Things to Remember for Your Next Green Infrastructure Retrofit Project

Jeremy Pratt, Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources
Ross Ellis, Geosyntec









## Watershed Improvement Program



#### WIP Goals

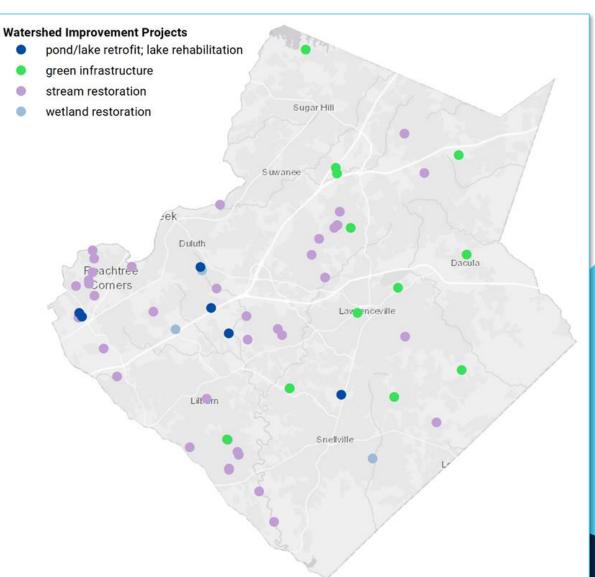
- Protecting and improving the water quality and aquatic habitat in the County's rivers, streams, and other surface water bodies
- Implementing new and retrofit LID-GI practices
- Developing design and guidance/performance standards for stormwater best management practices (BMPs)
- Demonstrating to stakeholders that LID-GI practices are feasible/cost effective

#### WIP Program Timeline

- 2000 developed the Watershed Improvement Program (WIP), WIP Specifications and WIP Annual Contractors
- 2005 stormwater utility fee introduced
- 2007 first WIP project completed
- 2017 Gwinnett County Stormwater Management Manual (GCSMM)

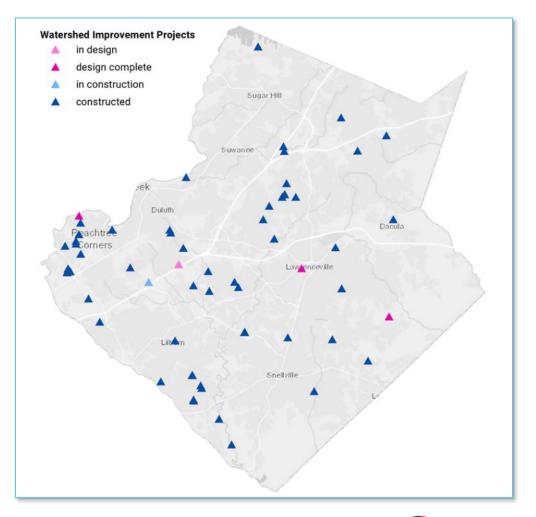






### WIP Capital Projects

- LID-GI Retrofitting
  - 12 GI retrofit projects constructed to date with 34 total BMPs installed
  - Collaborations with:
    - >GC Parks and Recreation
    - ➤ GC Public Libraries
    - ➤ GC Water Resources
    - > Municipalities within GC







### GCSMM BMPs

Project	Site	Bioretention	Bioslope	Downspout Disconnect	Dry Detention Basin	Dry Extended Detention	Dry Well	Dry/Wet Enhanced Swale	Grass Channel	Gravity (Oil-Grit) Separator	Green Roof	Infiltration Practice	Multi Purpose Detention Area	Organic Filter	Permeable Paver Systems	Pervious Concrete	Porous Asphalt	Proprietary Systems	Rain Garden	Regenerative Stormwater Convevance	Sand Filter	Restoration / Revegetation	Soil Restoration	Stormwater Planters / Tree Boxes	Stormwater Ponds	Stormwater Wetlands	Submerged Gravel Wetland	Underground Detention	Vegetated Filter Strip
				Dow	٥	Dry		Dry/		Gravit		≟	Multi P		Perm	ď		Pro		Regel		Site Rest		Storm	St	Sto	Subme	Unde	Veg
Dacula Park	Park	✓						✓	✓																				
Duncan Creek Park	Park	✓						✓																					
Lilburn City Park	Park	✓														✓													
Collins Hill Park	Park																									✓			
Ronald Reagan Park	Park	✓																		✓									
F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center	DWR Facility	✓																	✓	✓									
DWR Central	DWR Facility	✓																	✓										
Shoal Creek Filter Plant	DWR Facility	✓				✓																							
Collins Hill Library	<b>Gwinnett Library</b>	✓																											
Grayson Library	<b>Gwinnett Library</b>	✓						✓																					
Garner Creek / Parkview High School	Schools / Neighborhoods	✓																								✓			
Shannon Way	Schools / Neighborhoods																										✓		
Other Projects Designed or Underway		✓						✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓			



### Challenges of GI Retrofitting

#### > Small footprints

Small-scale projects working around existing infrastructure complicates material storage, site access, and construction schedules









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#### > High visibility

Working in public settings means that the project is highly visible to members of the community who may observe construction and ask questions









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Small-scale projects working around existing infrastructure complicates material storage, site access, and construction schedules

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#### Uncertainty

Utilities, groundwater, bedrock, and old construction debris can all present a challenge to constructing the GI as planned

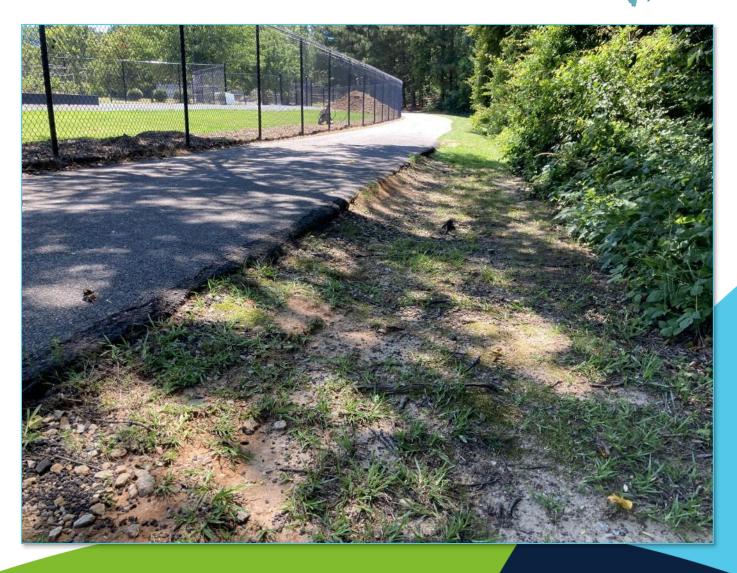






### Benefits of GI Retrofitting

Solving drainage issues
Addressing existing drainage issues with creative
GI solutions demonstrates the efficacy of GI principles



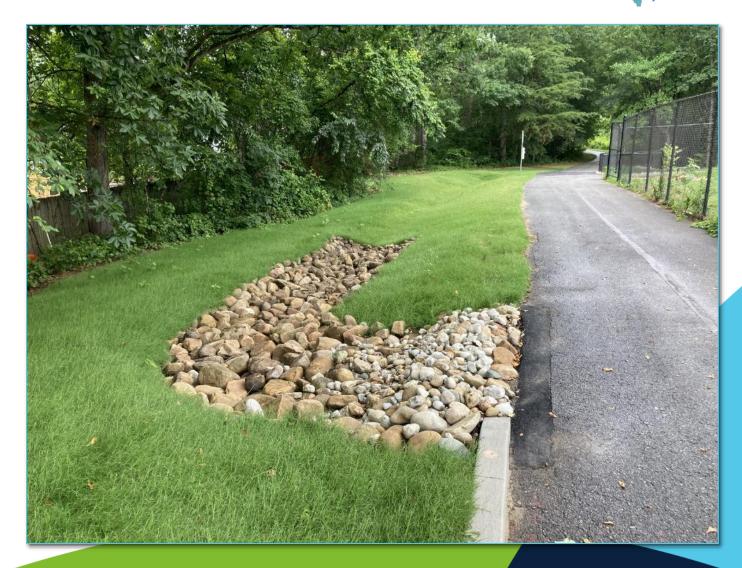






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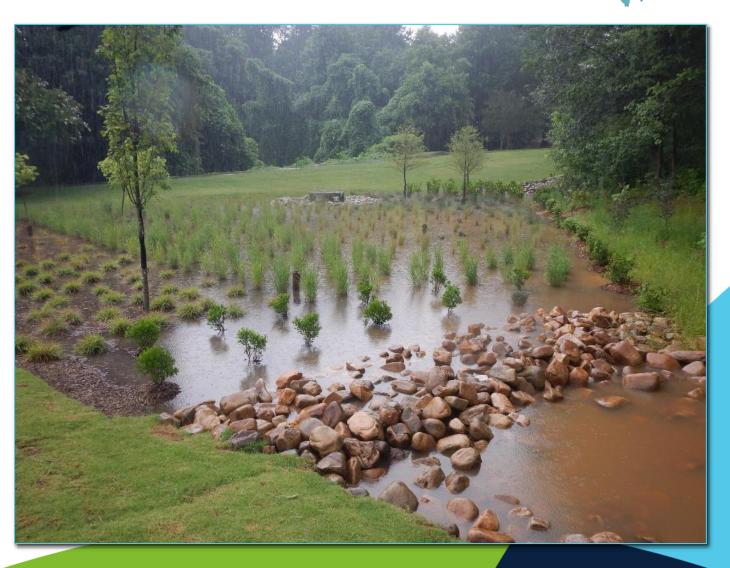




### Benefits of GI Retrofitting

- Solving drainage issues
  Addressing existing drainage issues with creative
  GI solutions demonstrates the efficacy of GI
  principles
- Practice makes perfect!

  Retrofit projects are an opportunity for designers, contractors, inspectors, and maintenance personnel to get more familiar with GI while beautifying publics spaces









#### Benefits of GI Retrofitting

Monitoring opportunities
GI maintained by the County provides
opportunities for observation, monitoring, and
case studies to influence guidance for
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  opportunities for observation, monitoring, and
  case studies to influence guidance for
  implementing GI in Gwinnett County
- Public engagement
   Demonstration projects in high-visibility locations
   engages the community and helps spread water
   quality awareness







## GCDWR and Geosyntec

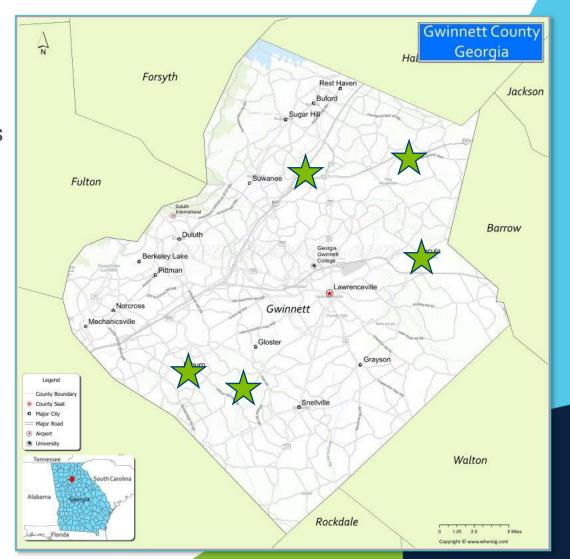


- Variety of roles on WIP projects
  - ➤ Developing GI retrofit concepts
  - > Conducting feasibility studies from WIP master plans
  - Detailed design packages for GI retrofits and stormwater improvements
  - ➤ Construction management at GI retrofit projects

Project	Concept	Feasibility	Design	Construction
F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center		✓	✓	✓
Dacula Park			✓	✓
Duncan Creek Park	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lilburn City Park		✓	✓	✓
Yellow River WWTP	✓			







## Concept Phase

- Watershed-level analyses
- Keep an open mind, but consider site and funding limitations
- Focus on highest priority and utilize a phased approach

Project	Concept	Feasibility	Design	Construction
F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center	14	5	2	2
Duncan Creek Park*	19	16	8	4
Dacula Park	5	4	4	3
Lilburn City Park	5	3	3	3

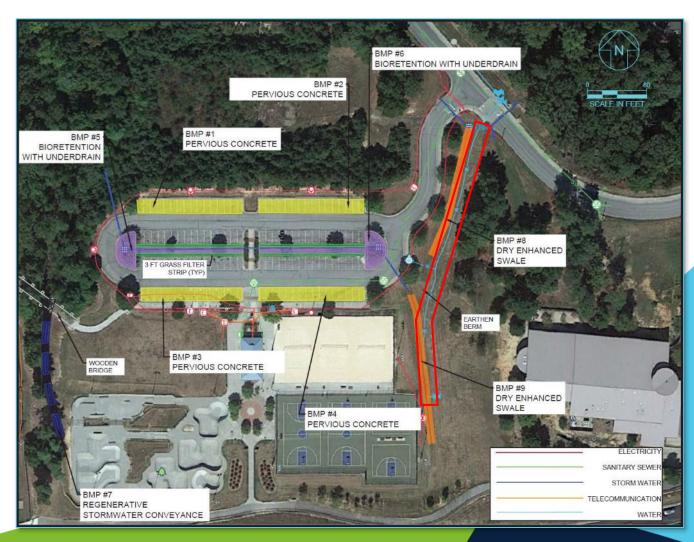






# SeSwA southeast Association

- Fully understand the site before design and construction
- Resolve any discrepancies between site data and field observations
- Trust but verify:
- Utility surveys
  - Compare utility surveys with available historical design drawings and as-builts

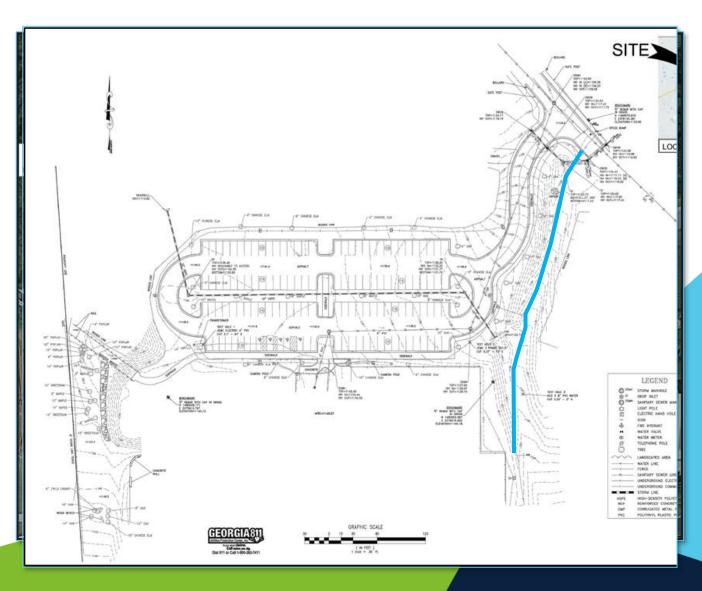






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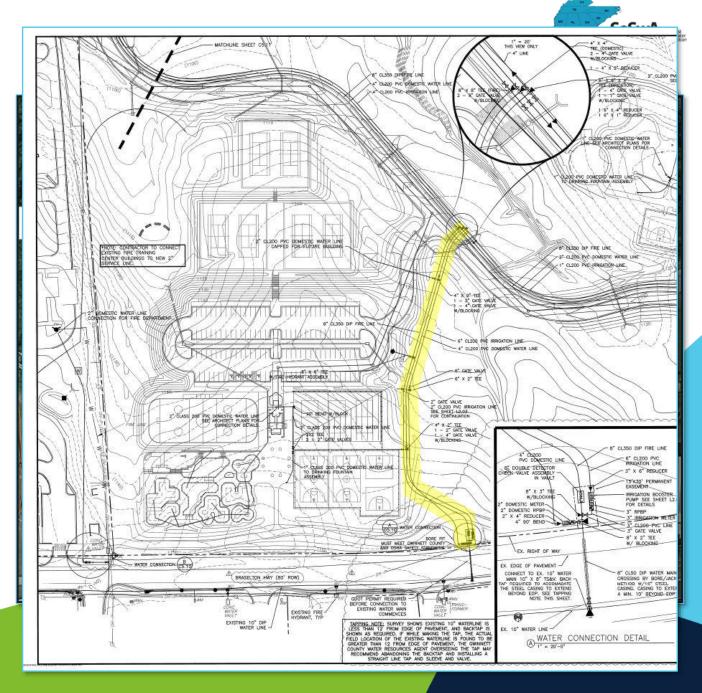
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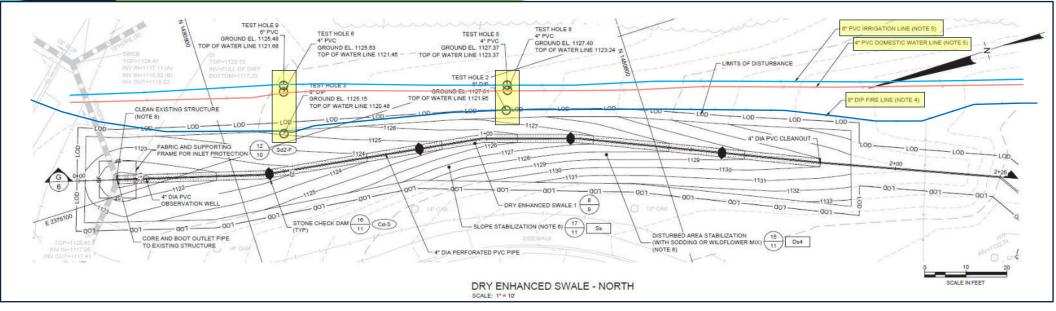
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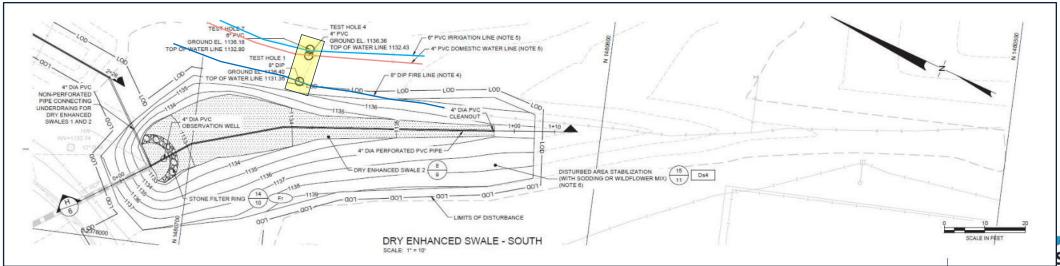










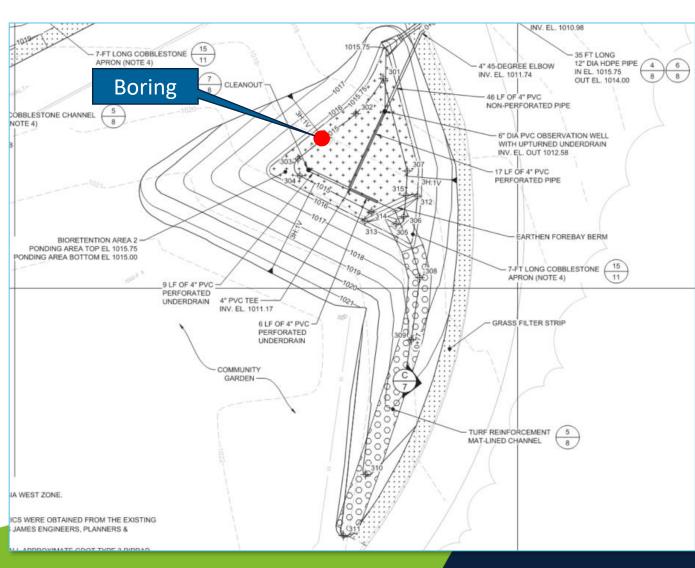


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  - Dig test pits







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# Can the BMP meet design criteria?

- Communication
  - Understand stakeholders' level of tolerance for variation from standards and determine constraints
  - Reconcile goals:
    - > Public engagement
    - > Improving water quality
    - ➤ Demonstrating GI-LID efficacy



#### **DESIGN CRITERIA**

- · Maximum contributing drainage area of 5 acres
- Treatment area consists of ponding area, organic/mulch layer, planting media, and vegetation
- · Requires landscaping plan
- . Standing water has a maximum drain time of 24 hours
- Pretreatment is required to prevent clogging of underdrains or native soil.
- Ponding depth should be a maximum of 12 inches, preferably 9 inches

#### **ADVANTAGES / BENEFITS**

- · Applicable to small drainage areas
- · Effective pollutant removals
- Appropriate for small areas with high impervious cover, particularly parking lots
- Natural integration into landscaping for urban landscape enhancement
- Good retrofit capability
- Can be planned as an aesthetic feature and meet local planting requirements

#### **DISADVANTAGES / LIMITATIONS**

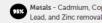
- · Requires landscaping
- · Not recommended for areas with steep slopes
- · Medium to high capital cost
- · Medium cost maintenance burden
- · Soils may clog over time (may require cleaning or replacing)

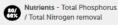
#### MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Inspect and repair or replace treatment area components such as mulch, plants, and scour protection, as needed
- Ensure bioretention area is draining properly so it does not become a breeding ground for mosquitos
- · Remove trash and debris
- . Ensure mulch is 3-4 inches thick in the practice
- · Requires plant maintenance plan

#### POLLUTANT REMOVAL









#### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SUITABILITY

- Runoff Reduction
- Water Quality
- Channel Protection
- Overbank Flood Protection
- Extreme Flood Protection
- √ suitable for this practice
- ★ may provide partial benefits

#### IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Land Requirement
- (M) Capital Cost
- Maintenance Burden

Residential Subdivision Use: Yes High Density/Ultra-Urban: Yes Roadway Projects: Yes

Soils: Engineered soil media is composed of sand, fines, and organic matter

Other Considerations: Use of native plants is recommended

L=Low M=Moderate H=High

#### RUNOFF REDUCTION CREDIT

- 100% of the runoff reduction volume provided (no underdrain)
- 75% of the runoff reduction volume provided (upturned underdrain system)
- 50% of the runoff reduction volume provided (underdrain)



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MANUAL 2020 EDITION

**VOLUMES 1 AND 2** 



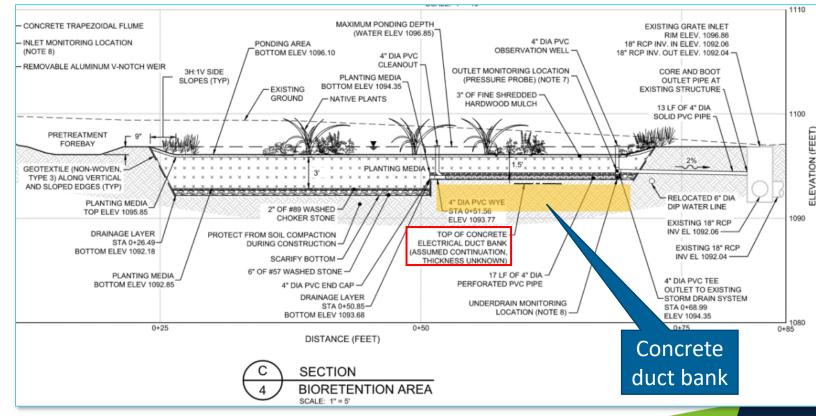






Can the BMP meet design criteria?

- Flexibility
  - What can we do to keep a BMP from being eliminated?
  - Get creative with:
    - Media thicknesses
    - Ponding depths
    - Utility impacts









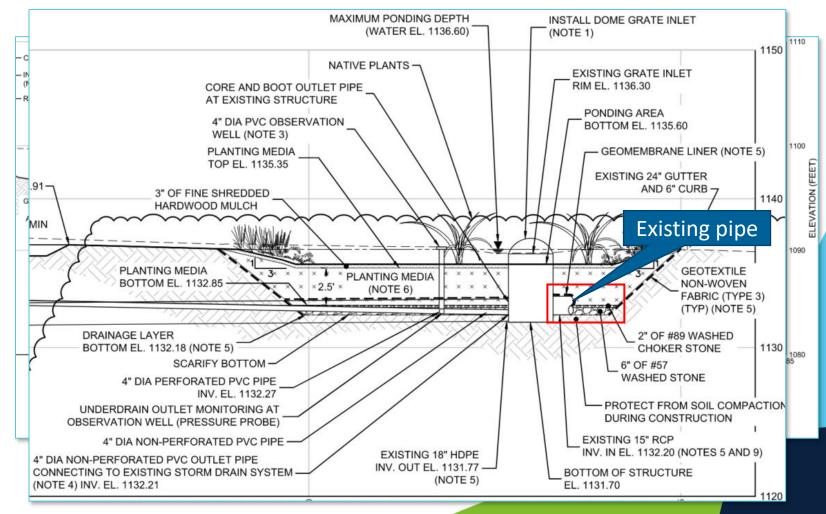
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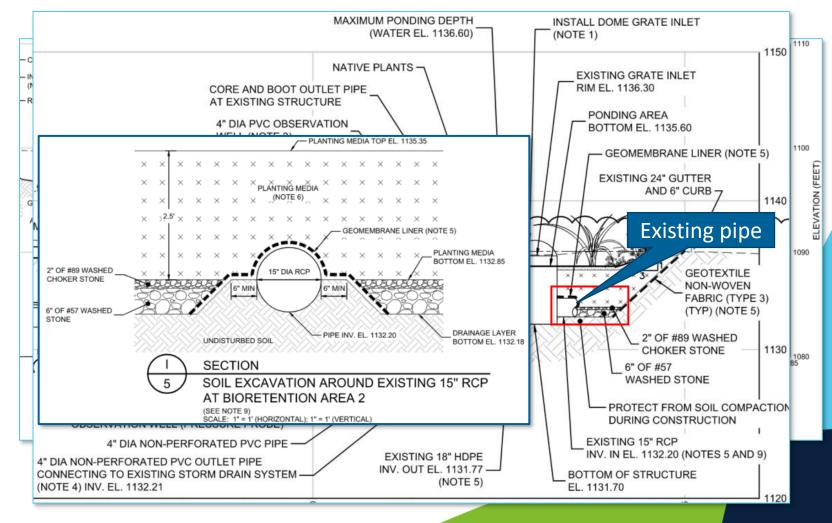
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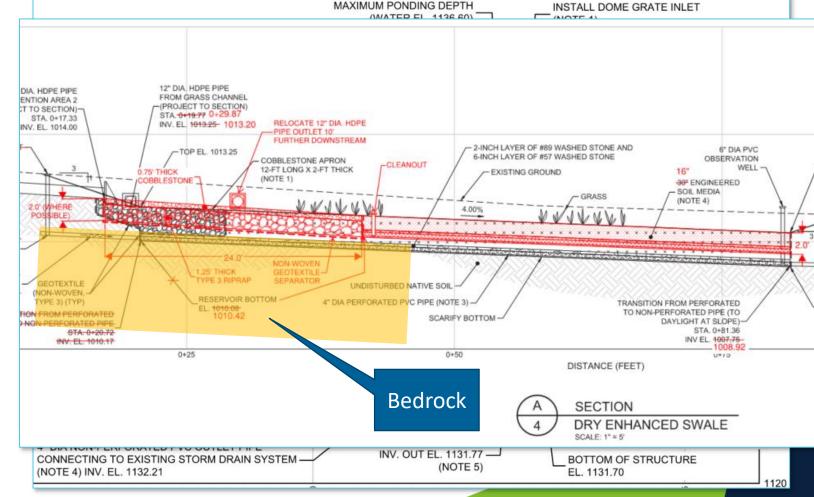




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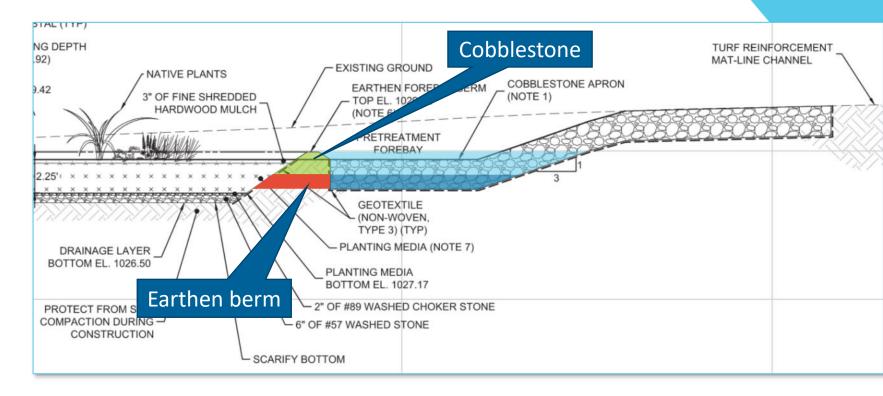






Stakeholder Engagement

Parks – Forebays









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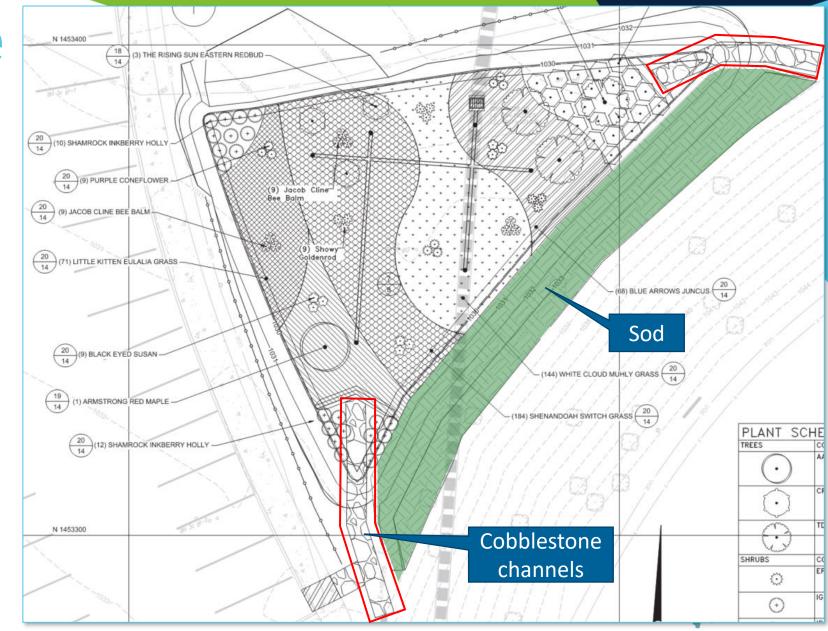








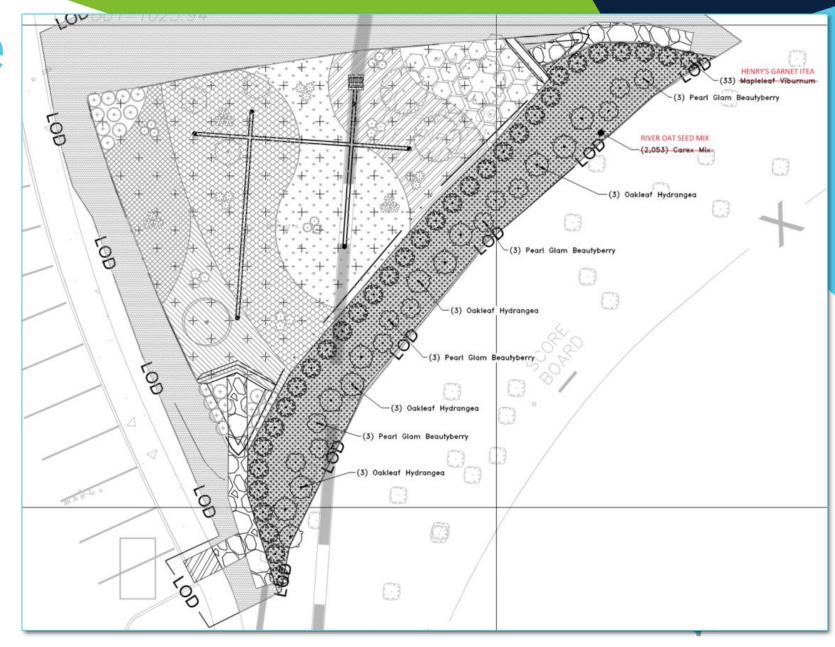
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  - Contractor Slope landscaping







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Flexibility & Communication









- Communication
  - Not everything is going to go according to plan
  - Establish diverse methods of communication:
    - Daily field reports





DAILY FIELD REPORT								
PROJECT AND SITE INFORMATION								
PROJECT: Dacula Park BMPs Phas	PROJECT: Dacula Park BMPs Phase 1 – North Parking Lot Area							
DESCRIPTION: Stormwater BMP	Retrofit Demonstration		PROJECT NO.:F-1329-07 PHASE NO.: 1					
CLIENT: Gwinnett County Departn	nent of Water Resources (GCD	WR)	LOCATION: Dacul	la, GA				
CONTRACTOR(S): Clean Water C	onsultants (CWC)							
WEATHER: Sunny, 85 degrees F								
INSPECTOR: Ross Ellis		E IN: 9:45 AM	TIME	OUT: 4:00 PM				
ON-SITE PERSONNEL								
NAME	COMPANY	POSITION						
Ross Ellis	Geosyntec	Senior Staff Engineer/Construction Oversight						
Jeremy Pratt	Jeremy Pratt GCDWR				Engineer III/Project Manager			
Tommy Sorrow	CWC		Project Manager/Construction Superintendent					
Jared Eubanks	Geosyntec		Principal/Project Manager					
N/A	N/A		N/A					
N/A	N/A		N/A					
N/A	N/A		N/A					
VISITOR'S NAME	VISITOR'S NAME							
Todd Freeman			CWC					
Scott Williams			GCDWR					
Adanegn Woldemichael			Gwinnett Parks					
Angelique Young			GCDWR					
N/A			N/A					
			/-					







#### • Communication

- Not everything is going to go according to plan
- Establish diverse methods of communication:
  - Daily field reports
  - Biweekly progress meetings



1255 Roberts Blvd. N.W., Suite 200 Kennesaw, GA 30144 PH 678.202.9500 www.geosyntec.com

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Project: Dacula Park BMPs Phase 1 – North Parking Lot Area GCDWR Project Number: F-1329-07

Owner: Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources (GCDWR)

Contractor: Clean Water Consultants (CWC)

Construction Oversight and Support: Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec) and GCDWR

Design Engineer: Geosyntec

Meeting Title: Biweekly Progress Meeting

Date: 05/02/2023 Time: 10:30 AM Location: Dacula Park – North Parking Lot Area

#### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

- a. Sign-In
- b. Safety Moment
- c. Approval of previous meeting minutes

#### 2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Project Schedule
  - i. Work completed in the last two weeks
    - Bioretention Area 1 media installation, mulch installation, exterior grading and sodding
    - Pipe inlet repair at 15" diameter CMP upgradient of Bioretention Area 1 south forebay
    - Dry Enhanced Swale (DES) 12" diameter HDPE pipe replacement, tree trunk removal, and excavation
  - ii. Work anticipated for the next two weeks
    - Bioretention Area 1 landscaping and fencing
    - DES underdrain and stone installation, media installation, grading and sodding, and fencing installation







#### • Communication

- Not everything is going to go according to plan
- Establish diverse methods of communication:
  - Daily field reports
  - Biweekly progress meetings
  - Preliminary and Final punch list meetings



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4. **PUNCH LIST** (Questions, Action Items) \*Bolded underlined items must be completed by 5/18\* (Completed items are stuck out)

#### Bioretention Area 1

- Install cobblestone filter ring at pedestal inlet
- At southeast slope remove ECB, scarify soil, spread river oat and annual wildflower mix seed, and install new ECB
- Place cobblestone supports and wire anchors at slope drain outlet in southeast slope
- · Remove rock and geotextile protruding above mulch near east forebay
- . Re-set two Bald Cypress to remove mound at base
- Add mulch to bare areas and around trees
- Add mulch beds around American Beautyberry on southeast slope
- Remove plant tags
- Remove dog food bags on tree trunks
- Remove blown trash
- Trim grass on southeast slope

#### 15" CMP inlet area

- Repair curb damage with grout near sidewalk replacement at 15" CMP inlet
- Saw cut expansion joints in sidewalk replacement
- Sodding at sidewalk replacement
- Replace 3'X7' area of damaged asphalt near sidewalk replacement
- Remove stray cobblestone on slope upgradient of 15" CMP inlet
  - DES underdrain and stone installation, media installation, grading and sodding, and fencing installation







#### • Communication

- Not everything is going to go according to plan
- Establish diverse methods of communication:
  - Daily field reports
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  - Preliminary and Final punch list meetings
  - Description of Modification forms and Redline Drawings



		DOM #7 -	<b>Description of Modifications</b>
Project	Dacula Park BMPs Phase 1 – North Parking Lot Area		Project Number
Owner	Gwinnett County DWR (GCDWR)		F-1329-07
Contractor	Clean Water Consultants (CWC)		
<b>Construction Manager</b>	GCDWR / Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec)		

Make the following additions, modifications, or deletions to the Work described in the Contract Documents: Bioretention Area 1:

- CWC will construct compacted earthen berms on top of the subgrade just downstream of the toe of the
  cobblestone forebay berms. The earthen berms will have a top width of 3', a top elevation of 1028.17, and
  1H:1V side slopes. The earthen berms will be wrapped in geotextile. Additionally, the #57 stone and #89
  stone drainage layer will terminate 2' away from the downstream toe of the earthen berm, and biomedia
  will be installed within this 2' wide area instead. Lastly, #57 stone will be used to separate the biomedia
  from the cobblestone/riprap forebay berms instead of a geotextile separator. See Redline Drawing Sheet 7.
- Fencing will be installed along the western edge of Bioretention Area 1 adjacent to the sidewalk. Fencing will be 4' high black chain link, offset 2' from the sidewalk, extending from the crepe myrtles in the north to wrap around the 15" CMP outlet in the south. The fence will have a boxed-out section to allow access to the light pole, offset 3' from the light pole to the north and south, and offset 2' from the light pole to the east. An underground electrical utility and a 15" CMP are located in the immediate vicinity of the fence alignment. Fence posts shall not be installed greater than 18" deep. Hand tools only shall be used to dig post holes. See Redline Drawing Sheet 5.
- Fencing will be installed parallel to the asphalt trail along the western and northern edge of the
  cobblestone apron at the Dry Enhanced Swale. Fencing will be 4' high black chain link. See Redline Drawing
  Sheet 4.
- An existing underdrain pipe for the baseball fields daylights in the wooded area upgradient of the southeastern slope of Bioretention Area 1. CWC will extend the underdrain pipe to Bioretention Area 1 and
- Sodding at sidewalk replacement

**Design Professional** 

Geosyntec

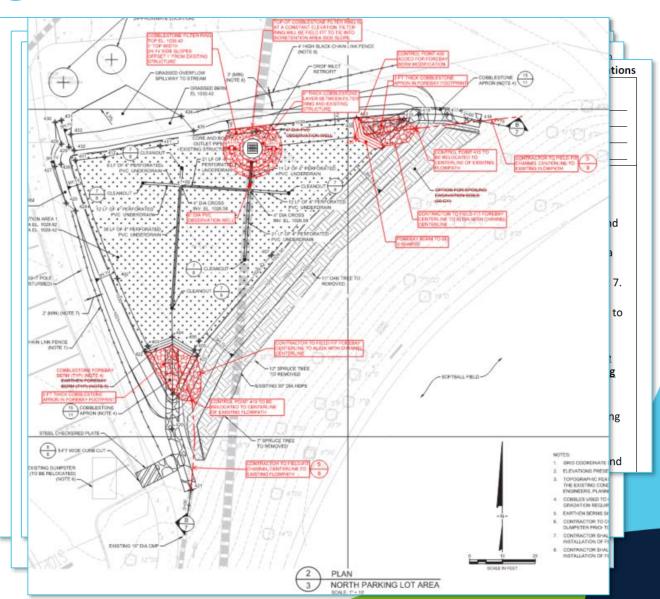
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- Communication
  - o Early stakeholder input on:
    - > Site access and schedule







#### **2022 EVENT SCHEDULE**

Event Name	Event Date	Time	Location
Lilburchaun Parade	3/12/22	3-5pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	3/24/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	3/31/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	4/14/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	4/21/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Great American Cleanup	4/23/22	8am-11am	City Hall Parking lot
Spring Cornhole League	4/28/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	5/5/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Food Truck Tuesday	5/10/22	6pm - 9pm	Lilburn City Park
Spring Cornhole League	5/12/22	6:45-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Community Yard Sale	5/14/22	9am - 1pm	Railroad parking lot
Spring Cornhole League	5/19/22	6:45pm-9pm	Lilburn City Park
Rock the Park	6/4/22	7 - 9:30 pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	6/9/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Food Truck Tuesday	6/14/22	6pm - 9:00pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	6/16/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	6/23/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	6/30/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Sparkle in the Park	7/4/22	5:30pm -10pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	7/7/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Food Truck Tuesday	7/12/22	6pm - 9pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	7/14/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	7/21/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Summer Cornhole League	7/28/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
National Night Out	8/2/22	6-8:30pm	Lilburn City Park
Food Truck Tuesday	8/9/22	6pm -9pm	Lilburn City Park
Fall Cornhole League	9/1/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Rock the Park	9/10/22	7pm - 9:30pm	Lilburn City Park
Food Truck Tuesday	9/13/22	6pm - 9pm	Lilburn City Park
Fall Cornhole League	9/8/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Fall Cornhole League	9/15/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Community Yard Sale	9/24/22	9am -1pm	Railroad parking lot
Fall Cornhole League	9/22/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park
Fall Cornhole League	9/29/22	6-8pm	Lilburn City Park

- Communication
  - o Early stakeholder input on:
    - > Site access and schedule



# Dacula Drive-Thru Food Pantry Will Give 20-Pounds Of Produce

The Gwinnett County Public Library has partnered with the Atlanta Community Food Bank to distribute the free food.



Andrea V. Watson, Patch Staff @

Posted Tue, Feb 22, 2022 at 12:03 pm ET





Each family will receive one package that will contain up to 20 lbs of produce in addition to shelf-stable items. (Courtesy of Rick Uldricks)





Community Corner

### Dacula Drive-Thru Food Pantry Will

- Communication
  - o Early stakeholder input on:
    - > Site access and schedule
    - Material and equipment storage







Each family will receive one package that will contain up to 20 lbs of produce in addition to shelf-stable items. (Courtesy of Rick Uldricks)

- Communication
  - o Early stakeholder input on:
    - > Site access and schedule
    - > Material and equipment storage
    - > Operation and maintenance







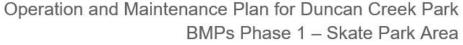












Gwinnett County DWR Contract Category C - Stormwater BMP Design and Watershed Management Services (Contract RP015-21)







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    - Work upstream to downstream when possible, but be flexible









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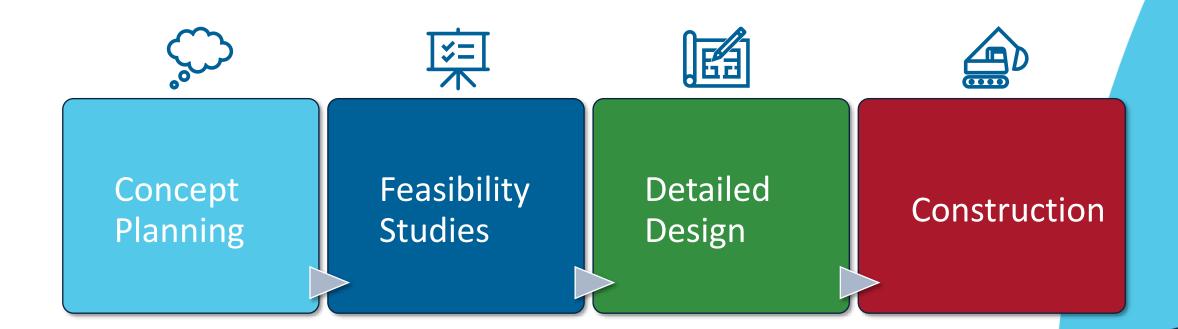






# Typical Project Approach





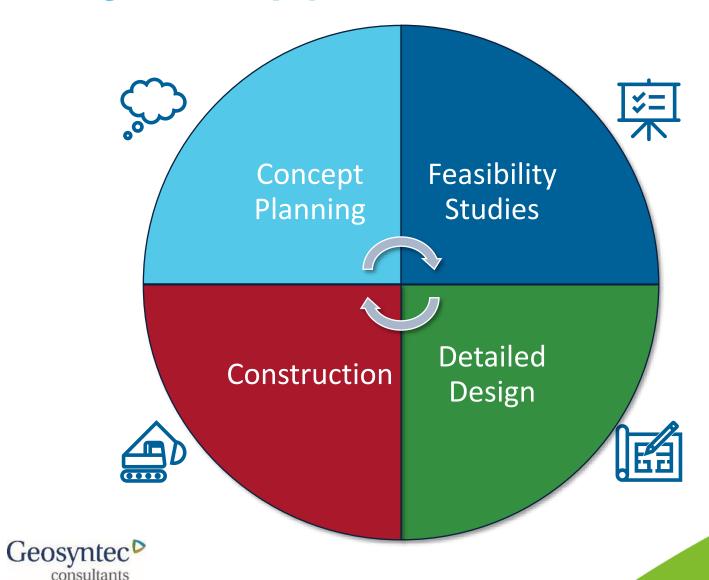




# Better Project Approach

Gwinnett









## Conclusions

- Why retrofit? Demonstrating GI efficacy,
   Public engagement, Improving water quality
- Continuous improvement Think about later stages of the project during concept and feasibility, refer to past experiences to improve project approach
- Communication and Flexibility with all stakeholders are keys to project success







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#### **Gwinnett County Parks**

Adanegn Woldemichael – CM

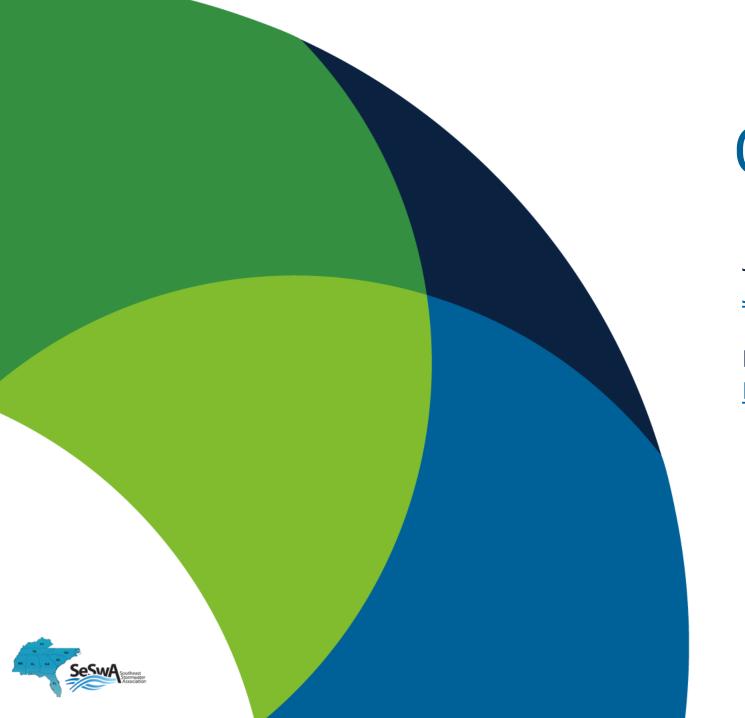
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# Questions?

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