

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE
WATERSHED PROTECTION BRANCH

October 8, 2020
Notice Issue Date

Athens-Clarke County
City / County

November 9, 2020
Notice Close Date

BV-029-20-04
Control Number

Athens-Clarke County Unified Government.
North Oconee River Greenway Extension – Sub-Project 2 – Oconee Hill Cemetery
SPLOST 2011 – Project 9 – Oconee Rivers Greenway Network Connectors
(GPS Coordinates: 33.9501247, -83.3671634 / 33.9430799, -83.3672155)

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, 200 Piedmont Avenue SW, Suite 418 West, Atlanta, GA 30334. Please contact Ms. Arnettia Murphy at (404) 656-4147 or email arnettia.murphy@dnr.ga.gov to schedule an appointment to review the plans. 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. Written comments should be submitted to: Program Manager, NonPoint Source Program, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East, Atlanta, GA 30334.

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)}: (f)

Description and Location of Proposed Activity:

The proposed project will consist of constructing a 12-ft wide, concrete multi-use trail along the North Oconee River through the Oconee Hill Cemetery in Athens-Clarke County for approximately 0.68 miles – including 8,363 square feet of permanent buffer impacts (approximately 6,503 square feet of the permanent buffer impacts will be constructed with porous concrete). Mitigation for the permanent buffer impacts will consist of removing all non-native invasive plant species and establishing meadow conditions along the North Oconee River near College Avenue in Athens-Clarke County using a mix of native riparian herbaceous plugs and seeds (approximately 8,400 square feet total). The proposed project will result in approximately 1,992 linear feet total (35,582 square feet total) of buffer disturbances along the North Oconee River in the *Upper Oconee Watershed*.

Name and Address of Permit Applicant: Mr. Derek Doster, SPLOST Project Administrator
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government.
P.O. Box 1868
Athens, GA 30603

Summary of Rules Requirements for Variance Application:

The application for a variance must include an approved 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:

Frank M. Carubba, Environmental Engineer
EPD Watershed Protection Branch
NonPoint Source Program
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East
Atlanta, GA 30334
Telephone: (404) 651-8550