

The Clarifier



A UTILITY OPERATIONS AND
PUBLIC WORKS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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CONTACT US

We are here to serve you.

If you have questions regarding our services,
please contact us at (478) 474-5025.

CORPORATE PROFILE

ESG Operations, Inc. was established in 2003, and is one of the nation's fastest growing utility and public works management companies. ESG provides operations, maintenance and management of utility and public works systems along with a wide range of engineering consulting services.

Our goal is to make a measurable difference in every community in which we provide services.

ESG Projects Receive Top Industry Awards for the Year 2010



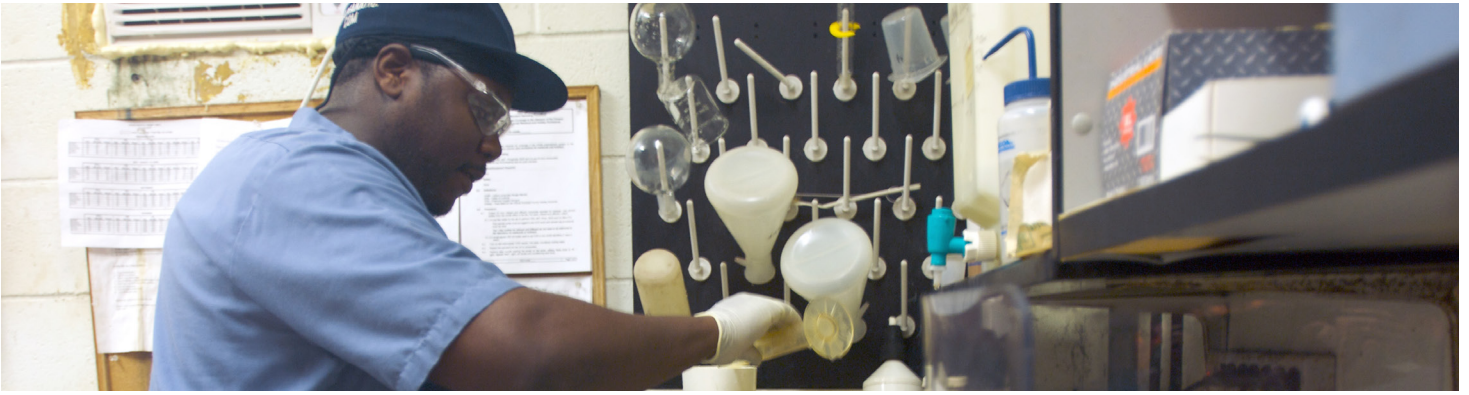
Pictured above at the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Spring Conference on April 19 in Macon, Georgia
Left to right: Ben Lively, Sean Meyer, Todd Baldwin and John Marshall of the ESG/Forsyth County Team along with Tyler Richards of the GAWP and ESG Principal Dan Groselle, Vice President John Eddlemon and Principal Clay Sykes

ESG projects across the Southeast have again been recognized in the utility operations industry as outstanding facilities for 2010. We congratulate each ESG Team involved in earning these prestigious awards—and we thank you for your dedication and commitment to excellence at every level.

Two of ESG's projects were awarded the coveted "Plant of the Year" Award by the Georgia Association of Water

Professionals—Forsyth County GA—Windermere WWTP and Rockdale County, GA—Honey Creek WWTP. In addition, a 2010 Platinum Award was received by Forsyth County, GA—The Manor, with the following ESG projects earning 2010 Gold Awards—Windermere, Dick Creek and Parkstone (Forsyth County, GA); Scott Creek, Honey Creek and Almand Branch (Rockdale County GA); Perry, GA Water Treatment Plant; Waycross, GA—Water and Wastewater plants.

THE CORPORATE NEWSLETTER OF ESG OPERATIONS, INC. | www.esginc.net



SAFETY

Darrel West | CORPORATE SAFETY DIRECTOR

OSHA Celebrates 40 Years of Service to America's Workers

On April 28, 2011 OSHA turned 40. It was only 40 years ago the agency began fulfilling the mission set down by Congress to assure the safety and health of America's workers and begin the process of making the Nation's workplaces safer workplaces. It's hard to believe that only 40 years ago, most workers in America had no basic human right to a safe workplace. Before OSHA, when a worker was killed on the job, perhaps there was an investigation; perhaps not. There was no legal compulsion to fix the problem—another worker would face the very same risk the next day.

OSHA faced much criticism when it began. The agency still has its critics, but the evidence is clear: OSHA has made a difference. Forty years of common-sense standards and strong enforcement, training, outreach and compliance assistance have saved thousands of lives and prevented countless injuries. Look at the difference: In 1970, 38 working men, women and teens in America died from a workplace injury every single day; that number has been cut by over 60%; now it's 12 a day. While that is a great improvement, 12 deaths a day are still far too many. The 12 deaths per day represent over 4,000 fatalities on an annual basis.

After 40 years the administration has learned a few things, one being that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Under the current administration OSHA has completely refocused their priorities, they are focused on being proactive versus reactive and preventing tragedies before they happen. OSHA has added over 100 inspectors to monitor worksites and launched a Severe Violators Enforcement Program to give "special attention" to employers who endanger their workers.



Employee Safety

A foundational core value of ESG

The safety and well-being of every ESG associate is of paramount importance.

ESG regards the regulations established by OSHA, as well as other federal, state and local safety, health and environmental laws, codes, and regulations as minimum standards and we continually strive to meet and exceed these requirements related to employee safety.

Our safety programs are designed to protect and promote the safe behavior, health and well-being of all ESG employees.





Debbie Linton, PHR
Human Resource and
Administrative Services Director

Employee Benefits

Project Meetings were held at all ESG Projects for our June 1st Open Enrollment. This year we are showing more participation in our 401(k) Plan and in the Flexible Spending Plan.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield Co-Pay. The most notable change for the 2010-2011 plan year is the Blue Cross/Blue Shield co-pay increase from \$25.00 to \$35.00 per visit. ESG was able to negotiate the premium cost down to a reasonable amount while only passing a small portion on to employees.

Bereavement Policy. Our bereavement policy now includes in-laws as immediate family members, which allows you to have three (3) paid days off following the death of a mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law or brother-in-law.

Employee Assistance Program

Our EAP is a company paid benefit which offers confidential assessment and counseling services for you and your immediate family at no cost. You may reach “Families First” at 800-854-2801, identify yourself as an ESG employee and you will have free assistance.

Standards of Conduct

Please remember ESG timesheets are an important legal document. Falsification of your timesheet will result in termination. Your time worked needs to be recorded accurately.



*Congratulations to Natalia Rafeedie,
Corporate HR Assistant,
on the recent birth of her
baby boy, Nico!*

*Congratulations to Kristen Courson,
Corporate Project Engineer,
on the recent birth of her
baby boy, Luke!*

HOPE and HELP

Families First
1-800-854-2801

Offering confidential
counseling services for
you and your immediate family.
They are here to help.



At the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Annual Meeting in April, the Honey Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant

located in Conyers, Georgia, received the

GAWP Plant of the Year Award for 2010

in the category of under 1 MGD.

Many thanks to **Daryl Waits** for his coordination efforts—and congratulations to the entire staff at ESG/Rockdale for the help provided in winning this award. This endeavor involved everyone at the Rockdale Project.

ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA

ESG/Rockdale Honey Creek Facility Named Plant of the Year



ESG Cofounders Dan Groselle and Clay Sykes are pictured above with members of the ESG/Rockdale Team along with Lee Pope, Special Projects Manager for Rockdale Water Resources, receiving the Plant of the Year Award for the Honey Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Rockdale County.

Other Significant Accomplishments at Rockdale

- 2010 Gold Awards presented to Almand Branch, Snapping Shoals, Honey Creek and Scott Creek for 100% effluent compliance for 2010.
- The installation of an automated Poly Aluminum Sulfate (PAS) and Magnesium Hydroxide Chemical Feed systems at the Honey Creek WWTP for the removal of phosphorus has resulted in a significant reduction in chemical costs.
- A predictive loading testing schedule has been implemented at the UASB pretreatment plant. Predictive loading calculations help set pumping schedules to better control possible upset conditions.
- ESG is conducting in-house wastewater certification preparation classes. **John Doughty, Paula Doughty, Steven Arrey,** and **Noah Perrymond** are currently participating.
- **Welcome**—New associates **George Thomas** and **Derrick Battle**. George comes from the City of Atlanta and holds a Class I wastewater certification. Derrick comes from DeKalb County and holds a Class II wastewater certification.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

ESG/Augusta Partners with the Natural Science Academy

The Southeastern Natural Science Academy (which comprehensively studies water resources within the Savannah River Basin) has partnered with Augusta Utility Department (AUD) and ESG Operations to facilitate and enhance on-going educational programs in the community.

This partnership provides sustainability for the Academy's educational efforts that are primarily focused on school programs. ESG and the Academy also offer public tours, Boy Scouts programs, teacher workshops, and various other events throughout the year. Envisioned is the continuation of the Phinzy Swamp Nature Park's habitat diversity, water quality, and organism curriculum enhanced with instruction on how wastewater is treated in the adjacent JB Messerly WWTP.

"The Academy's educational program aligned well with ESG's community involvement initiatives so partnering just made sense" stated ESG Cofounder/Principal, Dan Groselle, P.E. "The partnership ensures long term stability of a model program to enhance awareness at the local community level of our need to protect and sustain our vital natural resources. ESG is honored to partner with the Academy and the AUD."

Welcome New Associates. To assist in our partnership with the Natural Science Academy, we are pleased to welcome new employees—**Ruth Mead**, Senior Education Specialist and **Aaliyah Green**, Education Specialist.

OTHER PROJECT NEWS

- **Mike Waters** joined the ESG/Augusta Team as the IPP/Lab Manager.
- **Robert Weeks** is serving as the new Project Manager Intern at ESG/Augusta.
- **Brian Kelly** received his Wastewater III license.
- **Candice Johnson** received her Wastewater Lab Analyst Certification.
- **The ESG/Augusta Community Blood Drive** was held on May 6, 2011 with 17 employees participating.



CONGRATULATIONS TO PERCY NOLAN

Named **Top Operator 2011**
for District 6 by the
Georgia Association of
Water Professionals

Pictured above congratulating **Percy** (second from left) is ESG Cofounder **Clay Sykes**, Tyler Richards of the GAWP and Cofounder **Dan Groselle**

FAMILY NEWS

Our deepest sympathy to **Victor Phillips** whose father passed away earlier this year.



FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA

Windermere WWTP Receives 2010 Plant of the Year Award

Congratulations to the ESG/Forsyth County Team for receiving the 2010 Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Plant of the Year Award in the less than 1.0 Million Gallons Per Day (MGD) Non-Discharging Category. The Windermere facility placed first above two other facilities competing in this category to claim the award. Todd Baldwin led the team with assistance from Plant Operator Ben Lively and Maintenance Director Ricky Baxter. ESG associates David Pitocchelli, Ibn Shakir,



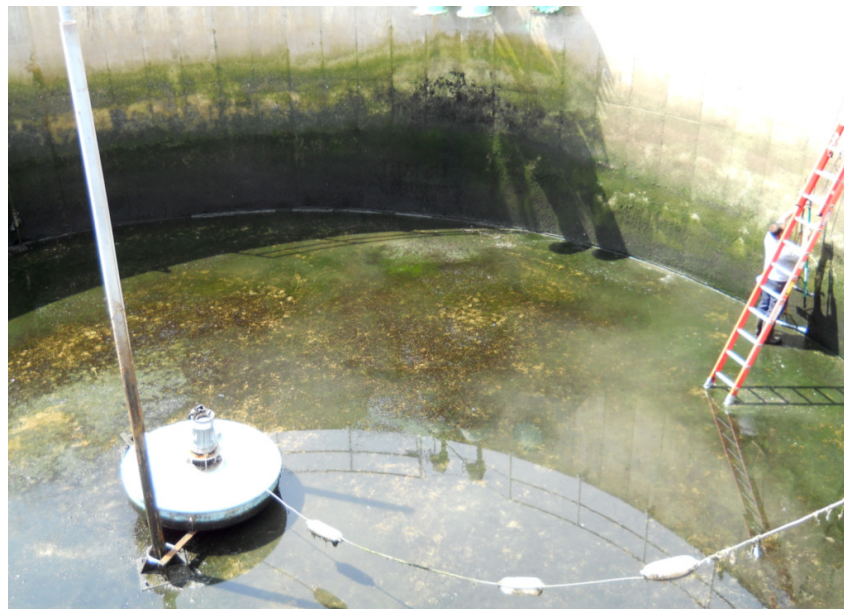
Denton Kopletz, Devon Mouzon, Gary Harper, Darrel West and Sean Meyer provided staff support. The award was presented to ESG/Forsyth County on April 19 at the GAWP Spring Conference in Macon, Georgia, and is the first award for the Windermere plant.

CONGRATULATIONS

Devon Mouzon acquired his Class III Wastewater Operators Certification. Devon started with ESG in April of 2010, as a belt press operator. Since he began working at the project, Devon has learned how to collect sample, why we collect samples, and how to understand the results of the samples. He is now working on learning more process control and understanding how the biologicals work within the treatment process. Congratulations, Devon, for clearing this first hurdle in becoming a wastewater treatment plant operator.

In addition to the Plant of the Year Award, ESG/Forsyth County also received Gold and Platinum Awards (awarded for 100% NPDES compliance) at all four wastewater facilities.

The Manor Platinum Award for Outstanding Treatment
Parkstone
Dick Creek
Windermere Gold Awards for 100% Compliance



The annual cleaning of the EQ Basin at Dick Creek WWTP was recently completed by the ESG/Forsyth County Team.

The ESG/Forsyth County Team has installed new tarps over the filters at Dick Creek and Windermere. Most recently, the staff's efforts have been in keeping the plants' processes in check and keeping the building and grounds neat, clean, and in top shape.

Again, thanks to the Wastewater Staff for their hard work in winning the Plant of the Year Award.

More from Forsyth County, Georgia



New Membrane Filter Building—A Welcomed Asset to Forsyth County

Construction on the Water Plant expansion has been progressing at a steady pace. Pictured above is the new Membrane filtration building where state-of-the-art technology will be employed to increase treatment capacity an additional 12 million gallons per day. In addition to increased treatment capacity, finished water storage will be increased to a total of 13 million gallons with the new 8 million gallon clearwell (pictured below). The new plant expansion will be a welcomed asset to help meet the present and future needs of the citizens of Forsyth County.



The New 8 Million Gallon Clearwell

Congratulations to Scott Baum

Congratulation goes to **Scott Baum** for acquiring his Water Class II license. Scott joined the ESG Team in December 2010 as an operator at the Forsyth Water Treatment Facility. Scott has extensive experience in both water and wastewater fields which includes two years in Iraq and Afghanistan managing water and wastewater facilities.

TEAM OPELIKA

OPELIKA, ALABAMA

WELCOME!

NEW ESG/OPELIKA ASSOCIATES

We welcome these new ESG associates to Team Opelika:

- **Gary Brennan**
Project Manager Intern
- **Clarence Coleman**
Maintenance Supervisor
- **Anthony Clark** • Equipment Operator



Team Work!

Team Opelika crews helped out at the Westridge baseball fields by working the weekend of May 27-29 at a tournament that covered 11 baseball fields. The tournament included a total of 156 games! Before each game the fields had to be reworked and relined.



Employee Profile

Jeff Bearden

Jeff Bearden became an ESG employee three years ago. Jeff started with ESG cutting grass. He was soon promoted to the arm mower. He volunteered to help with Amnesty Days, and became an integral part of this team. When an unexpected grader position opened up, he stepped up and volunteered to work there. He quickly learned how to maneuver the grader as well as learned the route.

Jeff continues to be willing to “step up to the plate” and fill in where needed. His newest endeavor has been to step over to the Collections and Distribution department. He brings with him a wealth of needed electrical experience and a willingness to learn. He recently went to a class in Jacksonville for lift station maintenance. His next goal will be to get his backflow license. He will then get started with his wastewater license. Thank you, Jeff, for being a valuable team member.

WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Creating the *greatest value* of ownership ESG/Wakulla At A Glance

Like most places, Wakulla County is facing huge fiscal restraints. In an effort to continue being an asset to our client, ESG/Wakulla County is putting great efforts in “**learning to do more with less.**” Knowing that other projects are probably facing similar challenges, we decided to share some ways that we have learned to cut back... and are hoping to hear back from you on ways you have learned to cut back, all for the common good of being a valuable asset to our client!

- Because the County pays the utility bills, thermostats are being pushed up to help keep utility costs down!
- Lift station utility bills are being reviewed to ensure accuracy.
- Take home vehicles are at an all-time low to cut back on fuel costs (reserved only for those that are on-call).
- Instead of replacing stolen street signs with new street signs, we have made an inventory of “old, replaced” street signs and now cleaned those up, straightening as necessary, to replace the stolen signs.
- Repairs that were previously subtlet are now accomplished in house (such as hydraulic cylinder repairs). While more labor intensive, better time management skills have been implemented, providing substantial savings for our client.
- Work schedules at the WWTP have been staggered to provide longer hours for Septic Haulers to dump.
- A rate study for water charges is underway, with the help of Florida Rural Water Association, in order to increase revenues for the County.
- We actively look at what other departments in the County are doing, and if there is something that we can do to prevent them from hiring another contractor (additional costs to Client) we strive to meet their needs. (EXAMPLES: helped build new Equestrian Center, helped with tennis courts, assisted Environmental Health Department by fabricating septic tank top opener, raised the berm at the Sheriff’s Department’s firing range).
- Also, ESG/Wakulla recently assisted Environmental Health by mailing their Community Help brochures along with our billing statements. (No additional postage costs were incurred by ESG/Wakulla).



Department Profile

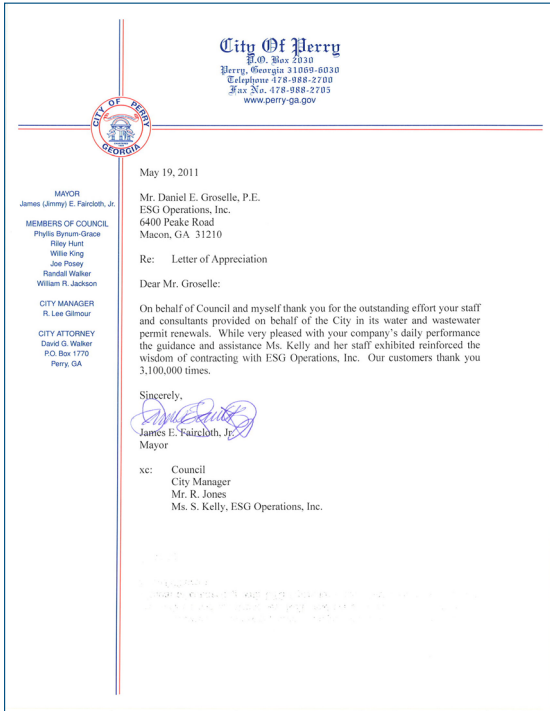
SOLID WASTE

Our Solid Waste Department is led by **Donna Buchanan**. Wakulla’s landfill is closed so it operates now as a transfer station. Other Solid Waste Team members include truck drivers—**Thomas Johnson** and **Steven Wildes**; recycling coordinator **Harold Gavin** (who often fills in as a truck driver when needed); scale house attendant **Loretta Green**; and **Jeff Scott** who assists Donna and knows how to do anything that needs to be done. Recycling is a priority for the Solid Waste Team, as our County leaders are very interested in recycling. Donna Buchanan is a member of Wakulla County’s Recycling Task Force, led by County Commissioner Lynn Artz.

Recently, Donna lost her home to a fire. In conjunction with the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Department, ESG sponsored a fish fry with all proceeds given to Donna’s family. The response was incredible—over \$3,000 was raised!

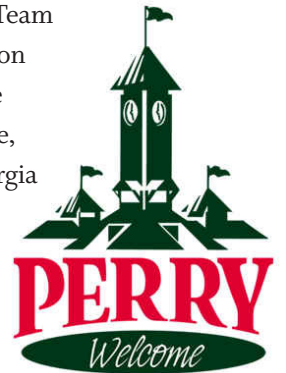
Highlights and Accomplishments from ESG Projects

PERRY, GEORGIA



ESG/Perry Team Receives Commendation from the Mayor

Project Manager Sharon Kelly and the ESG/Perry Team recently received words of praise and commendation from City of Perry Mayor James E. Faircloth, Jr. We congratulate Team Perry on their continued service, dedication and commitment to making Perry, Georgia a better place in which to live and work.



Other Project News

- Influent flows entering the WWTP have been reduced by approximately 700,000 gallons per day due to slip lining and manhole rehab projects. This has also helped reduce chemical and electrical costs—and the project is paying for itself quickly.
- **Kelly Jarriel** and **Rick Farrow** have assisted the Perry Project with several large tasks and repair projects. Their knowledge and expertise saved the City more than \$5,000 in repair costs.
- **Wastewater Operations** installed a new sampling station that is flow paced for our effluent toxicity and long term BOD requirements on our new WWTP NPDES permit.
- The City of Perry along with ESG Operations and Constantine Engineering were able to save the City millions of dollars on a proposed plant upgrade.

New Certifications

- **Kyle Knowles** • CDL license.
- **Kenneth Baker** • Class II Water Operators License
- **Ryan Bode** • Class III Water Operators license
- **Brandon Lewis** • Class II Water and Class II Wastewater Operators Licenses
- **Travis Falcione** • Class III Wastewater Operators License



Operations personnel began “spring” cleaning throughout the WWTP. **Earl Shouse** (WW Operator) is shown painting the control room to match the new colors of the Operations Building.



Our new NPDES permit for backwashing filters at the water plants will require us to dechlorinate prior to discharging. City and ESG personnel combined forces to fabricate chemical feed system. **Ben Carter** (left) and **Antwann Fann** (right) are shown installing the system. Completing the work in-house saved the City thousands of dollars on installation.



Ryan Bode, Line Maintenance Supervisor, installs new water main at new facility.

WAYCROSS, GEORGIA



New Team Waycross Associates **Willie Mobley** and **Joe Dixon**

other project news

FROM TEAM WAYCROSS

- **Upcoming Project Goals.** Reduce power and fuel costs and to have state certifications obtained by two additional employees. Continue to provide “additional/added value” to the City of Waycross. Team Waycross takes pride in our support mission to all ESG team members and we look forward to the months ahead.
- **Welcome.** ESG/Waycross is proud to introduce three new associates to the Waycross Team: **Kurtis Kling** (Meters), **Willie Mobley** (C&D) and **Joe Dixon** (C&D).
- **Congratulations.** **Jerry Baldwin** was recently married (April 2011). Jerry is the ESG/Waycross customer service representative for City Hall Meter department.



Waycross Team Receives Gold Award for Water and Wastewater

- Waycross received the Gold Award again this year for perfect compliance in Water and Wastewater. The ESG/Waycross Team is excited to celebrate a 5 year milestone anniversary for C&D, Meters, Water, Laboratory and Warehouse.
- The ESG/Waycross Water Team began power consumption analysis peak shaving early this year and realized a savings to our client of approximately \$500 per month and pumped more water.
- Team Waycross identified and was proud to have participated in a River Bank clean up project that resulted in preventing a dumpster sized container of litter from entering the Satilla River. This manual pick up activity along with the Litter Trap installed in the Tebuea Canal is serving to prevent hundreds of cubic yards of litter from entering the river.
- The ESG/Waycross Maintenance Crew completed the new crew truck flat bed construction and this truck began serving our client and community. Almost everyone played a part of the construction so a high level of pride is shown in the photo at right.



Left to right: Albert Collins, Joe Dixon, Wayne Crawford, Derick Smith, Lee Smith, Willie Mobley

VIDALIA, GEORGIA

ESG/Vidalia leads City Council on Tour of JCB Factory in Savannah

Marvin Lee and **Robbie Akins** of ESG/Vidalia recently carried members of the Vidalia City Council on a tour of the JCB factory in Savannah. All JCB skid steer machines are built here along with the HMEE (High Mobility Engineer Excavator) backhoes for the United States Military. During the tour the Council experienced a short video of the history of JCB and toured the assembly line and demonstration area. Lunch was provided and this gave council members a great opportunity to discuss purchase options, equipment and special features that JCB offers. Following lunch, the council was treated to a demonstration of the 3CX backhoe and the capabilities it offers over leading competitors and a look at the skid steer machines. Members of the council were also able to operate these machines in the demo area. The most interesting feature learned during the tour is that JCB offers a backhoe known as the “ecoDig” that can reduce fuel consumption by up to 15% by using an additional hydraulic pump allowing the same digging power at idle versus increased throttle. The council enjoyed the tour and hopes to realize the benefit of one of these machines in the near future.



Team Vidalia—Making an Impact The Island Landscape Project

ESG/Vidalia's Street Department recently completed a local landscape project which involved numerous man-hours—but has become a beautiful addition to the community. The Vidalia Team placed 26 pallets of sod, 400 daylillies, 75 roses, amended the soil to a healthy pH level, and installed a new sprinkler system. This project was truly a team effort and we congratulate the Street Department on a job well-done.

CERTIFICATIONS and NEW ASSOCIATES

- **Frank Landrum** (Class I Wastewater) • **Phillip Davis** (Class II Wastewater)
- **Welcome**—**Brian McCoy** (Operator-in-Training) • **Jeff West** (New Project Director)

TUPELO

MISSISSIPPI'S "ALL AMERICA CITY"

ESG/Tupelo Recent Accomplishments

- ESG/Tupelo recently partnered with the town of Ashland to help with sampling and new lab work.
- ESG/Tupelo bid and won permit renewal for the City of Verona.
- Tupelo Team is finalizing permit renewal for the town of Fulton.
- Project Manager **Chris Holloway** helped Satellite Project Faulkner with the start up and design of their new lagoon system.
- ESG/Tupelo is working with a local engineering firm to help resolve issues with Toyota pump station.

FAMILY NEWS from TUPELO

- **Mechanic Barry West's** daughter, Adrianna, graduated high school with top honors.
- **Operator Tom Foster's** daughter, Paula, graduated from nursing school.

TUPELO UPCOMING PROJECT GOALS

- Continue to work with local engineers to resolve Toyota pump station issues.
- Certifications for ESG/Tupelo associates
- Cross Training
- Acquire new satellite projects

Fast Facts

Headquarters
Macon, Georgia

Number of Employees
Over 300

Offices
12 offices across
the Southeast

Services
Water and Wastewater
Management
Public Works Management
Design-Build-Operate

History
Established in 2003
by cofounders,
Clay Sykes and Dan Groselle,
who set out to build a premier
utility operations company
based on the simple principle,
"People deliver services,
not companies."

ESG is proudly 100%
American owned and operated.



Partnering to Meet the Demands
of Today and the Challenges
of Tomorrow



Robbie Akins Participates in Local Leadership Class of 2010-2011

This past spring, **Robbie Akins**, ESG/Vidalia Assistant Project Director (pictured above, second row, far right) was nominated and participated in Leadership Toombs-Montgomery—a program sponsored by the Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce designed to bring together new, emerging and potential leaders from the local community to address pertinent community needs, strengthen individual leadership abilities, and encourage participants to personally commit to assuming new leadership roles in their communities. The key objectives of the class sessions included educating participants about community needs and leadership opportunities; learning how to improve management

and leadership skills; developing relationships of value when working together on community projects; creating rapport among participants and community leaders; and assisting in matching talents of selected participants with leadership needs in the area.

We congratulate Robbie on his involvement and participation in the Toombs-Montgomery Leadership Class of 2010-2011. This leadership program strengthens the community and helps to build effective leaders. We encourage all ESG associates to participate in local programs such as this as together we strive to make a difference in the communities we proudly serve.