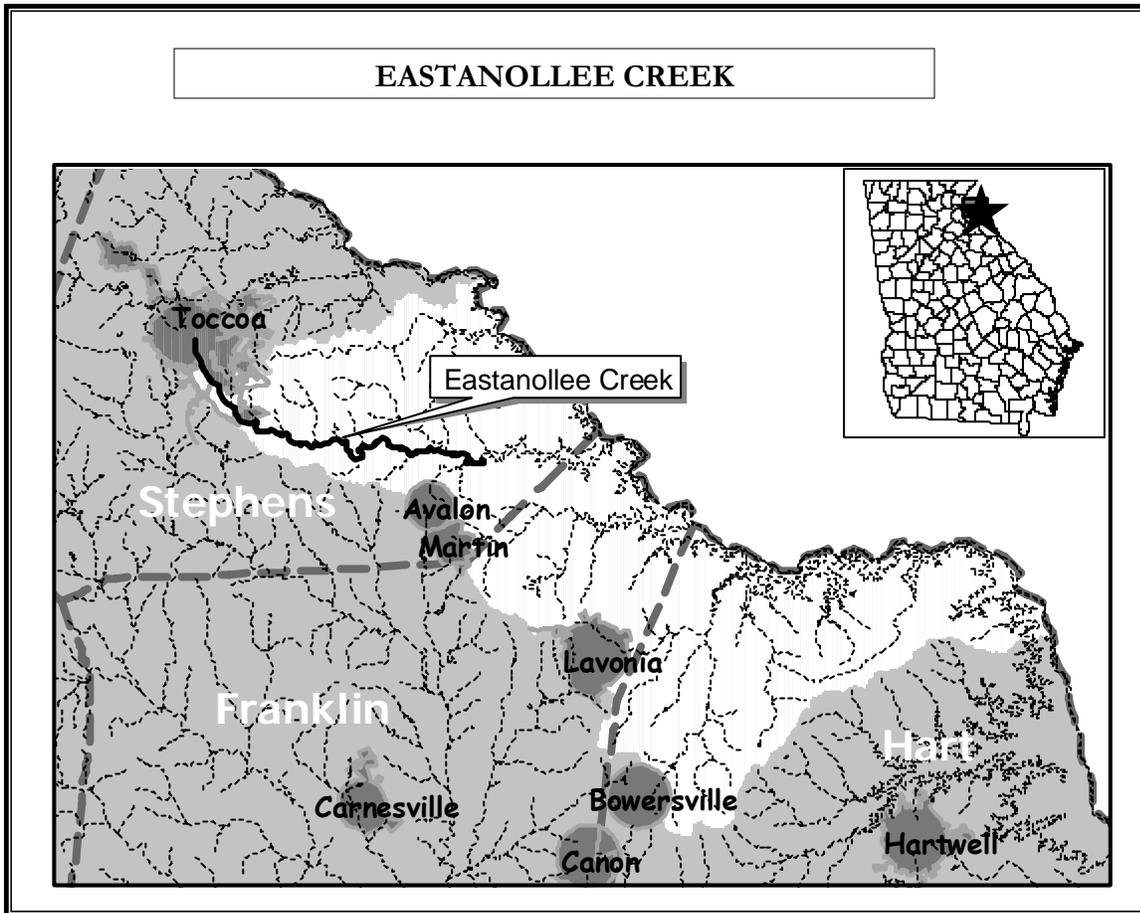


**STATE OF GEORGIA
TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

FECAL COLIFORM

Prepared by
**The Georgia Department of Natural Resources
 Environmental Protection Division
 Atlanta, GA**

TMDL Implementation Plans are platforms for establishing a course of actions to restore the quality of impaired water bodies in a watershed. They are intended as a continuing process that may be revised as new conditions and information warrant. Procedures will be developed to track and evaluate the implementation of the management practices and activities identified in the plans. Once restored, appropriate management practices and activities will be continued to maintain the water bodies. The overall goal of the Plan is to define a set of actions that will help achieve water quality standards in the state of Georgia.



Impaired Waterbody*	Impaired Stream Location	River Basin
1. Eastanollee Creek	Toccoa to Lake Hartwell	Savannah

INTRODUCTION

On the 1998 §303(d) list, the State of Georgia identified Eastanollee Creek as not supporting its designated use, with the pollutant of concern being fecal coliform. The 14-mile segment that is impaired runs from Toccoa to Lake Hartwell and is located directly downstream of the City of Toccoa, Georgia. The City of Toccoa (City) is currently under order to upgrade the Eastanollee Water Treatment Facility (NPDES Permit #GA0021814¹) to reduce the number of sewer overflows. The City is also under order to reduce the Infiltration/Inflow problems identified in its sewer system. These improvements should lead to dramatic decreases in fecal coliform loading to Eastanollee Creek.

DISCUSSION OF POLLUTANT

Fecal coliform is a type of bacteria that lives in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals. The presence of these bacteria indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes; and may also indicate the presence of harmful pathogens associated with fecal contamination. Fecal coliform contamination may be a sign of malfunctioning septic systems, sewage spills, leaking sewer lines, or animals defecating directly in the stream.

Contact with or consumption of water contaminated with pathogens can cause short-term effects, such as gastrointestinal discomfort, nausea, diarrhea, headaches, or other symptoms. However, some individuals (very young, old, or immune-compromised) who come in contact with contaminated water may experience more serious side effects or death. In addition to the potential health risks, fecal coliform can also cause an increase in oxygen demand, unpleasant odor, and cloudy water.

POLLUTANT SOURCES

Eastanollee Creek is listed for fecal coliform impairment due to violations of the permitted effluent limitations at the Eastanollee Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) and numerous overflows from the sewer system. Based on a review of the Discharge Monitoring Reports for December 1997 through September 2002 the Facility has violated the permit limits 17 times. During the period from January 1998 through September 2002 the City of Toccoa (City) has experienced 46 overflows from manholes and lift stations located throughout its sewer system; 2 from the Eastanollee Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility.

PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF TMDL

Consent Order No. EPD-WQ-3276 (Order) was executed in 1996 by the City and the State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to address violations at the Facility. The Order required the City to perform actions to identify and correct the sources of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system required to meet water quality criteria in Eastanollee Creek. In response, the City agreed to comply with the permitted effluent limitations at the Facility and completed construction of the Facility upgrade (treatment units and processes) on October 11, 1999.

¹ The TMDL Development document incorrectly identifies the NPDES Permit# as #GA000238.

The City of Toccoa continues to experience violations of the permitted effluent limitations at the Facility and numerous overflows from the sewer system. As a result, a second Consent Order (EPD-WQ-3648) was issued September 28, 1999. The City is performing ongoing actions to identify and correct the sources of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system and is reporting these actions to the EPD on a quarterly basis.

MONITORING PLAN

The NPDES permit #GA0021814 requires monitoring of effluent fecal coliform seven times per week. In addition, the Consent Order requires annual flow monitoring to insure that a significant reduction in I/I flow has occurred.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Environmental Protection Division will continue to provide guidance and education to the public on all water quality issues through outreach by the Water Protection Branch.