



CURRENTS



PARDON OUR DUST: MWA LOBBY RELOCATING DURING CONSTRUCTION

We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion that has been caused by the construction ongoing at the Albert Billingslea Administrative Building. But remember, this construction is designed to improve the MWA customer experience and make doing business with us more convenient and comfortable for you.

From Sept. 12 until at least the end of October, the lobby and main entrance of the Albert Billingslea Administrative Building will relocate to another part of the first floor temporarily until construction in that area is completed. During this time, customers can park in the spaces next to Pine Street Lane, and the doors will be

opened on the Sallyport (the encased, controlled vehicle entrance adjacent to our drive-thru) for vehicles to exit through and onto Second Street. We will assist with traffic and getting customers across the two drive-thru lanes to the New Entry.

During Main Entrance/Lobby construction, our Customer Service Department will relocate to a temporary space in the Elevator Lobby area. Transactions will be handled through the two remote drive-thru lanes, much like we did when we closed the lobby and restricted transactions to the drive-thru during the Pandemic.

Customer and employee safety is our top priority. Thus, with construction continuing

at our Second Street Headquarters, you may want to consider other convenient means for paying your monthly MWA bill, such as our Quick Pay Service at area retailers; online through our website portal; by phone through our call center or via Invoice Cloud using our toll-free number (1-844-517-9741); or by signing up for auto draft service, where payments are automatically deducted on a set date from your bank account.

Please visit our website at www.maconwater.org for more updates on our construction. Again, we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you during this transition.

MWA CUTS RIBBON TO OPEN NEW AND IMPROVED WATER RECLAMATION FACILITIES

A \$52 million investment in infrastructure upgrades

The MWA commissioned the opening of its new and improved Water Reclamation Facilities (WRF) with a ribbon cutting on June 8, which marked the conclusion of a \$52 million investment, one of the largest in the history of the Authority.

This Wastewater CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Rehabilitation Project included improvements and upgrades to the Authority's Lower Poplar and Rocky Creek WRF.

This CIP project was divided into four phases that included planning, which began in 2015; design and pre-construction services; construction, which began in 2018; and commissioning. This latest celebration marked the end of construction as the facilities are now online with improved and more technologically advanced infrastructure.

For more information on MWA facilities and operations, please visit our website at www.maconwater.org.



MWA Board Members and Staff celebrate the ribbon cutting of the Wastewater CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Rehabilitation Project, one of the largest in the history of the Authority.

LOWER POPLAR PLANT RECOGNIZED FOR PEAK PERFORMANCE

Amerson Water Plant Selected Best in Georgia

The MWA recently received the following industry awards from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP), the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), and the Water Environment Federation (WEF).

- NACWA Gold Award for Peak Performance for 100% permit compliance this past year for the Lower Poplar Plant.
- WEF Arthur Sidney Bedell Award of Service for Project Manager Heather Veal.
- GAWP Best Operated Water Plant of the Year in Georgia for the Frank C. Amerson, Jr. Water Treatment Plant.
- GAWP Platinum Award for nine straight years of 100% permit compliance for the Amerson Plant.
- GAWP Gold Award for 100% permit compliance this past year for the Lower Poplar Plant.
- GAWP District 5 Top Water Plant Operator for Christine Fowler.
- GAWP District 5 Top Wastewater Plant Operator for Gary Headden.
- GAWP Golden Hydrant Society induction for Gary McCoy.

For the complete feature on MWA awards, please visit our website news at www.maconwater.org.



MWA Director of Wastewater Operations Kate Kubesheski (center with award) and her staff received the NACWA Gold Award for Peak Performance for the Lower Poplar Plant, as well as the GAWP Gold Award for 100% permit compliance.

MWA CELEBRATES NATIONAL WATER QUALITY MONTH

Can you imagine what life would be like without easy access to clean water? No more drinking water coming from the tap? In short, our lives would be totally different, and not for the better.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognizes the month of August as National Water Quality Month, which is dedicated to making the most of the fresh water we have.

In recognition of National Water Quality Month, the MWA recently partnered with Angela's Anointed Angels, a local non-profit, to participate in their Operation Summer Hydration 2022 Program. James and Angela Brown founded the organization to give back to the

community, especially to homeless citizens. During this summer's unexpected heat waves, Operation Summer Hydration focused on keeping Macon-Bibb County's homeless population hydrated.

Chuck Mixon, MWA Assistant Water Treatment Manager, provided 200 bottles of MWA water to the Operation Summer Hydration Program. The MWA is home to the Best Tasting Drinking Water in North America, and our dedicated staff ensures that the community is continuously provided clean, safe, high-quality, and affordable drinking water.

For more information on "What's in Your Drinking Water," please visit our website at <http://www.maconwater.org/ccr.pdf>.



Chuck Mixon (left), MWA Assistant Water Treatment Manager, presents 200 bottles of MWA water to James Brown in support of his non-profit's Operation Summer Hydration Program.

COME JOIN US FOR OCMULGEE ALIVE!

Our annual river cleanup is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 29, 2022. Please visit our website to register or for more information: www.maconwater.org.



YOU CAN HELP PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

PART 1: TRASH & LITTER

There are several reasons why we want to prevent stormwater pollution, especially in the form of trash and litter.

1. Aesthetics

Who wants to look at trash and litter on the streets? Imagine the impression guests have of our community when they see this.

2. Flooding

Trash and litter can clog stormwater drains and cause flooding that can negatively impact our homes and businesses.

3. Water Quality

Whether they enter the stormwater drain or not, trash and litter are likely to end up in a water body that provides our community with raw water for drinking water production. Trash and litter create additional drinking water treatment challenges for our Amerson Plant.

Some tips on how you can help:

- Never put anything down a storm drain or in a drainage ditch.
- Do not blow leaves or yard debris down a storm drain.
- If you see trash in your neighborhood, please pick it up and properly dispose of it.
- Throw trash away properly.
- Keep trash can lids securely sealed.

For more stormwater pollution prevention tips, please visit us at www.maconwater.org.

MWA, KMBB, AND BIBB COUNTY SCHOOLS ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS

KEEP MACON-BIBB BEAUTIFUL (KMBB)

In July, the MWA partnered with Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful (KMBB) to put litter in its place, which in turn protects water quality by reducing stormwater pollution.

As a part of the Keep America Beautiful Litter and Community Appearance Index Survey, KMBB organized a tour of East Macon neighborhoods for the MWA and other community leaders. During the tour, KMBB officials investigated and documented residential litter and debris dump sites, which local neighborhood watch groups and residents had presented to them as major concerns.

Additionally, the tour allowed MWA Staff to record and address public stormwater issues in the East Macon Area. The MWA actively began cleaning debris-filled catch basins and making necessary repairs to broken or missing storm drain culverts. Many of these repairs restored stormwater infrastructure

operations that are likely to resolve years of flooding in East Macon neighborhoods.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS WATER INITIATIVE

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the MWA began a partnership in 2020 with Bibb County Schools to implement the Healthy Schools Water Initiative. To keep students safe from the spread of Covid, Bibb County Schools installed drinking water refill stations that now allow students to refill their MWA water bottles with the Best Tasting Drinking Water in North America. Students can stay hydrated safely, which is proven to aid their academic performance!

During the first year of the School Partnership (in 2020), the MWA donated 24,000 of its water bottles to Bibb County students for free. Last year, the MWA donated over 5,000 water bottles, with another 3,000 scheduled for delivery this year.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Use the QR Code or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/maconwater> to provide honest feedback about the MWA website.

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