



HCWA Currents



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

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 3 ♦ FALL 2013

HCWA completes final phase of Tussahaw Transmission Main

It took two contracts to finish the last of three phases of construction, but the Henry County Water Authority's (HCWA) Tussahaw Transmission Main is complete. The major water main connects the Authority's Tussahaw and Towaliga Water Treatment Plants, to provide flexibility and redundancy to HCWA operations in drinking water production and distribution.

That redundancy in operations came in handy recently when the Tussahaw Water Plant was taken off line for maintenance on its filters. The Tussahaw Transmission Main now allows the Authority to shut down either one of its two water plants for rehab or emergencies, without service interruptions to any customers thanks to county-wide coverage, if necessary, from each plant.

This second portion of the Tussahaw Transmission Main, Phase III construction project was funded by Authority capital improvement dollars. The work was completed by Gary's Grading and Pipeline Company – the winner of the annual labor contract bid for water projects at the Authority.

Part two of the last phase of Tussahaw water main construction was approximately 6.6 miles in length, consisting of 35,000

linear feet of 24-inch ductile iron pipe installed along Peeksville Road, Colvin Drive, and Georgia Highway 42. The transmission main route generally runs northwest from Old Jackson Road to the

intersection of Georgia Highway 42 and Bethlehem Road in southeast Henry County. The cost of this second contract was approximately \$3.65 million, which was well under the \$4.4 million budget for the project.

Authority officials note that the initial work on the Tussahaw Transmission Main – the project's first phase – began in January of 2005, two years prior to the new Tussahaw

"The length of time in construction provides evidence of the enormity of the project and how important it is for the Authority's operations and for the drinking water services we provide to our customers."

– Pat Hembree
Division Manager

Plant coming online.

"All three phases of the Tussahaw Transmission Main construction took a great deal of time to plan and execute," says Pat Hembree, HCWA Division Manager, who provided oversight of the project.

"That length of time in construction provides evidence of the enormity of the project and how important it is for the Authority's operations and for the drinking water services we provide to our customers."



Construction on the Tussahaw Transmission Main, which runs east to west through Henry County and connects the Authority's two water treatment plants, was recently completed to provide system flexibility and redundancy in water distribution, allowing for easier plant maintenance without service interruption.

HCWA Employees shine during statewide annual conference

From a leadership academy graduate to a lifetime member, employees of the Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) excelled during the recent Annual Conference of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) held this summer in Savannah.

During the awards luncheon of the GAWP Annual Conference, the Authority's Mike Craig, HCWA Manager of Industrial Monitoring, was inducted into Lifetime Membership of the Association for his 30 years of service to GAWP. However, Craig

has an additional decade's worth of work experience at the Authority, totaling 40 years of service at Henry County Water. During his 40-year career, he has worked in operations for both water and sewer services.

Craig is currently training Jim Brinkman as his eventual replacement as Manager of Industrial Monitoring at the Authority. Brinkman was a featured speaker during the GAWP Annual Conference, providing fellow water professionals in attendance insights on video inspections of sewer lines, which was a key contributor to the HCWA winning this past year's GAWP Collection System Gold Award.

Also during the GAWP Annual Conference, HCWA Division Manager Pat Hembree was honored for graduating from the 2013 class of the GAWP Leadership Academy, while the Authority's Eric Osborne, Manager of Water Quality, was recognized for his current service as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for the Georgia Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA).



Mike Craig (left), Manager of Industrial Monitoring for Henry County Water, is inducted into Lifetime Membership of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals by the organization's President Bill Cannon (right).

HCWA wins third annual award for excellence in financial reporting

With its finances in order and its fiscal year budget adopted, the Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) has received its third straight Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).



To be considered for a Certificate of Achievement, a government or special-purpose entity such as a water authority must submit a comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR), in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, the Authority has to include in its application an independent auditor's report and clean audit opinion, based on the fair presentation of its financial statements.

More than 3,900 governments and agencies of all sizes and types, from general purpose to special purpose, participate in this GFOA awards program each year.

Officials from the Association note that by submitting an award-winning entry for the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Henry County Water is providing evidence of greater financial transparency for citizens, customers and other stakeholders of the organization.

In addition, by participating in the program for excellence in financial reporting, the Authority may be viewed more favorably by credit rating agencies and other interested parties when making decisions regarding issues such as lower interest rates on long-term debt, which result in savings for the Authority and its customers.

Second Front

HCWA to host youth deer and goose hunts this fall

The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) reservoirs and surrounding areas are not only popular destinations for fishing, boating, and hiking, this preserved green space also will provide sites for hunting this fall – a first in the history of the Authority.

The Authority has scheduled youth deer and goose hunts this year partly in response to recommendations for land management practices by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR officials note that the hunts on HCWA property will help prevent localized overabundance of deer populations, habitat destruction, and the potential increase of deer-vehicle collisions, in addition to the collection of feathers and feces left behind at the Authority's public use areas from Canadian Geese.

The youth goose hunt will be held at the

Tussahaw Reservoir on Saturday Sept. 21, followed by a youth bow hunt (archery only) for deer at the Cubihatcha Outdoor Center on Saturday, Oct. 5. The hunts are open to youth in Henry County between the ages of 10 and 17, who must be accompanied by an adult Henry County property owner, resident, or HCWA customer. Hunting slots are limited to one child per parent (adult) and will be chosen according to a lottery system. A designated number of applicants will be drawn at random and admitted for hunting on these designated dates.

All participants in the hunt must be legally equipped and licensed under Georgia DNR Rules and Regulations. Applicants must show proof of these qualifications along with a valid photo ID in order to enter the HCWA fall hunting lottery.

Applications for the hunts are available after August 5, but must be picked up in person at the Cubihatcha Outdoor Center Office (100 Collins Road in Locust Grove), Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To be entered into the lottery, applications must be returned to the Cubihatcha Center during the following dates/times:

- August 26 – 30, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- September 3 – 6, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- September 7 (Saturday), between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m.

For more information on the youth deer and goose hunt, contact the HCWA Cubihatcha Office at 678-583-3930, or check for updates on the Authority's Web site at www.hcwsa.com.

Summer fun extends into fall at HCWA public use facilities

It has been a busy summer at the public use facilities of the Henry County Water Authority (HCWA), but this fall is expected to be even busier for outdoor education and recreation such as fishing, boating, hiking, hunting (see story atop page 2), and other activities.

The HCWA Cubihatcha Center is an ideal site for individual and group outings for Authority customers and citizens, evident in the following events held on site recently:

- Special Olympics Fishing Day on April 13.
- A Friend's House Fishing Day hosted by Henry County Sheriff's Office on April 20.
- Kayak and Fishing Field Day hosted by Paddle 4 Tomorrow on June 1.
- Maurice Cares Day hosted by Maurice Sporting Goods on July 16.

This fall, the Cubihatcha Center will host the 11th annual field trips of the Cubihatcha Kids from Henry County Schools. During the weeks of Sept. 16 – 20, and Sept. 23 – 27, every third grader in Henry County

public schools will spend a day at the HCWA Cubihatcha Center for experiential learning of accredited outdoor education curricula.

The Authority's fishing season is in full swing this fall too, with the Tussahaw and Upper Towaliga Reservoirs open to permit holders on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., through the end of November. A reservoir use permit is available to all Henry County property owners at the Authority headquarters in McDonough for \$45, and permits are good for one calendar year from the date of purchase. Another popular public use area at Henry County Water is Tussahaw Island, where permit holders can access the lake for fishing or boating.

For more information on the public use of HCWA facilities, which includes tours of Authority water or wastewater plants by appointment, log onto the HCWA Web site at www.hcwsa.com, or contact the Authority's Cubihatcha Center at 678-583-3930.



Paddle 4 Tomorrow hosts an annual Kayak and Fishing Field Day in June at the HCWA Cubihatcha Outdoor Center for Henry County Special Olympics and Henry County special needs citizens.

It's a Toilet, Not a Trashcan!

Some products labeled "flushable" may not be; Please only flush human waste and toilet paper.



If a product is not "dispersible" or able to dissolve during or within a few minutes of flushing, it can cause serious problems within a sewer system.

Those non-dispersible products that should not be flushed include:

- Facial tissue (such as Kleenex)
- Wet wipes (even when labeled as flushable)
- Feminine Hygiene products
- Cotton swabs (such as Q-tips)
- Dental Floss
- Cat litter (even when labeled as flushable)

For a demonstration, check out the the video at <http://news.wef.org/stop-dont-flush-that/> or additional information at www.wef.org.

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