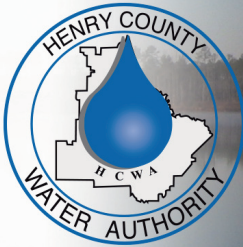


IN-186307-HCWA



# HCWA Currents



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

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4 ♦ YEAR END 2021

## HCWA General Manager Lindy Farmer retiring after 40 years Deputy Manager Tony Carnell to lead the Authority beginning Jan. 1

The longest tenured chief executive in the state of Georgia's water industry has announced his retirement. HCWA General Manager Lindy Farmer will complete his distinguished 40-year career leading the utility at the end of the year.

As a result, the HCWA Board has promoted Deputy Manager Tony Carnell to take the reins of the utility on Jan. 1, 2022. Carnell is a Henry County native who will serve as the Authority's first African American General Manager — an historic event as the HCWA celebrated its 60th Anniversary in 2021.

Farmer joined the HCWA as its first formally designated General Manager in 1982. He is a Life Member of both the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) and the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

Under Farmer's leadership, the Authority has



Lindy Farmer



Tony Carnell

won numerous facility and system awards, including Plant of the Year on at least one occasion for every one of the utility's Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities. In addition, the HCWA is a multiple GAWP Water Distribution and Sewer Collection System of Excellence Award winner.

Tony Carnell has 27 years of experience at the HCWA, beginning as an Engineering Technician in 1995, and then advancing to staff Engineer before becoming the Manager of Engineering until 2006, when he was promoted to Division Manager. He served as the head of the Engineering Division until advancing to Deputy Manager under Farmer in 2014.

For the complete feature on Mr. Farmer's retirement and Mr. Carnell's promotion, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

## HCWA Continues Partnership with Southern Crescent Technical College Authority recruiting future water and wastewater plant operators

The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) is continuing its partnership with Southern Crescent Technical College (SCTC) in hopes of recruiting future water and wastewater plant operators through enrollment in the Water Quality Technician Certification Program.

The SCTC Water Quality Technician Certification Program includes four courses totaling 12 credit hours. The Authority's own Sheila Kern is the Instructor of the Program's courses at SCTC in 2022.

The courses that make up the Water Quality Technician Certification Program include: ESCI 1010, which is Occupational Safety & Health Regulations; ESCI 1120, which is Water Treatment Processes; ESCI 1140, which is titled Wastewater Treatment, and ESCI 1260, which is titled Water Supply.

Once students complete the four courses, they will be prepared to take the state exam for the Water or Wastewater Class 3 License. After passing the state exam, students then need at least three months of on-the-job training to complete certification.

For more information on the SCTC Water Quality Technician Certification Program, potential students can contact Instructor Sheila Kern at 770-914-4431 or [sheila.kern@sctech.edu](mailto:sheila.kern@sctech.edu).



Sheila Kern (far right, front), HCWA Class 1 Operator at the Tussahaw Water Treatment Plant, will be the Instructor for the Water Quality Technician Certification Program at Southern Crescent Technical College for Spring and Summer Semesters in 2022.

## Are You at Risk of Losing Your Home?

If you are at risk of losing your home, the Henry County Department of Community Development can help!

While the COVID-19 Forbearance (funding assistance) is ending, you have options to save your home!

There is help you can contact today:

Cassie Chappelle Stanley, Branch Manager  
NID GEORGIA-HCA  
A HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency  
Phone: 678-735-6550  
Email: [nidgeorgia@gmail.com](mailto:nidgeorgia@gmail.com)

For additional information, please visit <https://www.henry.ga.us/Departments/A-C/Community-Development>.



## HCWA Joins "Convoy of Care" to Provide Hurricane Relief

As people in Louisiana and across the Gulf Coast were recovering from flooding, property damage, and power outage as a result of the double dose of natural disasters in Hurricane Ida and Tropical Storm Nicholas in September, the Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) joined many local organizations and citizens who stepped up to help.

With Henry County District 4 Commissioner Vivian Thomas and the Georgia Chapter of NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives) leading the way, a steady stream of Henry County citizens and area youth made their way to J.P. Moseley Park in Stockbridge, with much-needed supplies for those impacted by these natural disasters.

The HCWA joined the relief efforts along with like-minded organizations that included: The Serving Project, Urban Air McDonough Adventure Park, Women Igniting Social Change (WISC), TeamHOPE (Helping Others Pursue Excellence), the Henry



HCWA Vice-Chair Sandra Rozier (second from left) and her daughter Mary (far left) joined Authority employees (left to right) Scott Harrison, Alton Head, and Johnny Basler in efforts to provide assistance for residents in Louisiana. Not pictured: HCWA General Manager Lindy Farmer and Water Production Manager Eric Osborne, who also helped with the hurricane relief efforts.

County Sheriff's Office and the Henry County Police Department.

HCWA Vice Chair Sandra Rozier, HCWA General Manager Lindy Farmer, Division Manager Scott Harrison, Water Production Manager Eric Osborne, and other staff from the utility made contributions and helped pack items for shipment. Alton Head, HCWA Customer Service Field Technician, helped to organize the relief efforts on behalf of the Authority.

According to officials, the charitable assistance and donations by local residents at the Henry County site filled three truck/tractor-trailer loads of supplies that arrived in Louisiana two days later. Henry County was one of four locations across the metro area accepting donations that day. Collectively, nine total truck/trailer loads full of goods headed west in the "Convoy of Care."

For the complete feature on HCWA Hurricane Relief Efforts, including a photo gallery from the "Convoy of Care," please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



# Second Front

## HCWA Customers Have Many Convenient Payment Options

From your home to our headquarters, HCWA customers have many convenient options for paying their monthly bill.

When visiting the HCWA headquarters during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., customers can pay inside or by using one of our two drive-thru lanes. HCWA customer service reps also are available by phone by calling our main office number at 770-957-6659, which has a “payments only” dedicated line.

HCWA customers can also pay their bill after hours or from the convenience of their own home. We have a night-drop depository located beside our drive-thru lanes, or you can use our Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system by calling 404-341-9689, or toll-free at 1-855-985-1136.

We also offer means for paying your bill electronically. From our website, you can access your account via our online portal, where you can sign up for e-bill service (paperless billing), pay-by-text, use our auto-pay feature, or take advantage of the direct/bill pay service offered by your financial institution.

HCWA customers also can make a one-time payment through our Invoice Cloud payment options, which includes new payment apps such as Apple Pay, Google Pay, and e-check, as well as VISA or Mastercard.

If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance to help pay a water/sewer bill, please visit our website ([www.hcwa.com/customer-care/financial-assistance.cms](http://www.hcwa.com/customer-care/financial-assistance.cms)) for additional information, or contact a customer service representative at 770-957-6659.

## HCWA Announces Annual Art Contest Winners *Local students Imagine A Day Without Water*

The HCWA hosted its annual Art Contest to recognize the industry’s “Imagine A Day Without Water” event on Oct. 21, in order to raise awareness of the value of water, the essential and invaluable nature of public drinking water, as well as the importance of investments in water systems and utility infrastructure.

The winners of this year’s Art Contest include:

- Allie Kate Williams, a 2nd grade student of Julie Toms at New Hope Elementary School, in the K-2nd grade age group.
- Reise Hebert, a 5th grade student of Katie Ireland at East Lake Elementary School, in the 3rd-5th grade age group.
- Tori Jackson, a 6th grade student of Cindy Carmack at the Impact Academy, in the 6th-8th grade age group.
- Syniah Charles, a 10th grade student of Melissa Woods at the Impact Academy, in the 9th-12th grade age group.
- Maci Bartley, a 5th grade student of Katie Ireland at East Lake Elementary School, as the “People’s Choice Award” winner.
- Angie Sorby, a teacher at Locust Grove Elementary School, as the winner of a special drawing for teachers who encouraged the most participants in the Art Contest.

The compete feature and photo gallery from the HCWA Imagine A Day Without Water Art Contest are available on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



Reise Hebert (left) and Maci Bartley, the 3rd-5th grade and People’s Choice Award Winners, respectively.

## HCWA Hunting Season Features Two Youth Hunts and a Veteran’s Hunt

The HCWA hosted another successful Hunting Season with three hunts this year, after having to cancel these events last year due to the pandemic.

The HCWA 2021 Hunting Season included two Youth Deer Hunts — on Saturday Oct. 23, and Saturday Nov. 6 — as well as a Veteran’s Hunt on Saturday Nov. 20.

Only the kids are allowed to hunt at the two HCWA Youth Deer Hunt events, but the Veteran’s Hunt celebrates the Veteran’s Day Holiday (Nov. 11) by hosting hunters who have served in the military. All participants are drawn through a blind lottery of this season’s applicants.

While the HCWA Hunting Season offers a popular means of outdoor recreation for Henry County residents, property owners and HCWA customers, the events serve a regulatory and conservation purpose as well.

The Authority’s Land Management Office oversees

more than 8,000 acres of protected green space, with a large portion of that including the treated wastewater spray fields, such as the Walnut Creek Land Application System (LAS) facility, which was the site of the Youth Hunts.

The HCWA Hunting Season helps to manage the deer population to keep the natural habitat healthy, under the watchful eye of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, who oversees the hunts on HCWA property.

The HCWA provides blinds, transportation to and from, and lunch between the morning and afternoon hunts on the respective days. Southside Sportsman once again served as premier sponsor.

For more information on HCWA hunting and fishing, in addition to a photo gallery from this year’s first Youth Deer Hunt, please visit the HCWA website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

## HCWA Joins Stormwater Management for Rivers Alive

The HCWA and Henry County Stormwater Management joined forces with other local volunteers to host Henry County Rivers Alive on Saturday, Nov. 13.

The annual river cleanup took place at a location off of East Lake Parkway in McDonough that had been used as a “dumping site,” according to Authority officials. Thanks to the efforts of 18 volunteers, this year’s Henry County Rivers Alive eliminated more than 3.5 tons of trash, as well as an additional 4.29 tons of tires (more than 300 total) to be recycled.



Employees from the HCWA and Henry County Stormwater Management joined other volunteers to clean a site off of East Lake Parkway in McDonough during this year’s Henry County Rivers Alive cleanup.

Henry County Rivers Alive is an official event of the Georgia Rivers Alive Campaign. Its mission is to create awareness of and involvement in the preservation of Georgia’s water resources.

For the complete feature on Henry County Rivers Alive, including a photo gallery from this year’s event, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



(L to R) Stephen, Madisyn, Addisyn, and Tiffany Dobbs enjoy this season’s first HCWA Youth Deer Hunt together as a family. The parents accompanied their daughters in this special event where only the youth are allowed to hunt the HCWA Walnut Creek property.

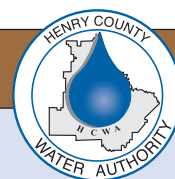
## ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP

Cletonya Stidom  
Sandra Rozier  
Siddiqi Gibson  
Jimmy Carter  
Warren Holder  
Fred Mays

Chair  
Vice Chair  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Member  
Member  
Member

Tony Carnell  
General Manager

Kimberly Turner  
Osborne  
Clerk



Henry County Water Authority  
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