

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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Chris Clark, Commissioner

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Environmental Protection Division

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Dear fellow Georgians,

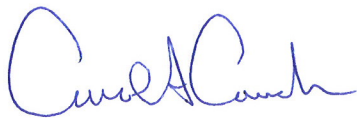
The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is pleased to present the Coastal Stormwater Supplement (CSS), Version I, of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual. The CSS was developed by a diverse and important group of stakeholders that provided critical input into stormwater management issues associated with the coastal region. This area is now the second fastest growing area of the state, and its unique features such as tidal flows, sandy soils and elevated water tables require specific approaches to stormwater management. The CSS is designed to provide that guidance.

The CSS builds on the wealth of information presented in Georgia's Stormwater Management Manual published nearly eight years ago. However, it shifts the focus from treating runoff to practices that prevent runoff at the source. The guidance provided by the CSS will assist Georgia's coastal communities with developing integrated, green-infrastructure-based approaches to stormwater management, natural resource protection and site-specific development and design.

The management practices and approaches detailed in the CSS will greatly benefit implementation of Georgia's Statewide Water Plan, the Governor's Coastal Comprehensive Plan, and the State Wildlife Action Strategy, and will provide needed guidance to communities that must develop strategies for protecting vital and unique natural resources in the face of rapidly expanding populations.

EPD extends sincere thanks to the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Planning Commission, the Center for Watershed Protection for project leadership and the numerous communities, private businesses, individuals and organizations, as well as sister divisions of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources that contributed so much of their time and effort in the development of this guidance. We also greatly appreciate the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for assisting in the funding of this project.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Couch
Director