



NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE MACON WATER AUTHORITY

New Year Begins With Three Board Members Sworn Into Office

Prior to the January Meeting of the Macon Water Authority (MWA), three Board Members were sworn into office. Judge Sarah Harris administered the Oath of Office to each, which included Chairman Sam Hart, Vice-Chairman Frank Patterson, and newly elected District 1 Member, Dr. Anissa Jones.

Dr. Jones is a Macon native and the first African-American Chiropractor in Macon-Bibb County. She has been in practice locally for more than 20 years, after receiving her B.S. in Biology from Fort Valley State University in 1994, and her Doctor of Chiropractic from Life University in 1998. In addition, she also graduated with an MBA from Wesleyan College in 2005.

At the January Meeting, Chairman Hart and the MWA Board appointed Dr. Jones to Chair the



(Left to Right): Vice-Chairman and District 4 Member Frank Patterson, newly elected District 1 Board Member Dr. Anissa Jones, and Chairman Sam Hart.

Authority's Personnel Committee, and likewise serve on the Board of Directors for Macon Soils and the Macon Water Alliance.

Sam Hart is beginning his second term as Chairman of the MWA, which is a county-wide office. He first was elected in 2014 to fill the open Chairman's seat following the retirement of Dr. Kirby Godsey. Prior to being elected Chairman of the MWA, Mr. Hart served as the former Chairman of the Bibb County Commission before consolidation.

Vice-Chairman Frank Patterson was first elected as the District 4 Member of the MWA in 2004, beginning his 15th year and 5th term on the Board.

For the complete bios on these and all MWA Board Members, go to the "About Us/Board Members" page on our website at www.maconwater.org.

Industrial Authority Names Stephen Adams Executive Director

It's official. The "interim" tag has been lifted, and Stephen Adams has been named Executive Director of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority (MBCIA).

Adams joined the Industrial Authority in 2009 as a Project Manager. Since that time, he also has served as Director of Operations, Economic Development Director, and most recently as Acting Executive Director.

As the Executive Director of the MBCIA, Adams has worked on a number of projects that involved companies locating and/or expanding their presence in the community, which represented

nearly \$1.4 billion in new investment and over 3,000 new jobs in Macon-Bibb County.

Notable businesses recruited to Macon-Bibb County during Stephen's tenure at the MBCIA have included: Tractor Supply Company, Kumho Tire, Aspen Products, Pactiv LLC, Mr. Chips, Freudenberg, and First Quality.

During 2017 alone, Adams helped facilitate deals that assisted Tyson Foods and Graphic Packaging International expand their existing operations, while also attracting new businesses such as Irving Consumer Products, Star Snacks, and Amazon.com.



Did You Know? Graphic Packaging is the MWA's Largest Customer?

Not only is Graphic Packaging International (GPI) one of the largest jobs providers in Macon-Bibb County, the global packaging manufacturing is the largest customer of the MWA as well.

From October 2017 thru September 2018, the MWA's Rocky Creek Water Reclamation Facility has provided more than 2.7 billion gallons of wastewater treatment for Graphic Packaging.

To put this into perspective, the typical MWA residential customer sends between 60,000 to 90,000 gallons of wastewater to MWA treatment facilities, annually.

The current capacity of the Rocky Creek Plant is 28 million gallons of wastewater per day (MGD). The Plant averages approximately 20.1 MGD

presently, with 7 to 9 MGD coming from Graphic Packaging.

As a leader in the packaging industry, Graphic Packaging serves hundreds of the world's most recognized brands of food, beverages, and other consumer products.

GPI is one of the largest manufacturers of folding cartons,

unbleached paperboard, coated recycled board, microwave packaging and machinery.

GPI is a generous corporate citizen as well, serving as a sponsor of MWA's annual river cleanup – Ocmulgee Alive!



The Graphic Packaging Mill (seen in the background) sent more than 2.7 billion gallons of wastewater to the MWA Rocky Creek Plant last year.

Outdoor Recreation Committee Announces 2019 Fishing Schedule

During its quarterly Meeting in January, the MWA Outdoor Recreation Committee announced the schedule for the 2019 Fishing Season at Javors Lucas Lake. The drinking water reservoir will be available during the following dates and times.

- ◆ Beginning March 1 – April 29, Javors Lucas Lake will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ From May 3 – June 23, fishing will be available on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, but from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ The reservoir will be closed for fishing during the months of July and August, as well as Memorial Day on Monday, May 27, Independence Day on July 4, and Labor Day on Sept. 2, 2019.
- ◆ From Sept. 7 – Oct. 27, Javors Lucas Lake will re-open two days per week on Saturdays and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ The reservoir will be closed from November 2019 thru February 2020.



Kids Fishing Derby is June 1

Remember, the 2019 MWA Kids Fishing Derby will be held at Javors Lucas Lake on Saturday June 1. Kids between the ages of 3 to 16 are invited to fish for free in a friendly competition for prizes in four age group categories, as well as the grand prize for the biggest catch of the day.

For more information on "Fishing at Javors Lucas Lake," please visit the "Education" page on our website at www.maconwater.org.

SECOND FRONT

MWA Recognizes the Outstanding Work of 2018 Employees of the Year

Prior to the start of the New Year, the MWA recognized a few select individuals as the 2018 Employees of the Year. The recognition included honors for top employees on the departmental level, as well as an Employee of the Year for the entire utility.

Fellow MWA employees and managers selected Legena Bolton as the Employee of the Year for Administration and Mike Beard as the Employee of the Year for Field Operations. Tom Manard was the recipient of the Employee of the Year for Plant Operations, while also being selected as the overall winner of the Authority's Employee of the Year for 2018.

Legena Bolton demonstrated excellence in service and professionalism in her work, and was available and willing to assist fellow employees in



MWA 2018 Employees of the Year included (left to right): Tom Manard, Legena Bolton, and Mike Beard

need. She is known for her positive attitude, knowledge, honesty, and reliability in her daily

work, making her a model employee.

Mike Beard, as the Assistant Manager of Sewer Conveyance, was selected because of his commitment and daily demonstration of safety, professionalism, and service. Mike is a champion of workplace safety. He prides himself on giving excellent service to both internal and external MWA customers.

Finally, Tom Manard quietly exemplifies excellence in service and innovation. Tom's work has been described as being of the highest quality attainable in the industry. He is extremely reliable and responsive, while continuously identifying and incorporating more efficient approaches to plant operations.

Congratulations to the 2018 MWA Employees of the Year!

Retirees Provide More Than 80 Years of Service to MWA

At the conclusion of 2018, the MWA recognized three retirees who have a combined 80-plus years of experience working at the Authority. These individuals provided dedicated and distinguished service to the MWA, its employees and its customers during their tenures.

Mary Brezial has retired as a Buyer within the MWA Accounting & Purchasing Department, following 24 years of service. Mary was one of the many MWA employees responsible for the Authority's numerous industry awards for

Financial Reporting.

Richard "Bubba" Wilson has retired as a Supervisor in the Water Distribution Department, after serving the Authority for 30 years. He and Mary were honored during the December MWA Board Meeting.

Finally, Bruce Albright retired on Dec. 31, 2018, following 27 years of service. Like Bubba, Bruce was a Supervisor in the MWA Water Distribution Department. His primary responsibility was to supervise the installation of the taps to the MWA water distribution system.



Mary Brezial (right), former MWA Buyer within the Accounting & Purchasing Department, was honored following her retirement by the MWA Board and Chairman Sam Hart (left) during the December Board Meeting. Recent MWA retirees (not pictured) also include Richard Wilson and Bruce Albright, both of whom were Supervisors within Water Distribution.

Fix a Leak Week is March 18-24

Leaks can run, but they can't hide. That's the theme of this year's Fix a Leak Week, which water professionals and their customers will celebrate all across the country during the week of March 18-24, 2019.

Fix a Leak Week is the ideal reminder to check your home for leaks. This water industry event is organized by the U.S. EPA through its WaterSense Program. This year marks the 10th annual Fix a Leak Week.

Household leaks across the country waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water, annually.

According to EPA, an average household leak can account

for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year. And an estimated 10% of U.S. homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.

Some common types of leaks that may be found in your home include: worn out toilet flappers, dripping faucets, or other types of leaking valves. These are easy to fix, and doing so could save you up to 10 percent on your monthly water bill, according to industry estimates.

Tips on how to locate leaks around your home are available online at www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week.

Remember to find and fix those household leaks!



Fix a Leak Week

March 18-24, 2019

For more info: www.maconwater.com.

Sam Kitchens Recognized as a Solar Advocate

The Georgia Solar Energy Association (GA Solar) recognized Sam Kitchens, Macon-Bibb County Director of Parks and Beautification and Vice Chairman of the Jones County Board of Commissioners, with the 2018 Solar Advocate Award. Kitchens received the statewide honor at the GA Solar yearend annual meeting on Dec. 13.

Kitchens is noted for developing municipal uses for solar energy,

which save Macon-Bibb County taxpayer dollars. These initiatives began with the use of solar for providing hot water at Macon-Bibb Fire Stations and continued with the installation of solar panels at the Sheriff's Investigative Center.

Macon-Bibb County became the first municipal government in the state to include solar energy projects and initiatives within its procurement process.



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