

winter 2025

INSIDE:

Recent Retirees
2024 Snapshot
Fix A Leak Week
and Spring Events



water SOURCE



2024 ACC PUBLIC UTILITIES WATER CONSERVATION OFFICE OUTREACH

flowing to our community

2024 was a busy year for the Public Utilities Department (PUD). Through events, education, and giveaways of water conservation gear, the Water Conservation Office reached thousands of adults and kids and helped save more than a million gallons of water!

241
classroom & camp visits
reaching 390 adults and 4,410 kids



Little Lily hopped to 49 elementary school classrooms.



Hosted
84
water facility tours
for 735 adults and 710 kids

Tours made a splash in 2024! The Cedar Creek Reclamation Facility Valentine tour alone had 28 attendees with another 22 on the waitlist.



The "We Love Your Waste" video reached 7,630 views on YouTube in 2024.

From original videos to water quality posts, friending Lily Anne Phibian (our water conservation spokes-frog) gives you access to important water information. Join hundreds of other followers by connecting at:

- facebook.com/lilyanne.phibian
- x.com/AccWaterWarrior
- instagram.com/lilyannephibian
- youtube.com/@lilyannephibian

congrats retirees!

Congratulations to three retiring Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department employees, who together have **served the ACC community for 109 years!**

Michelle Stroud, Raymond Parrott, and Valerie Haynes have been a part of this department's foundation, and will be greatly missed. We wish them happy and fulfilling retirements!

Michelle Stroud worked in the Water Business Office for 40 years. She began as a cashier and assumed various roles in her tenure. For the last 20 years as the Administrator, she managed all office operations such as meter reading, billing, collections, and customer service. Regardless of the role, she always enjoyed the opportunity to educate customers about what it takes to turn river water into clean drinking water.

Raymond Parrott began reading water meters for the Water Business Office in 1993 and after 15 years was promoted to Field Service Supervisor in 2008. Prior to his retirement, his time was spent coordinating daily field service work orders, investigating high water bills, initiating or terminating service at homes, and responding to customer needs.

Valerie Haynes began working with the Water Business Office as an administrative assistant in 1986 and was promoted to Operations Coordinator in 2017. In this role, she ensured the Water Business Office ran efficiently from staffing to operations. Valerie worked in the Water Business Office for 38 years, and says her favorite part of the job was helping resolve issues for customers.

Thank you to these amazing retirees. We appreciate your contributions to PUD and ACC. We commend your hard work and dedication, and wish you the best in your well-deserved retirement!



*Thank you
for your service!*

Left to right:
Michelle Stroud,
Raymond Parrott,
Valerie Haynes

PUD kept water conservation outreach flowing with events like the Athens Water Festival, career days at local elementary schools, plumbing workshops and even a Dive into Healthier Holidays Cooking Class. Thanks for joining us this year! We can't wait to make a splash in 2025! If you're interested in participating or partnering with us on outreach, email savewater@accgov.com.

68 Attended or hosted **community events** reaching 5,326 adults and 3,742 kids
Hosted **12** **presentations & workshops** reaching 275 adults

Over **1.4 million gallons of water** saved by customers switching to these WaterSense labeled products distributed by the PUD:

391 Showerheads **340** Spray Nozzles

586 Faucet Aerators

In 2024, the PUD also distributed:

396 Moisture Meters

4,341 Toilet Tablets

A leaky toilet can waste up to 200 gallons per day! Check your toilet for leaks with toilet tablets.



Georgia Association of Water Professionals Education Program of Excellence Award

Georgia Association of Water Professionals Best Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in the Large Surface Water category

2024 WaterSense Sustained Excellence Award



AWARDS

h2o events



FEB
13 & 14

VALENTINE'S TOUR

We put the "2" in H2O on this one-of-a-kind Valentine tour! See microorganisms cuddle, molecules canoodle and the romance of reclamation. FREE!

When: February 13, 4:00–5:30 PM or February 14, 1:30–3:00 PM

Where: Middle Oconee Water Reclamation Facility

Register: ThinkAtTheSink.com



**Meet Us
IN THE LOBBY**

Visit with Water Conservation staff. Each month will feature a new theme so stop by for giveaways and to learn about the resources available to save water. Staff will be on-hand to answer questions about your water.

FEB 28



PRE-K-12: ENTER YOUR ART!

Create a painting, drawing, sculpture, take a photograph, or write a poem to illustrate nature and sustainability in Athens. The 2025 theme is *"Athens Through Our Eyes."*

Entries Due: February 28, 5:00 PM

Where: Exhibition will be displayed at the Lyndon House Arts Center during the month of April.

Details & Application:
accgov.com/GreenLife

MAR 7



AWARD NOMINATIONS

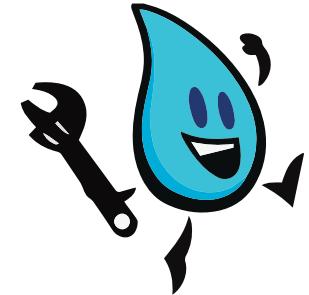
Know of an Athens-Clarke County resident, business, or group committed to protecting water through conservation? Nominate them for a Water Conservation Leadership Award!

Nomination Due: Friday, March 7, 2025

Where: The award will be presented at the Green Life Awards Ceremony in April at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.

Details & Application: ThinkAtTheSink.com

MAR
17–23



FIX A LEAK WEEK

Save valuable water and money! Hunt down and fix leaks inside and outside your home. Choose WaterSense labeled products to save even more water and money.

American household leaks waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water every year.

When: March 17–23, 2025

Where: Visit ThinkAtTheSink.com for events, giveaways and DIY leak repair videos.



When: First Tuesday of the month (Feb 4, Mar 4, etc.), 9:00 AM–12:00 PM. No appointment needed.

Where: 124 East Hancock Ave, Athens, GA 30601

Avoid frozen pipes!



For more, scan or:
visit accgov.com/WinterWaterTips

Before cold weather

- Drain and shut off outdoor hoses and irrigation.
- Insulate pipes with sleeves or insulation.
- Locate your main water valve to ensure you can turn it off if needed.
- Seal crawl spaces and holes; protect all pipes from outdoor air.

If temps dip below 32° F

- Open cabinet/vanity doors to warm pipes.
- Keep your thermostat at 55°F or higher.
- Let faucets drip slightly to keep water moving.

If pipes freeze

- Shut off the main water valve immediately.
- Thaw pipes slowly using a blow dryer or space heater (never an open flame).
- Once thawed, turn water back on gradually and inspect for leaks.

Faucet cover giveaway! This February – while supplies last – pick up a free, exterior, cold-weather faucet protector at the Water Conservation Office at 124 E. Hancock Avenue, second floor.



**little lily
lookout**

Little Lily is hidden in this newsletter, can you find her? Enter and you'll have a chance to win a water conservation goodie bag. Enter by March 15 at accgov.com/LittleLilyLookout.



accgov.com/publicutilities

ThinkAtTheSink.com

facebook.com/accpublicutilities

facebook.com/lilyanne.phibian

x.com/AccWaterWarrior

instagram.com/lilyannephibian

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Water Bill Questions
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Administration
706-613-3470

Water Conservation
706-613-3729

To Report a Water Leak
706-613-3495

Emergencies
706-613-3481

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