

Wastewater Treatment Services

Cobb County

Treatment and collection are the two major components of a wastewater system. Wastewater treatment for the entire county is the responsibility of the CCWS. Collection is handled by the Water System and by the Cities of Marietta, Smyrna, ~~Kennesaw~~, Powder Springs, and Austell. The attached map shows the generalized service areas. ~~A summary reference chart of these service agreements is attached.~~ Other intergovernmental agreements address the System Development Fee, Industrial Pretreatment and High Strength programs. ~~A summary reference chart is attached.~~ The flows from these municipalities, as well as a small portion of Fulton County in the Sandy Springs area, are received by the CCWS interceptor system for transport to treatment facilities. In addition, flows from several Fulton County pumping stations (Morgan Falls, Marsh Creek, Game Creek, and Long Island) are tributary to the Chattahoochee interceptor. Wastewater is also collected from limited portions of Cherokee and Douglas counties, and the City of Atlanta (near U.S. Highway 41 and Interstate 75). The CCWS also performs grease trap inspections and industrial waste monitoring for the entire county. The CCWS has approximately 142,000 146, 400 sewer service customers in unincorporated Cobb County and in the City of Acworth ~~other cities~~.

Cobb County currently maintains approximately 2,200 miles of sewer lines and 35 pump stations. Four wastewater treatment plants are located in Cobb County and are owned and operated by the Water System. The attached maps show treatment plant and drainage basin locations and sub basin locations. The Noonday Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in North Cobb, was permitted in 1996 for 12 million gallons per day (MGD); the Northwest Cobb Wastewater Treatment Plant has a capacity of 8 mgd (6 mgd can be discharged to Lake Allatoona, 2 mgd can be sprayed onto Cobblestone Golf Course); the R. L. Sutton Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in Southeast Cobb, has a capacity of 40 mgd; the South Cobb Wastewater Treatment Plant will have a 1998 capacity of 40 mgd. The CCWS sprays treated wastewater from the Northwest Cobb Treatment Plant onto the county-owned golf course constructed at Lake Acworth.

The CCWS plans to make the following upgrades by the year 2015: South Cobb - 50 mgd; Northwest - 12 mgd; Sutton - 65 mgd; Noonday - 24 mgd. A copy of the CCWS's capital improvement program is included in the appendix. It is important to note the Northwest Plant's upgraded 2015 capacity of 12 mgd, of which 6 mgd may ultimately be discharged into Lake Allatoona. The CCWS has been informed by the Georgia EPD that the 6 mgd into Lake Allatoona is the maximum permissible amount. The remaining 6 mgd could be permitted to spray irrigation.

Only three small areas of Cobb lack access to central sewage treatment: the far northwestern, northeastern, and southwestern corners. By 2010, 95% of the county will have sewer service. The attached map shows areas of the county in which it will be difficult to install sewers because of topography or soil conditions. Some of these areas may never need sewer service since the larger lots could handle septic tanks.

Unless otherwise specified by the individual water and sewer boundary agreements existing between Cobb County and its municipalities; or as may be dictated by other legal instruments/agreements, any extraterritorial water and sewer service extensions shall be agreed upon by both parties and consistent with the respective comprehensive plans.

City of Austell

The Austell Water Department pays Cobb County for sewer disposal. This service is funded by user fees and the Water Fund.

City of Kennesaw

~~The City of Kennesaw currently purchases wastewater treatment from Cobb County. The City has no Water Boundary Agreement with the County and does not foresee entering one in the future. The City services approximately 1/2 of its citizens and maintains the infrastructure for this~~

recovery system. The recovery system is serviced by a department supervisor and a crew of ten who split their time, as needed, between the water and sewer service. The Water Department charges fees for the recovery and sewage treatment and these fees totally support this Enterprise Department. Currently the City charges less per unit of treated water than does the County. Coordination between City and County departments occurs but does not constitute any overlap of authority. The City of Kennesaw purchases wastewater treatment from Cobb County. The City and Cobb County are negotiating the purchase of the City's Water and Sewer System by the County and anticipate public hearings to consider and approve the sale of such system.

City of Marietta

The City of Marietta contracts for purchase of wastewater treatment from the Cobb County Water System. Marietta provides sewer and wastewater collection services in Marietta and in a portion of unincorporated Cobb. For wastewater collected within its wastewater/sewer system the Marietta service area is the existing boundary lines except that Marietta may extend outside that boundary to serve a property in the city which is in the county service area that the county declines to serve.

City of Powder Springs

Powder Springs provides this service within a defined service area. User fees fund the service.

City of Smyrna

Smyrna provides this service per the 2004 agreement. User fees fund the service.