

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division

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For Immediate Release

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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 1st and ending on June 30th 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 1st. 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 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	Glascock	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=MTN 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=MTN 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