



Welcome Back, Dawgs

August in Athens means slightly cooler temperatures, more people, and an increase in pets. We'd like to remind everyone with animals to be responsible neighbors and to pick up after your dogs. Not only is pet waste unsightly; *fecal coliform*, the main bacteria in animal waste, is one of the largest pollutants of Athens' streams and rivers. When it rains, stormwater runoff travels along sidewalks and roads, picking up pollutants, such as pet waste, on its way to the storm drains. From there, it flows directly into our waterways. Once in the water, pet waste can:

- Kill aquatic life and disrupt stream habitats as it decays
- Contain bacteria and parasites which can make people sick
- Contain nutrients that plants use, leading to large algae growth (algae uses up oxygen necessary for animals and more beneficial plants to survive)

You can help stop poo-llution! Make sure to carry bags on every walk to properly dispose of your dog's waste. Picking up after your dog helps keep you, your family, and our waterways healthy. Call ACC Stormwater at 706-613-3440 for more information or to request informational materials for your neighborhood, apartment complex, or local animal clinic.

Seeking Your Feedback

ACC Stormwater has hired Stantec Consulting to conduct a comprehensive review of its Stormwater Utility Fee. The first phase of the review will look at services such as street sweeping, stormwater pipe cleaning, and pollution control to help set the budget. The second phase will include discussions about how the utility fee is charged and what credits can be used to reduce fees for customers.

The Stormwater Utility Fee was enacted in July 2005 after substantial study, community feedback, and discussion as the most equitable source of funding for ACCGOV's Stormwater Management Program. The Stormwater Management Program was created in 2003 to keep ACCGOV in compliance with new federal Clean Water Act requirements. The program currently addresses six key areas including public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, elimination of unlawful or illicit discharges, controls on new construction, post-construction management of stormwater, and implementation of good housekeeping measures for municipal operations.

As part of the review, ACC Stormwater is offering several opportunities for utility customers to provide input on the fee. Two public meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 16 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. and 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Dougherty Street Government Building Auditorium at 120 W. Dougherty Street. Staff from ACC Stormwater and Stantec Consulting will provide general information about stormwater and the existing program, as well as welcome feedback and questions from the public.

In addition to the in-person meetings, a brief 10-question survey is posted online at www.accgov.com/stormwater [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwater>] through September 30 to solicit feedback from customers. All property owners who pay a stormwater fee, particularly those who own property in Athens-Clarke County but live outside of the community, are encouraged to complete the survey. Anyone who completes the survey is eligible for a prize.

For more information on the Utility Fee review or the Stormwater Management Program, visit www.accgov.com/stormwater [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwater>] or call 706-613-3440.

Upcoming Events

Stormwater Fee Review Public Meetings
Thursday, August 16, 2:00-3:30pm and 6:00-7:30pm
Dougherty Street Government Building Auditorium (120
W Dougherty Street)

ACC Stormwater is hosting public meetings to gather input on stormwater services and the stormwater utility fee. General information about the program will be available and questions and comments will be welcomed. Email stormwater@accgov.com [<mailto:stormwater@accgov.com>] if you have any questions about the meeting.

Tabling at the Athens Farmers Market
Saturday, August 25, 8:00am-12:00pm
Bishop Park (705 Sunset Drive)

Are you familiar with the pollutants that harm Athens-Clarke County waterways? Do you want to help keep Athens-Clarke County's waterways clean? Then visit the ACC Stormwater booth at the Athens Farmers Market. We will have information about water pollution in Athens and volunteer opportunities, as well as a trivia game and prizes.

Athens Water Festival
Saturday, September 8, 10:30am-2:00pm
Sandy Creek Park (400 Bob Holman Road)

Make a Splash at this year's Athens Water Festival! This is a family friendly event all about water, hosted by the ACC Water Conservation Office with support from ACC Stormwater and ACC Leisure Services. Participate in hands-on activities & games, meet sea-life and other critters, and splash with water trucks. There is a \$2 entry fee into the park, but all the activities are FREE! Make sure to bring your swimsuit and a water bottle. Visit athenswaterfestival.com for more information.

Contact Us

Stormwater Management Program
Department of Transportation and Public Works
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
120 W. Dougherty Street
Athens, GA 30601
706-613-3440
stormwater@accgov.com
www.accgov.com/stormwater [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwater>]

Notice Dumping?

Call the Stormwater Hotline at 706-614-1282 if you see someone dumping into a storm drain or notice flooding due to clogged drains or pipes.

 Share on Facebook

 Share on Twitter

 Share via Email

Copyright 2018 Athens-Clarke County Unified Government. All rights reserved.
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government | P.O. Box 1868 | Athens, GA 30603

Powered by
 CIVICSEND
Athens-Clarke County

[PRINT](#)

[COPY](#)