

# **Georgia Department of Natural Resources** **Environmental Protection Division**

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1456, Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Judson H. Turner, Director  
(404) 656-4713

**For Immediate Release**

**March 31, 2016**

## **IMPORTANT CHANGES TO DRINKING WATER LABORATORY SERVICES AGREEMENTS**

Since 1977, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has provided laboratory services to assist individual drinking water systems maintain compliance with the Georgia Safe Drinking Water Act of 1977 and the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water. This comprehensive and cost effective laboratory testing program helps Georgia water system owners (owners) improve the quality of drinking water and protect public health.

To improve efficiency for both the EPD and owners, the EPD is streamlining the process for owners to obtain and maintain the EPD's drinking water laboratory services. For years, the EPD has sent contracts to owners, requiring them to be signed and returned, for a three year period of drinking water laboratory services. Beginning July 1, 2016, the EPD will be replacing the former contract with an automatically renewable Terms and Conditions agreement. Additionally, fee collection processes are being enhanced to allow electronic payment of fees through an electronic check transaction from the owner's checking or savings account. Finally, delinquent accounts will now be subject to a late penalty and may be sent to collections.

In April 2016, each owner will receive a copy of the new Terms and Conditions for Drinking Water Laboratory Services for review. The Terms and Conditions specify a 12 month period of service beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on June 30<sup>th</sup> the following year. Owners have the option of changing or terminating their services prior to July 1, 2016 and prior to any subsequent renewal period that begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Should the owner choose to terminate services, the owner must provide written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the 12 month testing period. Whether services are continued with the EPD or with another certified laboratory does not change the obligation of the owner to meet the requirements of the Georgia Safe Drinking Water Act of 1977 and the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water.

### **WHAT IS NOT CHANGING:**

- Costs for drinking water laboratory services are not changing this cycle; Any future changes to costs will be sent to the owner prior to the start of a new term
- Owner is still responsible for compliance with the Georgia Safe Drinking Water Act of 1977 and the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water
- EPD continues to report laboratory results to the owner and submit data to the EPA
- Invoicing on an annual basis

### **WHAT IS CHANGING:**

- Terms and Conditions agreement replaces former contracts, which expire on June 30, 2016
- Automatic renewal of the Terms and Conditions each year if public water system continues to submit laboratory samples for analysis and continues to pay the annual charge
- Electronic payments can be accepted online through the Georgia EPD Online System (GEOS)
- Overdue accounts will be subject to a late fee of 1.5% per month and may be subject to collections

### **WHAT WATER SYSTEM OWNERS NEED TO DO:**

- Review the Terms and Conditions upon receipt
- Contact the appropriate EPD Compliance Office contact listed in the facility's permit in writing (letter or email) to:
  - Notify the EPD of a change in ownership
  - Request a change in services being provided by the EPD lab
  - Terminate the EPD's laboratory services
- Pay the annual fee when invoiced in July of each year

**If you have any questions, please contact the EPD's Finance Department at [epdfinance@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:epdfinance@dnr.ga.gov) or contact your local EPD Drinking Water Permitting Engineer.**

## List of EPD Drinking Water Permitting Engineers by County

COUNTY NAME	DISTRICT   DWP	COUNTY NAME	DISTRICT   DWP	COUNTY NAME	DISTRICT   DWP
Appling	GW=CST   SW=PN	Evans	GW=CST   SW=PN	Newton	GW=NED   SW=SL
Atkinson	GW=CST   SW=PN	Fannin	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Oconee	GW=NED   SW=SL
Bacon	GW=CST   SW=PN	Fayette	GW=SL   SW=SL	Oglethorpe	GW=NED   SW=SL
Baker	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Floyd	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Paulding	GW=MTN   SW=SL
Baldwin	GW=NED   SW=SL	Forsyth	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Peach	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Banks	GW=NED   SW=SL	Franklin	GW=NED   SW=SL	Pickens	GW=MTN   SW=AB
Barrow	GW=NED   SW=SL	Fulton	GW=SL   SW=SL	Pierce	GW=CST   SW=PN
Bartow	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Gilmer	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Pike	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Ben Hill	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Glascok	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Polk	GW=MTN   SW=SL
Berrien	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Glynn	GW=CST   SW=PN	Pulaski	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Bibb	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Gordon	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Putnam	GW=NED   SW=SL
Bleckley	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Grady	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Quitman	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Brantley	GW=CST   SW=PN	Greene	GW=NED   SW=SL	Rabun	GW=NED   SW=AB
Brooks	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Gwinnett	GW=SL   SW=SL	Randolph	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Bryan	GW=CST   SW=PN	Habersham	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Richmond	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Bulloch	GW=CST   SW=PN	Hall	GW=NED   SW=SL	Rockdale	GW=SL   SW=SL
Burke	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Hancock	GW=NED   SW=SL	Schley	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Butts	GW=NED   SW=SL	Haralson	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Screven	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Calhoun	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Harris	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Seminole	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Camden	GW=CST   SW=PN	Hart	GW=NED   SW=SL	Spalding	GW=SL   SW=SL
Candler	GW=CST   SW=PN	Heard	GW=SL   SW=SL	Stephens	GW=NED   SW=SL
Carroll	GW=SL   SW=SL	Henry	GW=SL   SW=SL	Stewart	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Catoosa	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Houston	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Sumter	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Charlton	GW=CST   SW=PN	Irwin	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Talbot	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Chatham	GW=CST   SW=PN	Jackson	GW=NED   SW=SL	Taliaferro	GW=NED   SW=SL
Chattahoochee	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Jasper	GW=NED   SW=SL	Tattnall	GW=CST   SW=PN
Chattooga	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Jeff Davis	GW=CST   SW=PN	Taylor	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Cherokee	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Jefferson	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Telfair	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Clarke	GW=NED   SW=SL	Jenkins	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Terrell	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Clay	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Johnson	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Thomas	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Clayton	GW=MM   SW=SL	Jones	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Tift	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Clinch	GW=CST   SW=PN	Lamar	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Toombs	GW=CST   SW=PN
Cobb	GW=SL   SW=AB	Lanier	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Towns	GW=MTN   SW=AB
Coffee	GW=CST   SW=PN	Laurens	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Treutlen	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Colquitt	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Lee	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Troup	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Columbia	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Liberty	GW=CST   SW=PN	Turner	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Cook	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Lincoln	GW=NED   SW=SL	Twiggs	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Coweta	GW=SL   SW=SL	Long	GW=CST   SW=PN	Union	GW=MTN   SW=AB
Crawford	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Lowndes	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Upson	GW=WCD   SW=AB
Crisp	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Lumpkin	GW=MTN   SW=AB	Walker	GW=MTN   SW=SL
Dade	GW=MTN   SW=SL	McDuffie	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Walton	GW=NED   SW=SL
Dawson	GW=MTN   SW=AB	McIntosh	GW=CST   SW=PN	Ware	GW=CST   SW=PN
Decatur	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Macon	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Warren	GW=ECD   SW=AB
DeKalb	GW=SL   SW=SL	Madison	GW=NED   SW=SL	Washington	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Dodge	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Marion	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Wayne	GW=CST   SW=PN
Dooley	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Meriwether	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Webster	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Dougherty	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Miller	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Wheeler	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Douglas	GW=SL   SW=SL	Mitchell	GW=SWD   SW=MM	White	GW=MTN   SW=AB
Early	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Monroe	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Whitfield	GW=MTN   SW=SL
Echols	GW=SWD   SW=MM	Montgomery	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Wilcox	GW=SWD   SW=MM
Effingham	GW=CST   SW=PN	Morgan	GW=NED   SW=SL	Wilkes	GW=NED   SW=SL
Elbert	GW=NED   SW=SL	Murray	GW=MTN   SW=SL	Wilkinson	GW=ECD   SW=AB
Emanuel	GW=ECD   SW=AB	Muscogee	GW=WCD   SW=AB	Worth	GW=SWD   SW=MM

**For Groundwater Systems  
EPD District Offices**

**For Surface Water Systems  
EPD Drinking Water Permitting & Engineering Unit**

2 Martin Luther King Jr Drive Suite 1362 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**CST:** Coastal District – Cliff Swiger (912) 264-7284  
400 Commerce Center Drive Brunswick, Georgia 31523

**AB:** Adriana Bustillos (404) 463-8010

**ECD:** East Central District – Joe Sills (706) 667-4343  
3525 Walton Way Extension Augusta, Georgia 30909

**MM:** Madina Mugisa (404) 656-0253

**MTN:** Mountain District – Mark Cox (770) 387-4900  
P.O. Box 3250 Cartersville, Georgia 30120

**SL:** Samantha Luo (404) 657-8773

**NED:** Northeast District – Al Gephart (706) 369-6376  
745 Gaines School Road Athens, Georgia 30605

**PN:** Peter Nwogu (404) 651-8427

**SWD:** Southwest District – Jason Hu (229) 430-4144  
2024 Newton Road Albany, Georgia 31701

**WCD:** West Central District – NGina Porch (478) 751-6612  
2640 Shurling Drive Macon, Georgia 31211

E-mail addresses for EPD Staff are in the form of: [firstname.lastname@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:firstname.lastname@dnr.ga.gov)