

WATER WORKS

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CCWA Awarded \$16 Million GEFA Loan for PFAS Treatment

CCWA was recently awarded a \$16 million Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) to upgrade two of its water treatment plants to remove Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Substances.

PFAS are a broad group of man-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide as far back as the 1940s in items such as non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. While many of these compounds have been phased out for use in consumer goods, they do not easily break down and can remain in the environment.

Advanced treatment technologies such as granular activated carbon (GAC) and reverse osmosis perform best at removing the small levels of PFAS compounds found in our water supply. CCWA is currently conducting a study to determine the most optimal treatment technology. These technologies are costly. As a result, CCWA is seeking all financial opportunities for low interest loans and grants to help reduce the financial impact on our rate payers.

The 20-year GEFA loan has an interest rate of 1.63%. CCWA is eligible for this reduced interest rate because it is a WaterFirst Community. These funds will be used to fund the design phase for treatment improvements at two of CCWA's water treatment plants. CCWA is also anticipating receiving an additional \$14 million federal grant from GEFA's DWSRF Emerging Contaminants Grant.

"Clayton County Water Authority is at the forefront of public health and takes seriously our responsibility to deliver clean and safe drinking water to the community," says CCWA CEO H. Bernard Franks. "To our customers, we want you to remember Clayton County Water Authority is not the producer of these chemical compounds. However, we are tasked with the responsibility of treating and removing them, at significant cost to the Authority. We are currently meeting and exceeding all regulatory requirements for safe drinking water. In the near future, as EPA moves forward with the new regulatory requirements, we are confident that we will continue to make the necessary improvements to maintain the trust of our customers and the community." Visit www.ccwa.us/pfas/ to learn more about PFAS and what we are doing at CCWA.

Retired GM Melvin Newman Gifted NWC Sign Keepsake

In August, CEO H. Bernard Franks presented retired General Manager Melvin Newman with CCWA's Melvin L. Newman Wetlands Center entrance sign as a keepsake. Guests at the small ceremony included CCWA Board Member Dr. John Chafin, Board Member/Retired GM Mike Thomas, retired Deputy Manager Terry Hicks, and Mr. Newman's family. CCWA dedicated the center to Mr. Newman prior to his retirement in 1996 in honor of his 30+ years of service.

Mr. Newman started working at CCWA in 1963 as a draftsman where his first task was to draw up accurate maps of the water and sewer system, which did not exist. He moved up the ranks, serving as Engineering Manager, Deputy Manager, and General Manager from 1983 until his retirement in 1996. He took a hands-on approach to work and would often be found climbing down manholes, inspecting lines, designed jobs and operating equipment. Photos courtesy of Deanna Boyd of Clipped Wing Photography.



Raven Reese Earns Jack C. Dozier Emerging Leader Award

CCWA's Sr. Communications Specialist Raven Reese recently earned the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Jack C. Dozier Emerging Leader Award. This award recognizes an individual for their outstanding service related to activities in support of the Association. Raven was selected for the commitment she has demonstrated to her professional education and GAWP through voluntary service in many forms, including committee work and conference presentations.



CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS



Invoice Cloud

Pay online (ccwa.us), or by phone (770.960.5200), using our payment processing partner Invoice Cloud. A \$2.25 convenience fee is charged for each transaction.



Go Paperless

Cut the clutter and go paperless. Visit www.ccwa.us to sign up for Paperless Billing.



Walmart

Pay your CCWA bill, along with other utility bills, at any Walmart location for a convenience fee. Payments may be made using cash or a pin-based debit card.

To make a payment:

- Just take your current water bill to any Walmart location.
- Make a payment in cash or with a pin-based debit card.
- Once the transaction is processed, the customer receives a receipt as proof of payment.

Quality Water, Quality Service

Highlights

Newman Wetlands Center Receives 3rd Tourism Grant



Congratulations to Newman Wetlands Center Conservation Supervisor Danielle Bunch and her staff who were awarded \$50,000 in grant funds from the Clayton County Tourism Authority. These funds will be used to continue our efforts to enhance guest experiences at NWC through art, access, and fun.

Funding will be used to revamp our Wetlands & Watershed Festival including: a marketing video & advertising, a wave of storytellers along trail and ASL interpreters, free family portraits, a live

animal program from Chattahoochee Nature Center, a sunset birding experience with GA Audubon, a screening of The Last Bumble Bee and discussion with directors, raffle prizes and shuttles buses. The festival takes place on Saturday, November 4.

Keep Fall Leaves Out of Storm Drains

Leaves and other yard trimmings should NEVER be blown or raked into a storm drain. If they are, over time the drains can become clogged which can cause street flooding. Instead, use leaves and grass clippings as mulch around your trees and bushes. This will keep the roots cool, improve soil retention, and as the mulch breaks down, it will slowly provide nutrients for the plants, bushes and trees.

Protect Your Pipes When Temperatures Drop

Pipes that freeze most frequently are those that are exposed to severe cold, like outdoor hose bibs, swimming pool supply lines, water sprinkle lines, and water supply pipes in unheated interior areas like basements and crawl spaces, attics, garages, or kitchen cabinets. Pipes that run against exterior walls that have little or no insulation are also subject to freezing.

During Cold Weather, Take Preventative Action

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold-water drip from the inside faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature during the day and at night.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.
- Disconnect hoses, splitters, or connectors from outside spigots/hose bibs.
- Install a foam insulated spigot/hose bib cover on all outdoor faucets. These square or dome-shaped covers may be purchased at your local home improvement store.



For information on how to thaw frozen pipes, visit ccwa.us/winterizeyourpipes

Reliably safe & clean water is **our business**.
Customer care is **our priority**.

For this reason, we've launched **Care. Connect. Conserve. (CCC)** CCC connects our customers with services that are available in times of need.

For more information, please contact us at:
affordability@ccwa.us or (770) 960-5200

www.ccwa.us

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This is what grease does to your home's pipes.

Never pour fats, oils or grease down the drain.
Learn more at www.cleanwatercampaign.com

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