



HCWSA Currents



NEWS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE HENRY COUNTY WATER & SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

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Federal and State dignitaries visit HCWSA Tussahaw Plant

The Henry County Water & Sewerage Authority (HCWSA) hosted a small group of federal and state water industry dignitaries for a recent tour of the Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility, to see the tangible benefits of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) State Revolving Fund Program. Funds from loans made available through this program helped to construct the award-winning water plant.

Headlining the group of dignitaries touring the Tussahaw Plant was Nancy Stoner, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, as well as Stan Meiburg and Doug Mundrick with EPA's Region 4 in Atlanta, in addition to Greg Mason and Jason Bodwell from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA). The group was touring highly successful water related capital projects in metro Atlanta that serve as case studies in how State



Revolving Fund dollars, as federal tax dollars coming back to benefit local communities, can help construct much needed infrastructure.

"We are seeing facilities that we've helped to build and learning about the kind of innovations they have," says Stoner, when asked about the primary objective of her visit to Henry County. "This (Tussahaw) Plant will help meet the future drinking water needs of this community."

Stoner also noted that such an on-site tour of the Tussahaw Plant helps to



Left: HCWSA General Manager Lindy Farmer (left) speaks with EPA Assistant Administrator for Water Nancy Stoner during her recent visit to the Authority's Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility, which was financed in part with loans from the EPA's State Revolving Fund Program.

Above: HCWSA Water Production Manager Eric Osborne (far right) explains details of the HCWSA system to EPA and Georgia Environmental Finance Authority officials touring the Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility recently.

reaffirm that investments in local water infrastructure by the federal government are working.

"We want to know how the programs we have already in place are helping, and how future programs may help as well," she adds.

Roderick Burch,

HCWSA Chief Financial Officer, pointed out that State Revolving Fund dollars played a huge role in making the Tussahaw Plant construction possible, and he expressed appreciation on behalf of the Authority to EPA, through Georgia EPD and GEFA, for providing those funds.

"We have a number of projects ongoing that are aided by financing from State Revolving Fund loans," notes Burch. "The Tussahaw Plant in turn provides us with additional drinking water production capacity that's needed now and in the future, as well as affording us redundancy and flexibility in our system as a result of this facility being able to complement our Towaliga Plant, which up until a few years ago was the only plant in our system."

The Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility came online in early 2007, as this year marks the plant's fifth anniversary for an Authority just coming off of its 50th anniversary in 2011. It has 13 million gallons of water production capacity, with infrastructure already in place to double that capacity in the future, when necessary. In 2011, Tussahaw was selected by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals as the state's Plant of the Year.

HCWSA Board selects officers to lead in 2012

The five-member Board of Directors for the Henry County Water & Sewerage Authority (HCWSA) remains intact for the second year, and a familiar face will serve again as Chairman for 2012.

The slate of officers selected during January's meeting to lead the Authority this year includes Jimmy Carter again as Chairman, Rick Jeffares as Vice Chairman, and Robert Abercrombie again as Secretary/Treasurer. Al Smith and Jim Lenahan round out the five-member HCWSA Board for 2012.

Carter, who joined the Authority Board in 2005 to represent citizens in District 3, was Vice Chairman of the HCWSA prior to his election as Chairman last year. He is a sixth generation native of Henry County, a past Chairman of the Henry County Board of Education, and the owner/operator of Southern Belle Farm in McDonough along with his son Jake.

Jeffares, who represents



Left: The HCWSA Board of Directors remains intact to serve the Authority again this year, and a new slate of officers has been elected to lead the utility in 2012. The current HCWSA Board (pictured being sworn in during last year's January meeting) consists of (left to right): HCWSA Vice-Chairman Rick Jeffares, Board Member Jim Lenahan, HCWSA Chairman Jimmy Carter, HCWSA Secretary/Treasurer Robert Abercrombie, and Board Member Al Smith.

Right: The HCWSA will be led again in 2012 by Chairman Jimmy Carter, left, speaking with fellow board member Jim Lenahan during an Authority event last year.



District 2 on the HCWSA Board, is the current State Senator for District 17. He is a former Henry County Commissioner and former City Manager of Locust Grove, as well as the former Director of Water and Wastewater Treatment for the City of Covington and the former Director of Water and Water Pollution Control for the City of

McDonough. Jeffares is the owner of J&T Environmental Services in Locust Grove.

Abercrombie represents Henry County's District 5 on the HCWSA Board of Directors. He is a Sergeant in the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, where he has worked for approximately 20 years. He is a resident of Stockbridge and the former

Chairman of the Democratic Party in Henry County.

Al Smith, who represents District 1, was appointed to the HCWSA Board of Directors in 2004. He is an independent Environmental Regulatory Consultant, with approximately 25 years of past work experience at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Jim Lenahan, who joined the Board in 2007 from District 4, is the owner of Lenahan.biz in McDonough, which is a consulting firm that provides executive project management, business development, leadership, and marketing services to clients.

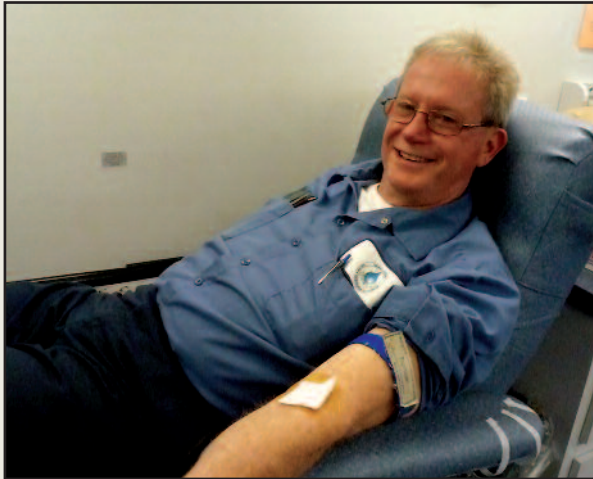
In addition to electing its slate of officers for 2012 at the January meeting, the HCWSA Board also selected Kimberly Turner Osborne to serve the Authority again this year in the capacity of Clerk.

Additional biographies on this year's board members, as well as meeting minutes and the 2012 schedule for meetings, are available on the Authority's Web site at www.hcwsa.com.

Second Front

HCWSA care extends beyond the normal work day

“HCWSA Cares” is more than the title of the employee payroll deductions at Henry County Water, in support of Henry County Meals on Wheels, Henry County Cancer Services, and St. Jude Children’s Hospital. The level of care exhibited by HCWSA employees throughout the year includes volunteering, mentoring, and getting involved in the community on several fronts.



Left: Al Williams gives blood during a recent HCWSA blood drive, which resulted in 22 units being donated.

Above: The HCWSA Customer Service Department adopted 37 soldiers in Afghanistan, providing them with gifts and care packages this past Christmas.

This past fall, the HCWSA Engineering Department took part in two “Taste of Tech” College and Career Showcase events – one at Locust Grove High School and another at Union Grove, where HCWSA Division Manager of Engineering Tony Carnell also took part in “Lunch with an Engineer.”

During this school year, the HCWSA Sewer Line Maintenance Repair Crew participated in a Career

Truck Day at Woodland Elementary School, while others took part in similar career day events at Timber Ridge, Bethlehem, Tussahaw, Rocky Creek, Mt. Carmel, Flippen, Pleasant Grove, East Lake, and Unity Grove Elementary Schools. Several HCWSA water professionals judged 4-H competitions during the year, in addition to science fairs for Henry County

Schools and the Griffin RESA.

During this past Christmas season, the HCWSA Customer Service Department adopted 37 soldiers in Afghanistan, providing them with essentials and gifts to celebrate the holidays. Authority employees, led by Jessica LaMar, are supporting the Henry County Fuller Center’s annual Millard Fuller Legacy Build in

McDonough. Employees also participated in the Kensley Grace Music Fest, which raised money for the Kensley Grace Aquatic Center in Henry County.

The HCWSA hosted two blood drives, collecting 22 units of blood during the most recent event. The Authority also has conducted two food drives to support Helping in His Name Food Pantry

in Stockbridge, as well as harvesting produce from the Community Garden at the Cubihatcha Outdoor Center to donate to the food pantry as well.

“All of the events and causes our employees support reflect their genuine interest and involvement in making the community a better place in which to live and work,” says Lindy Farmer, HCWSA General Manager.

Cast your line during HCWSA Fishing Season

The HCWSA Tussahaw and Gardner (Indian Creek) Reservoirs will be open on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., during the regular public fishing season that begins on Friday March 2, and extends through the end of November.

Anglers must have an active reservoir use permit in order to fish HCWSA reservoirs and adhere to all rules and regulations governing use of HCWSA reservoirs and Georgia waters. Permits are \$45 dollars and available at the Authority headquarters during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Reservoir Use Permits are valid for one calendar year from the date of purchase.

Permit holders can access the Tussahaw Reservoir at the Tussahaw Island public use area, which is located on Collins Way, off of Peeksville Road. (Anglers cannot access the Tussahaw Reservoir via the Tussahaw Water Plant.) Amenities at the Tussahaw Island include an outdoor pavilion, walking trails, boat ramps, and a fishing dock accessible to citizens with disabilities.

For more information on HCWSA public fishing, log onto www.hcwsa.com.

HCWSA encourages customers to fix those leaks

The Henry County Water & Sewerage Authority (HCWSA) is encouraging its customers to fix those leaks in their homes or businesses, to help save money and to use water more wisely. What better time to check for leaks than during the national Fix a Leak Week, set for March 12-18, 2012?

Fix a Leak Week is an annual event founded by the EPA Water Sense Program, and the HCWSA has been a Water Sense promotional partner since 2008.

To celebrate Fix a Leak Week, HCWSA employees will be at Lowe’s in McDonough on Saturday, March 17, to provide valuable water saving tips, as well as insights on how to track your water consumption and how to better read your water meter and your water bill. Authority personnel also will demonstrate the benefits of



Denise Caldwell (right) helps a customer, during last year’s Fix a Leak Week, learn how to better read his water bill to be able to identify possible incidents of household water leaks.

home water conservation kits, which include low flow shower heads, as well as the use of water saving faucets and toilets. In addition, customers can see the value of Water Sense, Energy Star, or other high efficiency appliances.

A similar Fix a Leak public education event will be hosted by ACE Hardware in McDonough

that same day, following the event at Lowe’s, on March 17, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

More information on water saving tips, including how to fix household water leaks, is available at www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak, as well as on the Water Conservation page of the Authority’s Web site at www.hcwsa.com.

ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP

Jimmy Carter
Rich Jeffares
Robert Abercrombie
Al J. Smith, Jr.
Jim Lenahan

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary
Member
Member

Lindy D. Farmer, Jr.
General Manager
Kimberly Turner
Osborne
Clerk

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