



In Cobb County, our Grease Management Program monitors food establishments' compliance with Cobb County Water and Wastewater Ordinance regulations found in the Official Code of Cobb County Georgia Section 122-188.1. These regulations require all food preparation establishments, or any company that exceeds the wastewater limit for grease and oil, to have a grease recovery system. In addition, these ordinances require quarterly pumping of all exterior grease traps.

We are committed to providing Cobb County residents with a safe and environmentally sound wastewater collection and treatment system. Such a system is vital in supporting a quality lifestyle, a strong local economy and protecting our environment.

Unfortunately, grease, a common material, can build up in our collection system and severely impact maintenance and operational costs.

Every day, in household and commercial kitchens, large amounts of fats, oils and grease are produced. These by-products of cooking are not good for the sewer system. When they enter the sewer system, they begin to adhere to the sides of the sewer lines. Over time, they begin to build up, eventually causing a blockage of the line below ground which results in sewer overflows and backups above ground into our homes, businesses and water-ways.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/fog.htm

The history of drought in the Southeast region of the United States demonstrates the importance of conserving our water resources.

Metro Atlanta faces some unique water resource challenges. It is located at the headwaters of its major river basins. This means we have the shallowest and smallest parts of these resources from which to draw our water. The granite bedrock beneath Cobb County means groundwater is not a viable supply for the region. Metro Atlanta and Cobb County remain dependent on surface water sources. Cobb County receives its water from the Chattahoochee River and Lake Allatoona.

Cobb County Water System has an established Water Efficiency Program to assist customers with saving water and lowering water bills. There are programs and materials available to help as Cobb County strives toward the responsible management of this essential resource.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/efficiency.htm

The Watershed Stewardship Program promotes respect for our environment by educating the community about the connection between behavior and water quality. We offer outreach programs, facilitate citizen science initiatives, and provide volunteer opportunities. Participation is free and is offered to residents, schools, community groups, and businesses in Cobb County.

Our focus is on ecological literacy, including topics such as pollution prevention, biodiversity, and environmental health. We provide lifelong education on issues impacting local water quality, foster good habits and responsible behavior, and cultivate an appreciation for and a connection to our natural resources.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbstreams.org

Backflow is the reversal of water's normal direction of flow. When water passes through a water meter into a customer's home or business it should not flow back into the County water main. If it does, the condition is referred to as "backflow." Backflow prevention is keeping the unintentional reversal of water flow from occurring.

Prevention of backflow is critical to a water utility because of the potential for contamination of the water system. When using any auxiliary water sources (well water, gray water, and rain water pumps) to irrigate, dual connection to the public water supply increases the risk of contamination and is prohibited. In the absence of backflow prevention devices and assemblies, reversed water can be drawn back into the distribution system and it may be accessed by other users.

If a backflow incident results from industrial customers who may handle hazardous materials, the public system can become contaminated.

Cobb Water is serious about our mission to protect customers, water resources and the environment. Our objective is to monitor assemblies and install devices which will prevent the water supply from becoming contaminated. It is essential for the community to be aware of the harmful impact of backflow. Through education, we can reduce and prevent the occurrence of backflow.

Working with the public as a team, the Cobb County Water System will provide direction to medium and high risk Cobb businesses on the installation of appropriate backflow prevention devices.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/backflow.htm



Green School

The *Green School* initiative is a program of the Cobb County Water System Watershed Stewardship and Water Efficiency Programs, Cobb County Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Unit, and Keep Cobb Beautiful.

The purpose of the *Green School* initiative is to recognize schools in Cobb County with an active environmental education program and encourage other schools to develop environmentally based education initiatives within their schools.

The primary focus of the program is conservation, preservation, and beautification of our environment. The program annually recognizes Cobb County classrooms and schools that have met the *Green School* requirements. These schools are recognized for participating in activities that promote good environmental stewardship. For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/greenschool.htm.



Partner In Education

As an at-large Partner in Education, our commitment is to introduce young people in Cobb County to the Water System's functions, services and role in preserving our most valuable natural resource, water. The overall focus and direction of these educational and public outreach programs allows us the opportunity to actively engage this special audience.

Our public outreach campaign ensures that we are constantly updating and informing educators, parents, and students as to changes in our environmental processes. We do this through facility tours, speaking events, and learning materials.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/education.htm



Industrial Pretreatment

Cobb County Water System's Industrial Pretreatment Program prevents the introduction of pollutants into the sanitary sewer system that could interfere with the operation of the wastewater treatment plants, cause damage to the sewer system, or pass through the treatment plants to waters of the state. Regulation of businesses and industries through this program ensures the protection of the environment and the safety of wastewater treatment personnel, as well as the local community.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/industrial.htm



Stormwater Education

Stormwater is the portion of rainfall or snow melt that does not soak into the ground. It is the rainfall that "runs off" the surface into natural (streams, rivers, creeks) and man-made (inlets, pipes, culverts) conveyance systems. Stormwater is an important part of the earth's water cycle.

Cobb County maintains a permit to discharge stormwater into the municipal stormwater management system. To renew this permit each year, we must show that we are monitoring our streams, complying with all applicable state and federal laws, and employing sufficient best management practices to protect and enhance water quality.

The goal of the Stormwater Education Program is to inform citizens about our permit requirements, the importance of stormwater pollution prevention, the environmental impact of stormwater runoff, and methods to reduce that impact.

Commercial, industrial, and residential property owners are educated about illegal discharges (e.g. motor oil, cut vegetation, trash, industrial wastes, sediment, chemicals, wash water, pet waste, pool discharges); easements; detention/retention ponds; spill prevention/cleanup; storage of hazardous substances; dumpster maintenance/ care; oil/ water separators; food waste disposal; reporting surface water pollution; flood control/ prevention; and other topics to prevent contamination of the stormwater system.

Also, citizens are educated about flood prevention, obtaining flood insurance, and determining whether they are in a floodplain. Through our participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System these outreach efforts help ensure that Cobb's citizens retain the lowest flood insurance rates possible.

For more information on this Program, please visit www.cobbwater.org/stormwater.htm

Contact Us

Cobb County Water System



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

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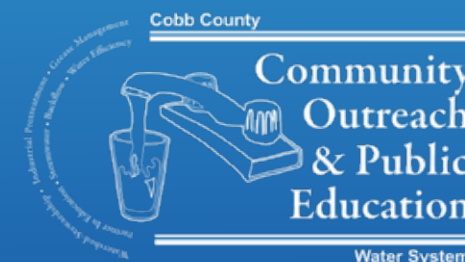
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- Parks & Recreation **770.528.8818**
- Keep Cobb Beautiful **770.528.2503**



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Public Education & Outreach Programs



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