

winter 2026

INSIDE:

Employee Spotlight

Water Affordability Program

Fix A Leak Week and Spring Events



water source





Employees presented on their work,
moderated technical sessions, and
hosted tours of water facilities.

Award winning service!

At the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Fall Conference, ACC Public Utilities earned recognition for excellence in operations and service. Awards include:

Collection System
– Gold Award

Water Distribution
System – Gold Award

Consumer Confidence
Report – Gold Award

Customer Service Award – Arkedia Raines,
Water Business Office Administrator

SEWER THINGS

Thanks to everyone who submitted an ending to our Sewer Things comic! There were many creative submissions revealing the true monsters of the ACC sewer underworld—so called “flushable” wipes and FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease).

Artists focused on what should claim this upside down domain—the 4Ps heroes: Pee, Poo, (toilet) Paper, and Puke. **Remember, the 4Ps are the only things that should be flushed down the toilet.**



FEATURED SUBMISSION

Emma, age 10, from Barrow Elementary, created the featured ending at left.



NEW PARTNERSHIP

Supports Water Affordability

As an Athens-Clarke County (ACC) resident, you now get special savings on natural gas thanks to our new partnership with Gas South. Plus, joining Gas South means you're helping support your community—this partnership directly benefits ACC's affordability programs.

Here's how it works:

Gas South customers using the promo code ATHENS receive special savings: no deposit, no connection fee, and a 2¢ per therm discount.

For every customer who enrolls, Gas South contributes funds to a water affordability assistance program for ACC households facing financial hardship.

Use promo code
ATHENS
save 2¢ per therm



GAS
SOUTH

GasSouth.com/AthensClarke

h2o events

VALENTINE'S DAY TOURS

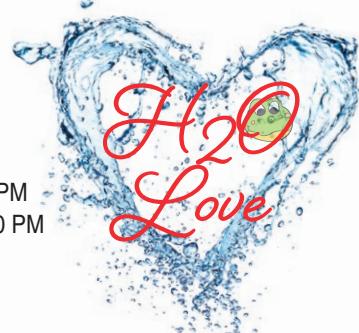
#1 unique Valentine's date:

Take a romantic tour of one of our water reclamation facilities where you'll see water flowing strong and pure, like love.

When: February 13, 4:00–5:30 PM or February 14, 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

Where: North Oconee Water Reclamation Facility

Register: ThinkAtTheSink.com



GREEN LIFE AWARDS

Accepting K-12 submissions

The 2026 theme is “Hometown Heroes.”

Create a painting, drawing, sculpture, photograph, or poem to illustrate how local heroes protect our environment.

Entries Due: All entries are due to the ACC Recycling Division at 725 Hancock Industrial Way, Athens, GA 30605 by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, March 4, 2026.

Where: Exhibition will be displayed at the Lyndon House Arts Center April 2–30, 2026.

Details and Application: accgov.com/GreenLife



WATER CONSERVATION AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE

The Water Conservation Leadership Award recognizes an Athens-Clarke County resident, business, group, or organization committed to protecting water. Nominations are being accepted now!

Nominations Due: Sunday, March 8, 2026

Where: The award will be presented at the Green Life Awards Ceremony April 16 at the Cotton Press.

Details and Application: ThinkAtTheSink.com



Congratulations Rhonda Bray

Congratulations to Rhonda Bray, Administrative Assistant III, who recently retired after 24 years with the Public Utilities Department (PUD) and 34 years in the Athens-Clarke County (ACC) government overall.

Born and raised in Athens, Rhonda previously worked at Athens Regional Medical Center, DelMar, UGA, and Athens Country Club, and originally joined ACC through Leisure Services, before finding her home in PUD. She saw the PUD evolve through new directors, new software, and a culture that continues to grow. Rhonda was the steady hand behind countless deadlines, schedules, agenda items, and day-to-day operations.

Rhonda says she'll miss her ACC coworkers, and if she had to do it all over, she'd choose the same career! However, she's looking forward to spending her retirement in yoga pants, spoiling her grandchildren—both two- and four-legged! Also on the top of her list is traveling with her best friend of 45 years.

Thank you, Rhonda. We're grateful for your decades of service and we wish you a happy, well-earned retirement!



MARCH 16-22 Fix a Leak Week

Water leaks in U.S. households can waste a trillion gallons of water each year. Search your house for leaks to fix—don't forget to look around the yard too. You'll save valuable water and money!

Visit ThinkAtTheSink.com for DIY leak repair videos and info about Fix a Leak Week trivia nights and a free plumbing workshop.

When: March 16–22, 2026

Where: Visit ThinkAtTheSink.com for events and giveaways.

Avoid frozen pipes!

Frozen pipes in your house or apartment can cost a lot to repair and leave you without water.

Scan for winter prep tips:



acgov.com/WinterWaterTips



little lily lookout



Little Lily is hidden in this newsletter. Find her for a chance to win a water conservation goodie bag! **Enter by March 15 at acgov.com/LittleLilyLookout**



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706-613-3470

Water Conservation
706-613-3729

To Report a Water Leak
706-613-3495

Emergencies
706-613-3481

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