



# HCWA Currents



NEWS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE HENRY COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1 ♦ SPRING 2017

## Henry County Chamber names HCWA as its 2016 Business of the Year

The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) has been recognized as the Henry County Chamber of Commerce's 2016 Business of the Year. The Authority was honored during the Chamber's recent 50th Annual Banquet.

The Business of the Year Award recognizes a local business that stands out among its peers in the business community, as a leading organization both



Lindy Farmer, HCWA General Manager and longest tenured chief executive within the water industry in Georgia, addresses the Henry County Chamber of Commerce after receiving the 2016 Business of the Year Award. Photo provided by Pro Studio.

in its approach to business and in its service to the community. Recipients must demonstrate excellence in overall business operations, including customer service, employee development and employee relations, site aesthetics, marketing, integrity, innovation and community contributions.

The HCWA is the first utility or local Authority to receive the Business of the Year Award. The HCWA is a quasi-governmental entity created by Act of the Georgia General Assembly in 1961, which operates as an autonomous Authority separate from county government. According to the Henry County Chamber, the Authority unquestionably meets and surpasses the requirements for the Business of the Year Award.

"By being recognized as the Chamber of Commerce 2016 Business of the Year, the Henry County Water Authority joins a distinguished group of members of the business community who have demonstrated excellence both in their primary product and in customer service," says David Gill, President and CEO of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce. "We are proud that Henry County's water resources were well managed during one of the highest growth periods in our country's history, while remaining poised to meet the water and sewer needs

of present and future customers for years to come. I join many in congratulating the Water Authority on this well-deserved recognition."

For the complete coverage of the 2016 Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award, check out the news page on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



(Left to Right): Henry County Chamber of Commerce President David Gill, Chamber of Commerce Secretary/Treasurer Sharon Ponder, HCWA General Manager Lindy Farmer, and Chamber of Commerce Past Chairman of the Board Leonard Moreland, following the announcement of the HCWA as the Chamber's 2016 Business of the Year. Photo provided by Pro Studio.

## HCWA Board welcomes two new Members, elects slate of Officers for 2017

The HCWA welcomed two new Board Members and selected a new slate of Officers during its January Meeting, when all five Members were sworn into office by Kelley S. Powell, Probate Judge of Henry County. The Members of the HCWA Board are appointed by their respective Henry County Commissioner to represent each of the county's five Districts.

Locust Grove resident Warren Holder was appointed by newly elected Commissioner Johnny Wilson to represent the citizens in Henry County's District 1 on the HCWA Board. Mr. Holder joins Roslyn Williams, who was appointed by newly elected Commissioner Dee Clemmons to represent the citizens of District 2, as the most recent additions to the Board.

With these two new appointees added to the ranks of the three existing Authority Members, the HCWA Board selected its slate of Officers to serve in leadership roles for 2017. Jimmy Carter again will serve as Chairman of the Authority, alongside Harold Jenkins as Vice Chairman and Carlotta Harrell as Secretary/Treasurer. The Board also requested that Kimberly Turner Osborne continue as Clerk.

For complete bios on all HCWA Board Members, check out the Administration pages on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



Kelley S. Powell (foreground), Probate Judge of Henry County, swears in the Members of the HCWA Board of Directors for their terms in office for 2017. Those HCWA Board Members include (left to right): New Member Warren Holder, Vice-Chairman Harold Jenkins, Chairman Jimmy Carter, Secretary/Treasurer Carlotta Harrell, and New Member Roslyn Williams.

## Save the Dates: Public Education Events at HCWA

This spring, the HCWA will be hosting several public education events for customers, who are invited to celebrate with us these special occasions within the water industry.

### Earth Day – April 22

April 22 is Earth Day, and the HCWA will be hosting a clean-up, while planting trees and vegetables in the community garden, at the Cubihatcha Outdoor Education Center in Locust Grove.



### Authority Fishing Tournament – April 29

On Saturday April 29, beginning at 7:00 a.m., the HCWA will host a Fishing Tournament at the Tussahaw Reservoir, which is open to the public. Come try your hand at reeling in the biggest catch of the day! For more information, email [jeffrey.scott@hcwa.com](mailto:jeffrey.scott@hcwa.com), or call 678-583-3930.

### Tussahaw Plant Open House – April 29

Also on Saturday April 29, the Authority will be hosting an Open House at its award-winning Tussahaw Water Treatment Plant, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learn about the HCWA through presentations from various departments and community partners, and take a tour of the award-winning Tussahaw Water Treatment Plant and Laboratory. For more information, email [meredith.mcclendon@hcwa.com](mailto:meredith.mcclendon@hcwa.com), or call 678-583-3902.



### Drinking Water Week – May 7-13

"Your water: to know it is to love it." That's the theme of this year's national Drinking Water Week, this coming May 7-13, as recognized by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) for more than 35 years. The reason? To provide an opportunity for water professionals and the communities they serve to unite in raising awareness of the vital role water plays in our daily lives.

For more details to come on these public education events at Henry County Water, check out our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

# Second Front

## HCWA celebrates top water and sewer system awards

The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) celebrated the New Year as one of the most decorated water and sewer utilities in Georgia.

During the final industry conference of 2016 – the Fall Conference and Expo of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) – the HCWA won both the Wastewater Collection System Platinum Award and the Water Distribution System Gold Award. The Authority was one of only five utilities in Georgia to win both industry awards this past year.

The Collection System Platinum Award

recognizes a sewer system for attaining a grade of 95% or higher for five consecutive years on the annual audit of its operations.

The HCWA received the GAWP Distribution System Gold Award for attaining a grade of 95% or higher for the 2016 annual review of its water operations.

During the GAWP 2016 Fall Conference, the HCWA also received the Consumer Confidence Report Award for the design of its annual Water Quality Report.

For complete coverage of the most recent HCWA industry awards, check out the news archives on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



HCWA Manager of Sewer Line Maintenance Jim Brinkman (middle left) and HCWA Manager of Water & Sewer Operations Roy Sanders (middle right) receive the 2016 GAWP Wastewater Collection System Platinum Award on behalf of the HCWA.

## Fishing Season runs from March 1 – Nov. 29

The HCWA 2017 fishing season runs from March 1 through the end of November. The HCWA Tussahaw and Upper Towaliga are the featured reservoirs that will be open for public fishing during the 2017 season.

Public access to these two reservoirs during this year's fishing season will be available on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. However, the reservoirs will be closed for fishing and boating on Sunday, April 16, 2017 and on Sunday, May 14, 2017.

To access HCWA reservoirs, citizens must have a Reservoir Use Permit, which is available for \$45 at the HCWA headquarters to any HCWA customer, Henry County resident or property owner. Permits are valid for one calendar year from the date of purchase. This HCWA permit provides access for fishing, boating (with non-gas motors), canoeing and kayaking, for the permit holder and one guest (who may be admitted free).

For more information on public fishing at HCWA reservoirs, check out the Recreation/Fishing and Boating page on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



The 2017 Fishing Season runs from March 1 until the end of November, when two HCWA reservoirs will be open on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## Drought Response Now at Level 1

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has reduced the Drought Response for Henry County from a previous Level 2 to a current Level 1.

As a result, HCWA customers may water outdoor landscapes daily, but only before 10:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m.

Updates/changes and more details regarding the current outdoor water use schedule are available online at:

[www.epd.georgia.gov/water-conservation](http://www.epd.georgia.gov/water-conservation).

## Finding and Fixing Leaks Can Save You Money

Finding and fixing water leaks at your home can save you money on your monthly water bill.

For example, a dripping shower can waste more than 500 gallons per year, while a leaky faucet can waste 3,000 gallons annually. Homeowners can save 10% on their water bill by fixing household leaks.

- ☞ Check your meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is running, and if the meter changes, you likely have a leak.

- ☞ A family of four should average about 12,000 gallons of use per month.

- ☞ Repair leaks by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and replace them as needed.

- ☞ Replace older toilets with WaterSense labeled models.

- ☞ Most leaky showerheads can be fixed by tightening the connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem, using pipe tape as needed.

For more information, check out EPA WaterSense resources online at <https://epa.gov/watersense>.



The water industry, through the U.S. EPA WaterSense Program, recognizes national Fix-A-Leak Week during the month of March. This spring is the ideal time for HCWA customers to find and fix indoor and outdoor water leaks to save water and money.

## Sierra Riley wins Henry County Essay Contest

Why is water conservation important? Metro Atlanta middle school students were asked to research and write about this topic as participants in the 2016 Middle School Essay Contest of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.

Sierra Riley, an eighth grader at Woodland Middle School, was selected as the Henry County winner of this year's Metro Water District Essay Contest. Riley was among the winners from 15 counties, as well as the City of Atlanta, recognized at the Georgia State Capitol in December for their outstanding essays.

The annual contest challenges middle school students to think critically about protecting and conserving water resources in the metro Atlanta region. This year marked the 15th annual Metro Water District Essay Contest.



Sierra Riley, an eighth-grade student at Woodland Middle School, was selected as the 2016 Henry County winner of the Metro Water District's Essay Contest. She was recognized at the State Capitol in December.

## ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP

Jimmy Carter  
Harold Jenkins  
Carlotta Harrell  
Warren Holder  
Roslyn Williams

Chairman  
Vice Chairman  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Member  
Member

Lindy D. Farmer, Jr.  
General Manager  
Kimberly Turner  
Osborne  
Clerk

Henry County Water Authority  
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