Fulton County Adopt-A-Stream (AAS) program. This program educates citizens about the importance of water quality, fosters relations with the community and helps the water utility keep a watchful eye on our streams, rivers and lakes. How much time does it take to become an AAS volunteer? Workshops typically take from three to four hours. We offer workshops to become a certified AAS volunteer in Biological, Chemical, or Bacterial monitoring. All you have to do is decide what type of monitoring you would like to do. Once you are a certified volunteer the commitment is only a few hours a month.

Not able to commit to being a certified AAS volunteer, but want to still help out? The answer is a simple. Come out and help with a creek clean up during Rivers Alive Georgia's Annual Waterway Clean Up held every October. Can't make October? No problem, just contact us and we will set up a clean-up anytime of the year!

If you are interested in becoming a certified volunteer with the Fulton County Adopt-A-Stream program or you are looking to help clean up our waterways with a service project contact:

Jennifer McLaurin @ [Jennifer.McLaurin@fultoncotunyg.gov](mailto:Jennifer.McLaurin@fultoncotunyg.gov)  
or call  
404-612-8745

## Fulton County Receives GAWP Platinum Award for CMOM Program

By: Charles Nezianya



Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) program won the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Platinum Award for Wastewater Collection System Excellence for 2018.

This prestigious award is an audit of the entire wastewater collection system to determine whether the Department of Public Works has adequate programs in place to prevent and/

or address sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). GAWP auditors evaluated the following areas: planned preventative maintenance, reactive or emergency maintenance, SSOs notification and mitigation plan, number of SSOs, budget, operators and crew members training and certifications, safety training, communication, industrial and commercial pretreatment programs, public education and outreach, facilities and equipment maintenance, pump stations and force main operations, and capacity system analysis program. Congratulations to Public Works for a job well done!

### Fulton County Board of Commissioners General Number 404-612-8200

Chairman- Rob Pitts (District 7) (404-612-8200)
Vice-Chair Lee Morris (District 3) (404-612-9800)
Commissioner Liz Housmann (District 1) (404-612-8213)
Commissioner Bob Ellis (District 2) (404-612-8216)
Commissioner Natalie Hall (District 4) (404-612-8227)
Commissioner Marvin S. Arrington Jr. (District 5) (404-613-0200)
Commissioner Emma I. Darnell (District 6) (404-612-8222)