HCWA CURRENTS

Volume 22, Issue 4 Fall/YearEnd 2022



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

Edición en español disponible en línea en <u>hcwa.com</u>

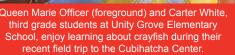
OVER 3,000 "CUBIHATCHA KIDS" ENJOY ANNUAL FIELD TRIP

Over the course of a two-week period in September, the HCWA hosted 3,216 third graders – or "Cubihatcha Kids" – and 126 teachers from Henry County Public Schools for field trips featuring outdoor classes taught by volunteer faculty.

Those organizations teaching or contributing to the success of the 17th annual field trips included: the HCWA, Board of Education, Henry County and Locust Grove Stormwater Management, Henry County 4-H and Master Gardeners, Central Georgia and Snapping Shoals EMC, Helping in His Name Ministries, the Georgia Forestry Commission, UGA's Warnell School, the Georgia Farm Bureau, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and Henry County Community Garden.

For the complete feature on the Cubihatcha Kids, as well as a photo gallery from this year's event, please visit our website at www.hcwa.com.







HCWA
Naturalist Jeff
Scott teaches
Henry County
third graders
about local
wildlife
habitat
during the
17th annual
"Cubihatcha
Kids" field

HUNTING SEASON A HIT AMONG YOUTH, VETERANS

The HCWA 2022 Hunting Season concluded with three successful public hunts this fall – two Youth Hunts on Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, followed by a Veteran's Hunt on Nov. 19. The hunts took place on the Authority's Walnut Creek Land Application System (LAS) property, where nearly 1,000 acres are used for the spray irrigation of treated wastewater – providing an ideal habitat for deer and other wildlife.

Hunters must be a Henry County resident, property owner, or HCWA customer, and each participant is selected via a lottery among applicants for the three respective hunts. This year's sponsors included Southside Sportsman Association, Hilsman Deer Cooler, Smurfette's Creations, and Food Depot.

For the complete feature on the 2022 HCWA Hunting Season, as well as a photo gallery, please visit our website at www.hcwa.com.



Participants in the first Youth Hunt of the 2022 HCWA Hunting Season enjoyed the day outdoors hunting on the Authority's Walnut Creek LAS property. In all, the HCWA hosted three successful hunts for the public.

HCWA JOINS BIDNET DIRECT'S GEORGIA PURCHASING GROUP

To attract a more diverse and comprehensive group of vendors and suppliers of goods and services, the HCWA has joined the Georgia Purchasing Group – a regional purchasing group that helps local governments and authorities post, distribute, and manage Requests for Proposals (RFPs), quotes, addendums and bid awards online.

In addition to joining Bidnet Direct's Georgia Purchasing Group, the HCWA has hosted supplier conferences to recruit additional local vendors to the fold. The HCWA Board of Directors also adopted three resolutions last year specifically targeting small businesses in and around Henry County, including those that are Local and Small Business Enterprises (LSE), Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE), Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (WBE).

Finally, the HCWA has benefitted greatly from its membership in the Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council (GMSDC).

The HCWA welcomes all potential suppliers or vendors to contact the Authority at 678-583-2496, or register online at www.bidnetdirect.com/georgia/henrycountywaterauthority for opportunities to do business with us.

HCWA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF GEORGIA MODEL WATER TOWER COMPETITION

The HCWA hosted Henry County Middle School students for the Georgia Model Water Tower Competition regional event in November at the utility's Tussahaw Water Treatment Plant.

The winners of this year's competition included:

- First Place the "Aquatica" water tower by Trinity Yates, Diana Guaderrama, and Maya Bailey, students of Dawn Parker at Hampton Middle School.
- Second Place the "Mr. Jaws" water tower by Auden Ing, a student of Misty Givens at Woodland Middle School.
- Third Place "The Adams Ale" water tower by Serenity Guth and Hannah Ramos, students of Dawn Parker at Hampton Middle School.
- Best Presentation/Judge's Award the "Disco Inferno" water tower by Essence Bobo, a student of Dawn Parker at Hampton Middle School.
- Best Engineering Design the "Plummer Twins" water tower by Yamiina and Yazmin Plummer, students of Misty Givens at Woodland Middle School.
- Most Artistic the "Up" water tower by Carter Ivey, a student of Christy Collier at Locust Grove Middle School.

For the first time in the 10-year history of the event, first- and second-place winners from all nine regions will compete at the finals of the Georgia Model Water Tower Competition, to be held in Buford on April 29, 2023.

A special thank you goes out to Colby Still and Scott McCrary of Consolidated Pipe, who served as sponsors of the event by donating supplies for use during the Competition.

For the complete feature and photo gallery from this year's Henry County, Georgia Model Water Tower Competition, please visit our website at www.hcwa.com.



Hampton Middle School students Diana Guaderrama (left) and Maya Bailey (right), along with teammate Trinity Yates (not pictured), constructed the "Aquatica" water tower, which won first place in the Henry County, Georgia Model Water Tower Competition.



Henry County Middle School students present their model water towers for judging by HCWA staff.

HENRY COUNTY RIVERS ALIVE COLLECTS 1.59 TONS OF TRASH

With more than 40 Rivers Alive cleanups taking place across Georgia this fall, HCWA and Henry County Stormwater employees did their part by hosting the annual Henry County Rivers Alive Cleanup recently, at a "dumping" site on Lester Mill Road.

Rivers Alive is Georgia's annual waterway cleanup, with a mission to create awareness of and involvement in the preservation of Georgia's water resources.

The location of this year's Henry County Rivers Alive cleanup was near the HCWA's Gardner and Long Branch Reservoirs, increasing the importance of keeping this site clean for the sake of drinking water quality.

The 20 volunteers who came out for Henry County Rivers Alive were able to collect 1.59 tons of trash, while disposing of nearly 100 tires.

If you are interested in volunteering for future cleanups or would like to help preserve our water resources, please contact the Authority's Lindsey Sanders at 678-583-3809 or lindsey.sanders@hcwa.com for more information. And for the complete feature on the 2022 Henry County Rivers Alive, including a photo gallery from the cleanup, please visit our website at www.hcwa.com.

Front to Back:
HCWA employees
Todd Brackin
(foreground),
Lindsey Sanders,
Angie Cash, and
Allan Branan
clean a site
located near two
HCWA reservoirs.





Bill Banks, HCWA Project Manager-CIP, empties a loader with tires, trash, and debris during this year's Henry County Rivers Alive cleanup.

HCWA WINS HANDS OF HOPE CHARITY KICKBALL TOURNAMENT CROWN

HCWA Employees won the inaugural Hands of Hope Kickin' It Charity Kickball Tournament Championship – and the bragging rights that come with it – while helping to raise \$25,000 for the Clinic in the process.

The 2022 Hands of Hope Kickball Tournament field included teams from:

- The HCWA
- Board of Education
- Henry County Government
- Henry County Public Safety
- Henry County Judicial Team
- Henry County Sheriff's Office
- City of Locust Grove
- Piedmont Henry Hospital
- Piedmont Henry Security Team
- Stockbridge City Council
- Stockbridge Police
- · The Women's Center



Laquez Freemon (far right) makes a play during the Hands of Hope Kickball Tournament.

The Hands of Hope Clinic provides uninsured and underserved citizens with exceptional medical, dental, and mental health care, says Amanda Reeves, Executive Director.

Stockbridge City Councilwoman Yolanda Barber says her idea for a fun, unique Kickball Tournament fundraiser was to raise money and awareness of a critical asset in the community. The event was held in partnership with her office, the City of Stockbridge, and Henry County Government, to benefit the Hands of Hope Clinic.

For the complete feature on the Kickball Tournament, as well as a photo gallery, please visit our website at www.hcwa.com.



The Hands of Hope Kickball Tournament Championship HCWA Team included (left to right): Rylan Dodson, Tyler Sellers, Taylor Harvey, Dustin Powell, Laquez Freemon, Ronny Powell, Brock Biles, David Farmer (kneeling), Tony Carnell, Michael Dodson (kneeling), Spencer Lauderdale, and Tara Brown.

PUBLIC OUTREACH REFLECTS HCWA COMMITMENT TO CUSTOMERS AND THE COMMUNITY

The HCWA has been active recently in public outreach and education, reflecting its commitment to customers and the community.

HCWA Employees Spread Holiday Cheer

Happy Holidays from the Henry County Water Authority! During this holiday season, we have been spreading holiday cheer by helping those in need. The IT Department has been collecting gift cards approaching \$1,000 to distribute to Foster Families, with the help of Relevant Foster Care Ministry. The Engineering Department is participating in the Adopt a Senior Program, while also donating calculators for the non-profit ministry "Patrick's Kids." The Billing Department has adopted a child for Christmas, while HR is providing Christmas gifts for teens residing in A Friend's House. Finally, many HCWA employees are participating in Operation Lunch Box, which provides meals to local students who are food-challenged.

Winterization Tips

Winterization Tips can help you save water and money on your monthly bill by preventing pipe bursts or water line leaks due to frozen pipes. With winter weather upon us, remember to wrap exposed pipes and drain outdoor spigots, water lines and irrigation systems to prevent them from freezing. For more winterization tips, please check out the Community & Education section of our website at www.hcwa.com.

Help Us in the Fight Against FOG (fats, oils and grease)

While you are enjoying home cooked meals, especially during the holiday season, please remember to "think, before pouring grease down the sink." Approximately half of sewer spills and overflows are caused by grease. When grease is poured down the drain, it can clog your home's plumbing and our sewer lines. So, please do not pour grease down your sink. Instead, let it cool and pour it into a container to throw in the trash. And please wipe plates and dishes clean before washing. For more information, check out the "Keep FOG Out of the Drain" page within the Community & Education tab on our website at www.hcwa.com.

Community Service Day

HCWA staff also have participated in several Community Service Days this year, most recently in the one hosted by District 4 Henry County Commissioner Vivian Thomas on Oct. 8, to honor First Responders and Essential Workers. The event held at J.P. Moseley Park featured vendors and service providers such as the HCWA educating the public about their work.



(L to R): Lindsey Sanders, HCWA Board Vice-Chair Sandra Rozier, and Temika Moore participate in the Community Service Day hosted by District 4 Henry County Commissioner Vivian Thomas.

ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP Cletonya LaGrand Sandra Rozier Siddiqa Gibson Jimmy Carter Warren Holder Fred Mays

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Kimberly Turner Osborne

Karen Lake-ThompsonDeputy Clerk



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WATER AUTHORITY

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