

## PCWASA recognized for excellence in Public Education

During the yearend Fall Conference of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP), the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) received two awards for outstanding achievement in public education – Best New Media and Best Direct Media – honors received for the quality of the utility’s website and customer newsletter, respectively.

“As a member of GAWP, I can attest that these industry awards are not easy to win,” notes Frank Destadio, Chairman of the Peachtree City Planning Commission who was present when the awards were presented at the PCWASA November Board Meeting. “The Authority should be commended for these accomplishments,” adds Destadio, who is an engineer and Senior Program Manager for CH2M Hill,



Keisha Lisbon Thorpe (left), PCWASA Division Manager of Technical Services, and Stephen Hogan, PCWASA General Manager, accept two Public Education Program Awards from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals during its Fall Conference.

with knowledge of the GAWP Awards Program.

The GAWP Public Education Award for Best New Media judges water and sewer utility websites, social media platforms, blogs, etc. according to the amount of public information addressing key issues that impact the public, especially the utility’s customers.

The Best Direct Media GAWP Public Education Award recognizes the utility with the best newsletter, billing insert, brochure or other collateral material, which likewise provides key educational messages for utility customers or other target audiences.

For more information on the Authority’s GAWP Public Education Program Awards, log onto our award-winning website at [www.pcwasa.org](http://www.pcwasa.org).

## PCWASA selects officers for 2015

To kick off the New Year at its January Board Meeting, the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) elected officers to lead the utility during 2015. Just a few months earlier, the Authority welcomed three new members who filled vacant seats on the six-member policy board.

Bill Holland was selected by his peers to continue service as PCWASA Chairman this year, having first taken the office this past August after the resignations of former Chairman Terry Garlock and former Board Members John Harrell and Cliff Stern. Likewise, Phil Mauler was re-elected as Vice Chairman and John Dufresne as Secretary/Treasurer. Board Members Paul Gagliano and Wes Saunders, along with Alternate Glenn Adams, complete the current slate of Authority Members.

For complete profiles on PCWASA Board Members, check out our website at [www.pcwasa.org](http://www.pcwasa.org).



The PCWASA Board of Directors elected officers to serve in 2015 during the January Authority Meeting. Bill Holland (seated at the head of the table) will continue to serve as Chairman of the Authority, along with Phil Mahler (to his right) as Vice Chairman and John Dufresne (to his left) as Secretary/Treasurer.

## Analysis of RedZone system data nearly complete

### *Rehab of manholes, sewer lines addressed according to priority*

As the PCWASA RedZone YES (Your Entire System) Program nears completion, the utility will be rehabilitating manholes and sewer lines within its system, according to a prioritized maintenance schedule based on the condition of the manhole or sewer line.

PCWASA has rated the condition of each manhole on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 representing a manhole in failing condition and 5 revealing a manhole in excellent condition. No manholes were rated in either of these conditions. Rather, 78 were in poor condition (a rating of 2) and 689 more were in

fair condition (a rating of 3). The majority of manholes (3,237) were in good condition.

During this fiscal year, the Authority has budgeted approximately \$365,000 to rehabilitate all 78 manholes that are in poor condition and another 100 of the 689 that are in fair condition. Over the next few years, PCWASA will be able to rehabilitate all of its existing manholes in need of repair.

With the condition assessment of PCWASA manholes completed, the Authority and its consulting engineers from CH2M Hill will finish similar data analysis for the system’s sewer lines this spring.

**It's a Toilet, not a Trashcan!**

**Please do not flush:**

- Paper Towels
- Wet Wipes
- Cotton Swabs
- Cat Litter
- Facial Tissues
- Rags/Cloths
- Dental Floss
- Tampons



The data collected by the RedZone Solo Unmanned Inspection Robots has been analyzed and the results provide a list of rehab priorities.



## Clean audit opinion reflects strong financial position of PCWASA

During its February Board Meeting, the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) welcomed the annual audit presentation by Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC. The independent auditors provided the results of the FY 2014 Audit, noting PCWASA received a clean audit opinion with no findings, assuring Authority members the utility is in excellent financial position.

“This year’s audit went extremely well and you (PCWASA) once again had no findings, which has been the case for several years now,” says David Irwin, CPA with Mauldin & Jenkins. “As a firm, we audit approximately 250 governments and utilities in the Southeast, and we find that 80 percent of them have findings. For you (PCWASA) to have no findings speaks volumes for the hard work of your staff.”

A clean audit opinion means the financial statements of PCWASA present

fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority. Also, the changes in financial position and cash flows reported for the year (ending Sept. 30, 2014) were in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

According to the report on the FY 2014 Audit, PCWASA has approximately \$43 million in total assets, nearly \$30 million of which are capital assets – the wastewater treatment facilities, pump stations, sewer lines, etc.

Net cash provided by operating activities last year was a little more than \$4.6 million, which includes dollars used for necessary capital projects, or additional system upgrades and improvements. Strong cash flows such as what PCWASA has experienced allow the utility to reinvest in its system without having to borrow money and take on additional long-term debt.



The net cash provided by operating activities, which was a little more than \$4.6 million this past fiscal year, provides dollars for PCWASA to reinvest in its sewer system. Resulting system improvements have included rehab to the Rockaway Plant (above), where basins were cleaned to prepare for the installation of new diffusers.

### Annual Services and Emergency Services Contracts awarded for 2015 projects

To supplement its own construction capabilities and



An example of urgent repairs for the PCWASA system made easier because of the Authority’s Annual Services and Emergency Services Contracts is the rehab work on an 8-inch sewer line at Commerce Drive (above).

expand the number of sewer system rehab projects planned for this year, PCWASA officials have awarded the two winning bids for the utility’s respective Annual Services and Emergency Services Contracts.

During its December meeting, the PCWASA Board of Directors awarded an Annual Services Contract to Crawford Grading & Pipeline for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 this year. In addition, the Authority Board awarded an Emergency Services Contract to RDJE, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$50,000. These two contracts are among the approximately \$1.7 million dollars worth of planned improvements to the PCWASA system and utility operations during FY 2015.

The Annual Services and Emergency Services general contractors provide services at pre-determined, fixed costs, while establishing protocol for the Authority to complete construction projects as needed.

### PCWASA among organizers of the Georgia Model Water Tower Competition

The Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) continued its role as a utility involved in public outreach with its support of the 2014 Georgia Model Water Tower Competition. Authority employees helped organize this statewide engineering challenge for students, held this past October at Woodland Middle School in Stockbridge.

To enter the statewide competition, students must design and construct model water towers with specific height and size requirements from various household items, but they are rewarded for using creative designs and innovative materials. The model water towers are judged based on three criteria, including structural efficiency, hydraulic efficiency, and design ingenuity.

Jessica Grimes of Austin Road Middle School was the overall winner of the event, as a result of her submitting an artistic and operational “minion” water tower. This Competition is sponsored by the Georgia Section of the American Water Works Association (GAWWA) and the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP).

Keisha Lisbon-Thorpe, PCWASA Division Manager of Technical Services, is Co-Chair of the event, while also serving as Vice Chair of GAWWA. Stephen Hogan, PCWASA General Manager, volunteers each year as an advisor for the student competitors.

For the complete feature on the Georgia Model Water Tower Competition, log onto our website at [www.pcwasa.org](http://www.pcwasa.org).



Jessica Grimes of Austin Road Middle School was the winner of the 2014 Georgia Model Water Tower Competition as a result of her construction of a “minion” water tower.

**Please think before you pour grease down the sink!**

You can help us prevent sewer spills and overflows by properly disposing of your household grease.

For more information, check out our website at [www.pcwasa.org](http://www.pcwasa.org).

PEACHTREE CITY  
Water and Sewerage Authority

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice-Chairman  
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Secretary-Treasurer  
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Member  
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Member  
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Glenn Adams