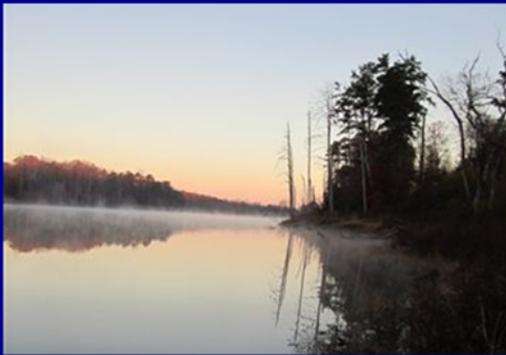


What benefits will I receive?

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The funds received will be used to:

- Maintain the drainage system to provide cleaner water in our streams and creeks.
- Construct drainage improvement projects to reduce flooding.
- Implement the City's Watershed Protection Plan and Floodplain Management Program



City of Cornelia GA

P.O. Box 785, Cornelia, GA 30531

Stormwater Management Program

Protecting Water Resources





What is Stormwater?

Stormwater runoff is the water that flows over the land when it rains. The water flows into gutters, storm sewers, and drainage ditches that empty into our local creeks and streams and ultimately discharge to the Chattahoochee River.

Impervious areas (areas that cannot absorb rainfall such as rooftops, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, etc.) are the single most important factor influencing stormwater runoff. Development replaces natural ground surfaces with impervious surfaces, causing more stormwater to run off the land rather than soaking into the soil, resulting in increased stream flows and potential flooding. Impervious areas also contribute pollutants that are eventually carried into our rivers via stormwater runoff.

The City of Cornelia is responsible for the management of the public storm sewer system, which is composed of catch basins, inlets, storm pipes, and ditches, and all of which must be maintained by the City to ensure they function properly when it rains.

Stormwater Regulation

The City of Cornelia's current and future Stormwater Management Program is subject to certain regulatory requirements overseen by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and other agencies. Currently, the City's existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Wastewater Discharge Permit has specific requirements related to stormwater and watershed management that are conditional to the permit. These requirements include implementation of specific compliance elements related to the non-point source pollution prevention within the sanitary sewer service area.



Stormwater Management

The City of Cornelia has evaluated its stormwater program and developed a plan to enhance delivery of stormwater services and reduce flooding over time to better serve the City's citizens, businesses, and property owners. The City plan includes:

- Proactive maintenance of the storm sewer drainage system.
- \$13 million of capital projects to address flooding.
- Expansion of the floodplain management program.

Paying for Stormwater Service

The City of Cornelia requires additional resources to better address the City's stormwater needs, meet customer demands, and comply with the unfunded federal and state regulatory compliance mandates.

The City is considering implementation of a Stormwater Utility for properties within the City limits to more effectively fund the stormwater management program through a system of user fees that will be dedicated solely to addressing stormwater management and drainage issues. If the City implements a Stormwater Utility to fund the stormwater program, a stormwater user fee will be charged to all developed properties within the City based on the amount of impervious surface on the parcel. The City believes that this is a more equitable method for funding stormwater services, since all developed properties will pay their fair share for stormwater services received.

Contact Us

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