

The Water Council

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For Immediate Release

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Environmental Protection Division**

**Mike Beatty, Commissioner
Department of Community Affairs**

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Hussey Gay Bell DeYoung, Inc.**

**David Bennett, Executive Director
Soil & Water Conservation Commission**

**John Bulloch
State Senator, District 11**

**Noel Holcomb, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources**

**Tommy Irvin, Commissioner
Department of Agriculture**

**Jerry Lane, President
Claxton Poultry**

**Greg Mason, Acting Director
Georgia Environmental Facilities
Authority**

**Tom McCall
State Representative, District 78**

**Lynn Smith
State Representative, District 87**

**Robert Farris, Interim Director
Georgia Forestry Commission**

**Ross Tolleson
State Senator, District 18**

**B. J. Walker, Commissioner
Department of Human Resources**

Town Hall Meetings On Statewide Water Plan To Focus on Water Quality

The Georgia Water Council has scheduled a second series of town hall meetings around the state to discuss the statewide water planning effort and to give citizens an opportunity to ask questions and offer comments on this important project. These meetings will focus on water quality issues and follow a series of meetings last summer, which centered on water quantity concerns. The Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Plan is being developed to help Georgians understand the current demands on water throughout the state and to better manage our water resources in the future.

The Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Planning Act of 2004 formed the Water Council, which consists of legislators, legislative appointees and state agency heads who have water-related responsibilities. The Act requires that the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) develop the Plan, and present it to the Georgia Water Council next July. The Plan will be brought before the General Assembly in 2008.

The town hall meetings schedule is:

- **Thursday, January 18 – Albany – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

Darton College
Division of Continuing Education and Economic Development
Building B 101
2400 Gillionville Road
Albany, GA 31707

- **Saturday, January 20 – Gainesville – 9:30 am to 12:00 pm**

Gainesville State College
Continuing Education Auditorium
Continuing Education Building
3820 Mundy Mill Road
Oakwood, GA 30566

- **Saturday, January 20 – Cumming – 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm**

The Cumming/Forsyth County Chamber of Commerce
212 Kelly Mill Road
Cumming, GA 30040

- **Monday, January 22 – Rome – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

The Forum
2 Government Plaza
Rome, GA 30162

- **Tuesday, January 23 – Columbus – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

Columbus State University
Elizabeth Bradley Turner Center Auditorium
Corner of East Lindsey Drive and College Drive
Columbus, GA 31907

- **Wednesday, January 24 – Athens – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

Georgia Center for Continuing Education
Masters Hall
1197 South Lumpkin Street
Athens, GA 30602

- **Thursday, January 25 – Brunswick – 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

Stellar Conference Center
144 Venture Drive
Brunswick, GA 31525

Each of the meetings starts with an open house to give citizens a chance to discuss the water planning process with Water Council members and their staffs. A presentation on the draft policy recommendation will follow the open house and the meetings will conclude with a public comment period.

Learn more about statewide water planning by visiting the web site at www.gadnr.org/gswp/.

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