



NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE MACON WATER AUTHORITY

MWA begins one of the largest capital projects in its history

The Macon Water Authority (MWA) recently kicked off one of the largest capital projects in its history, with a Pipe-Turning event to mark the beginning of work to renew and rehabilitate both the Rocky Creek and Lower Poplar Water Reclamation Facilities.

To fund the project, the MWA will be issuing approximately \$40 million in revenue bonds to replace assets at both facilities that have exceeded their useful life. The project will take approximately two years to complete.

The Haskell Company has been selected as the Design-Build Contractor, with Barge Design serving as the Design-Build Engineers and Jacobs Engineering

retained to provide program management services.

The project also will engage the services of local minority companies from Macon-Bibb and contiguous counties to accomplish \$4.3 million – or nearly 17.5% – of the project’s work. The Authority’s goal is to have 20% minority participation. In addition, the MWA has garnered contract labor from local companies to account for another 14.6% of the work related to this project.

For complete coverage of the Pipe Turning Event and the details of the MWA’s Rocky Creek-Lower Poplar Wastewater CIP Project, check out our website at www.maconwater.org.



Members of the MWA Board of Directors, Staff, and the Project Team gather for the Pipe Turning to officially commence the \$40-million-dollar Rocky Creek-Lower Poplar Wastewater Treatment Plant CIP Project.



(Right to Left): Ray Shell, MWA Executive Director of Plant and Field Operations, introduces MWA Chairman Sam Hart to Tom Kelley (second from left), Project Manager with Jacobs Engineering, and Michael Hoisington (far left shaking hands), Haskell’s Senior Project Manager for Water.

MWA Encourages Customers to Consider Emergency Preparedness

The recent tropical storms in Georgia should remind us of the importance of putting together a Family Emergency Plan and Basic Ready Kit to make sure you are prepared for such natural disasters.

Take time to sit down with your family to decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go, and what you will do in the case of an emergency. Keep a copy of your plan in your Basic Ready Kit or where everyone can access it.

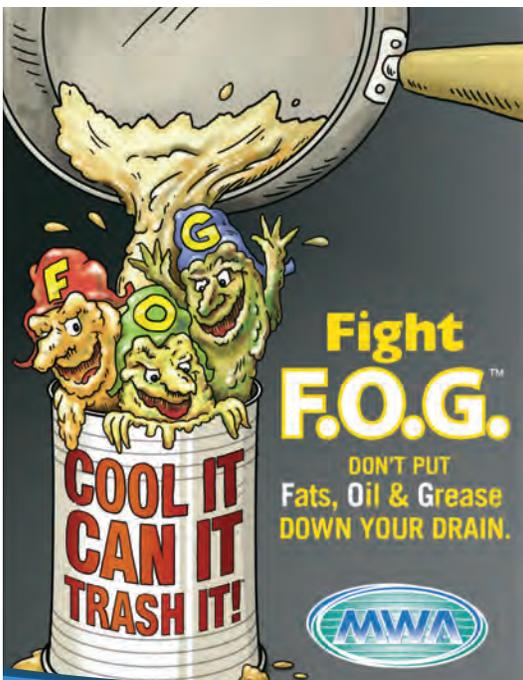
Family Emergency Plans include designated meeting places and contact information for all family members, including names, dates of birth, social security numbers, and important medical information. In addition, write down info on the



places and times each family member spends the majority of their day, such as work or school.

As for a Basic Ready Kit, store at least a three-day supply of bottled water. Also store a can opener and non-perishable food as well. Additional items may include a radio; flash lights with extra batteries; a first aid kit; a whistle to signal for help; a face mask for filtering contaminated air; tarps and duct tape for shelter repairs; moist wipes, garbage bags and plastic bags for hygiene; tools or at least a wrench and pliers to turn off utilities, and local maps.

More information on emergency preparedness is available online at www.maconbibb.us/ema or on the Ready Georgia website at www.ready.ga.gov.



MWA Recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has recognized the MWA once again for excellence in financial reporting.

The GFOA announced in September that the MWA had received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 21st consecutive year. This award is based on the quality of the Authority’s Comprehensive Annual

Financial Report (CAFR). It is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

In addition, the GFOA recognized the MWA with an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the sixth consecutive year. This Outstanding Achievement Award recognized the quality of the MWA Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), which is an easy-to-read overview of the Authority and its finances from the past fiscal year.

The Authority’s CAFR and PAFR were judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the GFOA, while demonstrating a “spirit of full disclosure” that encourages readership of the two documents.

The most recent CAFR and PAFR are available for review on the MWA website at www.maconwater.org.



SECOND FRONT

EPD Finds No Deficiencies in Review of MWA System

The MWA recently received good news from this year's total review of its water system by the Georgia Environment Protection Division (EPD).

Georgia EPD found "No Deficiencies" in the MWA system during its most recent sanitary survey, which is a thorough analysis of facilities, operations, and all aspects of drinking water production and distribution.

"In my 28 years at this Authority, I've never seen an EPD report that found no deficiencies from a sanitary survey," says Gary McCoy, MWA Director of Water Operations. "EPD looks very hard for deficiencies. We scored an excellent evaluation, which not too many systems can claim."

EPD officials visited the MWA for four days to conduct a total evaluation of its water system, says McCoy, who noted that EPD sanitary surveys are



Georgia EPD found "no deficiencies" with the MWA system during its most recent sanitary survey, which is a total evaluation of all aspects of water production, distribution and more.

conducted every three years.

During those four days on the MWA campus, EPD officials spent three days at the Amerson Water Treatment Plant and one day inspecting MWA water tanks and all records of the distribution system.

Additional points of examination by EPD included a review of lab tests for the past 10 years, as well as the Authority's safety program and maintenance records. EPD officials also inspected MWA pumps and meters, while making sure filters and chemical processes at the Amerson Plant functioned properly.

"This EPD total review of our system shows that we are able to supply our customers with a reliable, safe, and affordable product to meet their needs for years to come," says McCoy.

Macon-Bibb Animal Welfare Cares for Healthy, Happy Pets

For those MWA customers or Middle Georgia residents who might be interested in learning more about pet adoptions or proper pet care, Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare is a great resource.

If you are interested in hosting a rabies clinic or a spay/neuter event in your neighborhood, please call 478-621-6774, and they will set that up for you. Also, pet owners are reminded to follow Macon-Bibb County ordinances, such as:

- Your dog must have a dog house if it stays outdoors unattended, as well as water at all times.
- Your dog/cat must be spayed/neutered.
- Your dog/cat must have a rabies shot every year.

If you need help to comply with any of these local ordinances, please contact Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare. And to report animal issues in your neighborhood, please contact Animal Enforcement at 478-621-6791.

Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare scheduled a "Yappy Hour" Event at the Macon Dog Park on

October 18, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. During this event, Animal rabies vaccinations and micro chipping are offered for \$10.

Let Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare help you provide proper health care for your beloved pets!



Saskia Lindsay, a senior at Georgia College & State University, adopted her dog Lilly at Macon-Bibb County Animal Welfare, noting that she "brings me love and joy every day."

"Thank You" to Our Supporters of Ocmulgee Alive!

Corporate Sponsors:

YKK USA
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Event Organizers:

MWA and Macon Water Alliance
Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority
NewTown Macon
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Participating Organizations:

Mount de Sales Academy
Stratford Academy
Ocmulgee National Monument
Macon-Bibb County 4-H
Cub Scout Pack 170
Historic Riverside Cemetery Conservancy
Altamaha Riverkeeper
Mercer Environmental Law Society

Irving Consumer Products joined YKK USA and Graphic Packaging International (GPI) as corporate sponsors of this year's Ocmulgee Alive! Macon's 14th Annual River Cleanup was held Saturday Oct. 6.

The theme of this year's cleanup was: "Clean Streets = Clean Streams = Clean Ocmulgee."

For photos and coverage of Ocmulgee Alive! 2018, check out our website at www.maconwater.org.



Altamaha Riverkeeper is a Fellow Clean Water Advocate

The MWA makes it a point to partner with like-minded organizations who are advocates for environmental protection and the preservation of natural resources.

One such group is the Altamaha Riverkeeper (ARK), a grassroots organization dedicated to the protection, defense and restoration of Georgia's biggest river - the Altamaha - whose tributaries include our Ocmulgee River, as well as the Oconee and the Ohoopsee.

Thus, protecting the Ocmulgee River is inherent in the work of both the MWA and Altamaha Riverkeeper.

ARK was nice enough this year to provide volunteers for Ocmulgee Alive! In return, the MWA would like to invite its customers to check out Altamaha Riverkeeper events held throughout the year.

Most recently in October, the Riverkeeper Rendezvous featured a riverside evening of

celebration, highlighted by a low country boil and special music.

For more information on ARK events and activities, log onto www.altamahariverkeeper.org.



Volunteers from the Altamaha Riverkeeper joined the MWA in this year's Ocmulgee Alive! Macon's Annual River Cleanup brings together like-minded organizations and volunteers who are dedicated to the protection and preservation of natural resources.

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