

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
WATERSHED PROTECTION BRANCH

June 10, 2026  
Notice Issue Date

Cherokee County  
City / County

July 9, 2026  
Notice Close Date

BV-028-26-02  
Control Number

Etowah WTP Intake  
(GPS Coordinates: 34.2956, -84.3759)

Activity

This notice is issued to inform the public of a receipt of an application for a variance submitted pursuant to a state environmental Law. The public is invited to comment during the 30-day period on the proposed activity. Site plans are available for review and are located in the following EPD office: Watershed Protection Branch File Room, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, GA 30334. Since the EPD has no authority to zone property or determine land use, only those comments addressing environmental issues related to air, water, and land protection will be considered in the application review process. Comments may be submitted via e-mail to: [EPDcomments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:EPDcomments@dnr.ga.gov). Comments may also be provided in writing to: Program Manager, Nonpoint Source Program, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1452 East, Atlanta, GA 30334. The words "Buffer Variance Comment", including the Control Number shown above, should be placed in the e-mail subject line (if sent via e-mail) or on the top of the first page of written comments to ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff.

Type of Permit Application: Variance to encroach within the 25-foot State waters buffer.

Applicable Law: Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act O.C.G.A. § 12-7-1 et seq.

Applicable Rules: Erosion and Sedimentation Control Chapter 391-3-7

Basis under which variance shall be considered {391-3-7-.05 (2)(a-k)}: (a)

Description and Location of Proposed Activity:

The proposed project intends to modify and improve an existing raw water intake system, Etowah Water Treatment Plant, within Cherokee County. Modifications feature system relocation, replacement of existing intake screens, and streambank restoration in order to increase withdrawal efficiency and alleviate intake operation systems. Land disturbing activities include original structure removal, concrete foundation valve replacement, stabilization practices, bio-engineering practices, and necessary BMPs. Encroachments total 2,610 square feet along 110 linear feet of buffer associated with the Etowah River. The site is within the Etowah Watershed (03150104).

Name and Address of Permit Applicant: Corey Ghorley  
Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority  
110 Railroad Street  
Canton, GA 30114

Summary of Rules Requirements for Variance Application:

The application for a variance must include an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan with control measures based on sound conservation and engineering practices which meet or exceed the standards in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" and which will minimize erosion and deposition of sediments on adjacent lands or into State waters.

For Additional Information Contact:

Madison McCrary  
Environmental Compliance Specialist  
EPD Watershed Protection Branch  
Nonpoint Source Program  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
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Email: [Madison.McCrary@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Madison.McCrary@dnr.ga.gov)