

SPRING 2014



THE CLARIFIER

A publication of the ESG Family of Companies



NEW PSD IMPLEMENTATION > 8 ESG ENGINEERING PROJECTS > 9 SNOWMAGGEDON 2014 > 15



WINDER PUBLIC WORKS JOINS TEAM ESG

ESG is excited to announce the expanded partnership with the City of Winder, Georgia. Our partnership began in 2012 with the operation and management of Winder’s water and wastewater facilities, lift stations and industrial pretreatment program. Our expanded partnership now includes Public Works, Stormwater and Engineering services. ESG is honored for the opportunity to provide additional services to the citizens of Winder—and we welcome 20 additional employees to the ESG family.

“I am glad to partner with ESG Operations in the delivery of Public Works services to the City of Winder. I am confident that they will bring the same level of professionalism to this department that they have demonstrated in the operations and management of our water treatment and wastewater departments. I want all of our citizens to be served in the most efficient and effective manner possible.”

— WINDER MAYOR DAVID MAYNARD

[READ MORE **PROJECT NEWS** FROM TEAM WINDER ON PAGES 4-5]

INSIDE

SPRING 2014



COVER PHOTO

The James B. Messerly Wastewater Treatment Plant in Augusta, Georgia



SAFETY

7 Springtime Severe Weather

ASSET MANAGEMENT

8 Improving ESG's Asset Management Process

ACCOUNTING

8 Streamlining Accounting Procedures/New Staff

HUMAN RESOURCES

9 Benefits and Employee Assistance Program

ESG ENGINEERING

9 Current Projects Underway

UTILIVISION, INC.

11 UTV Signs First Contract with Jones County, Georgia

PROJECT NEWS

- 4 Winder, Georgia
- 12 Commerce, Georgia
- 14 Augusta, Georgia
- 16 Barnesville, Georgia
- 17 Tifton, Georgia
- 18 Lockheed Martin
- 20 Wakulla County, Florida
- 21 Tupelo, Mississippi
- 22 Opelika, Alabama
- 24 Perry, Georgia
- 26 Forsyth County, Georgia
- 28 Vidalia, Georgia
- 30 Warner Robins, Georgia
- 32 Waycross, Georgia
- 35 Rockdale County, Georgia

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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.

We are here to serve you.

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



www.esginc.net



We're Hiring!

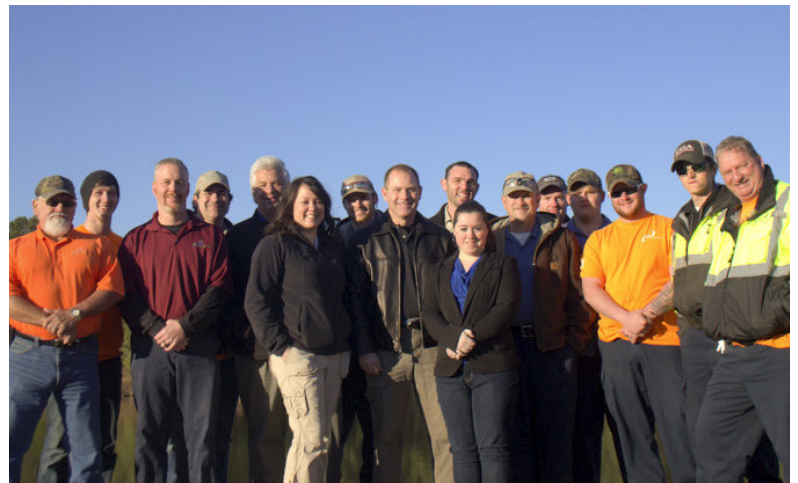
Find us on Facebook or visit our website for job openings



CITY OF WINDER EXPANDS PARTNERSHIP WITH ESG TO INCLUDE PUBLIC WORKS, STORMWATER AND ENGINEERING

“We are humbled and excited about the trust and confidence placed in us by the City of Winder. We look forward to providing these additional services—and to welcoming 20 additional employees to the ESG family.”

— REGIONAL MANAGER NEIL COUNTS




SERVICES PROVIDED BY ESG FOR THE CITY OF WINDER

- Full Public Works
- Wastewater Treatment
- Water Treatment
- Lift Station O&M
- Industrial Pretreatment Program

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the previous quarter, the Winder project put forth major efforts into housekeeping at all of our facilities. We are in the process of painting the interior walls, piping at the Water Plant and preparing for an upgrade to the high service pumps and a SCADA system.

The Collections group has focused on identifying manholes by GPS coordinates. This is a time consuming process which will yield very beneficial information in the future. The Wastewater team has been bringing down the levels in the reject ponds at both wastewater facilities in order to make sure there is room for the spring rains.

Project controls have also been a focus of Winder’s operation during the past quarter. Inputting additional parameters into OP 10 and training operators in how to use them to review data and monitor processes has resulted in a much higher awareness of plant conditions.

NEW ASSOCIATES

WELCOME

TO THE ESG FAMILY

Sean Wheale has been added to our staff as the manager of the Water Treatment Plant. Sean comes to us from the Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority where he served for 17 years. Sean has very quickly become a valuable asset to our team (*photo at right*).

Jamey West also joined our team as a project manager intern. Jamey comes from the City of Orem, Utah where he worked for 13 years operating biological facilities. He is learning ESG processes and procedures in Winder to prepare for managing his own project in the near future (*photo, bottom right*).

Ashley Born has been added to our staff in an administrative support role. Ashley will play a key role in the transition of Public Works and will be responsible for assisting all of our departments on a daily basis (*photo, bottom, left*).



Top row—Sean Wheale • Bottom row left, Ashley Born • bottom right, Jamey West

CONGRATULATIONS

Leigh Pass • Wastewater Lab Analyst

Mike McDaniel • Class 1 Wastewater Operator

Leslie Harbin's daughter is a graduating senior and has accepted a scholarship to play softball at Truett-McConnell College.

Richard Porter's daughter, Lea Ann, is also a graduating senior and has accepted a scholarship to LaGrange College, where she will also be playing softball.

PROJECT GOALS

The Winder staff is looking forward to the months ahead, during which we will demonstrate

the effect that professional management can make on operations as we transition the City of Winder Public Works Department to ESG. The Winder project is also planning to have all of our facilities compete in the Plant of the Year competition for Water and Wastewater. We will be focusing on preparing for the competitions by improving the appearance and cleanliness of the facilities.





SPRINGTIME SEVERE WEATHER

Thunderstorms occur frequently across the Southeastern United States each spring. Hazards within thunderstorms include lightning, hail, gusty winds, heavy rain that may cause flooding, and tornadoes. When the weather conditions are right for thunderstorms to form, meteorologists call the atmosphere “unstable”. The Southeast receives plenty of sunlight which warms the air near the ground and causes unstable air. All thunderstorms have an updraft, where warm air rises rapidly 7 to 10 miles above the ground which causes the moisture to turn into water or ice. Clouds and raindrops then form the tall, towering clouds that we can easily distinguish as “thunderstorm clouds.” In order for an unstable atmosphere to produce the updrafts needed for strong thunderstorms, a little boost is needed to get the updraft started. Meteorologists call these boosts “lift”. Sources of lift can be an approaching frontal system or a sea breeze boundary forming during a typical spring or summer afternoon. Thunderstorms come in different forms. Sometimes a storm has only one thunderstorm cloud and sometimes thunderstorms have a family of clouds, or cells, associated with them. Also, thunderstorms may go on for a very long time or be as brief as a few minutes.

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WATCH AND A WARNING?



A Severe Thunderstorm Warning means thunderstorms capable of causing **significant damage**, containing winds of 58 mph or greater and quarter size (1” in diameter) hail or larger have been indicated by radar. A Severe Thunderstorm Watch means that conditions are favorable for severe storms to develop. There is no immediate danger when a watch is issued, but you should

keep a close eye on the weather.

When severe thunderstorms threaten your location, go to an interior room on the lowest floor of your building and stay away from windows. If time permits, move vehicles into garages to prevent hail or wind damage. In vehicles, avoid driving into severe storms; pull over and wait for the storm to pass.

One of the most dangerous features a severe thunderstorm can produce is a tornado. A tornado is a violent column of rotating air that comes down from a thunderstorm to reach the ground. Tornadoes come in all shapes and sizes, and occur year-round. Tornadoes usually last less than 15 minutes, but they can cause significant damage as they travel along the ground. Some tornadoes can travel for many dozens of miles while other tornadoes may appear to skip above the ground for a few moments. If a funnel cloud is not touching the ground, it is NOT a tornado. Tornadoes can develop within very strong thunderstorms along squall lines ahead of frontal systems but can also occur near the edge of tropical cyclones in rainbands which can extend 100 or more miles from the

center of the tropical system. Tornadoes can also form over the water, which are called waterspouts. Boaters and those on the beach need to quickly move away from them as they can easily overturn a vessel. If these move onshore they are classified as tornadoes.

Frontal system tornadoes usually occur in the winter and spring months, developing along squall lines preceding cold fronts. These storms often include high amounts of wind shear, and thus tend to be the most damaging. The relatively small and short-lived nature of most tornadoes makes it difficult to give advance warning. In many cases, only a few minutes of warning are given between the time a warning is issued and the eventual tornado touchdown. Nevertheless, even a few minutes of warning can make the difference between life and death. This is why having a NOAA weather radio is a critical component to the warning system as the radio will automatically alert you whenever the National Weather Service issues a warning. Having a Weather Radio alert of an oncoming tornado, especially in the middle of the night, has saved lives. **If a tornado struck tomorrow would you be prepared?** Would you know what actions to take? In the Southeast tornadoes strike all too often. Whether it is your home or the business, everyone should have a plan in place for severe weather.

A **Tornado Warning** means a tornado has been indicated by radar or spotted on the ground. A **Tornado Watch** means that conditions are favorable for tornadoes to develop.

If a Tornado Warning is issued for your area, seek shelter immediately! Seek shelter on the lowest floor in an interior hallway, closet or small room of your home or office. The best safety advice is to get as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Stay away from windows and doors and use pillows to cover your head. Leave mobile homes and find a stronger building or house. If caught outdoors, your options are not ideal, but you can still take action to survive. When outside, try to seek shelter in a nearby structure. If this is not possible, try to get as low as possible, such as a creek bed or ditch, and cover your head. Do not seek shelter under bridges and do not try to outrun a tornado.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Improving ESG's Asset Management Process

ESG's asset management process is a combination of a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS), equipment condition assessment, and a repair/replacement forecast. In 2013, ESG established a goal to find a way to link all of these independent tasks into a single system through the integration of technology. After much research, ESG partnered with PSD to transition the asset management system through a web-based system known as Hyperweb. PSD has custom built modules that will expedite the final product whether it is a condition assessment report or repair/replacement forecast, while still providing each project with a fully functional CMMS.

ESG's transition from Lucity (GBA) to Hyperweb is planned to occur in phases over the 2014 calendar year. Significant planning and considerable effort has been expended by **Becky Alexander** and **Sean Meyer** in developing a transition plan as well as implementing that plan. A goal of this evolution is to establish a degree of consistency in all aspects of our asset management delivery; such as, use of the same task codes, constancy in PM procedures and schedules, move our crews to a tablet/smart phone based platform, and provide a defined structure to the condition assessment report. Hyperweb is based on

quality management concepts; whereby, ESG can manage what matters and look for ways to consistently improve our service delivery. The program allows ESG to manage key performance indicators (KPI) so we can benchmark by location or process and find more efficient ways to enhance our service delivery.

As of today, 8 of our 15 ESG projects are using Hyperweb with Augusta, Forsyth County, and Waycross queued for transition over the summer. We appreciate the patience and support of ESG associates and staff as we work through the transition process. Our goal is to always remain a leader in cutting edge processes and technology.

ASSET MANAGEMENT TEAM

Paul Tickerhoof • Sean Meyer • Becky Alexander

TECHNICAL MANAGERS

Sean Meyer • Becky Alexander

TRAINERS

Becky White • Jessica Pennington • Mia Sager
Tami Barrett • Neil Watts • Jeff West

CONDITION ASSESSMENT TEAM

Paul Tickerhoof • Brian Kelly • Brad Wiggins
Brice Doolittle • Sean Meyer • Becky Alexander

CORPORATE OFFICE

A WINTER TO REMEMBER!

The winter storms of 2014 brought freezing rain, snow and bitter cold temperatures to ESG projects across the Southeast. During these storms, **ESG associates went the extra mile to lend a helping hand in the communities we serve.**

Thank you for your willingness to be of assistance and help wherever needed.



ACCOUNTING

ESG's Accounting Department is continuing efforts to streamline our internal and external accounting procedures. The most recent change enables projects to submit invoices for payment through a secure email. Over the next several months, we will continue to implement various operational changes geared towards increasing efficiency and reducing redundant data entry. ESG is excited to announce the promotion of Senior Accountant **Heather Harris** to Director of Accounting—and we also welcome **Monica Darsey**. Monica will serve as accounts payable specialist. Her educational background includes a B.A. in Finance from Mercer University. Monica comes to ESG with over 15 years experience as an accounts payable specialist in a global company setting. Monica is married, and enjoys working in her yard.



HUMAN RESOURCES

ESG SURPASSES 400 EMPLOYEES

On March 1, 2014, ESG hit an employee count of 407! We welcome new associates from Winder Public Works and the City of Commerce, Georgia.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

We are gathering information for our insurance renewals for this coming year. Our goal is to be able to present our benefit plan to the field within the next 45 days.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Our Employee Assistance Program is a company-paid benefit which offers confidential assessment and counseling services for you and your immediate family at **no cost** to you.

You may reach “Families First” at 800-854-2801. When you call, identify yourself as an employee of ESG Operations, Inc. and you will be provided with assistance at no charge.

WELCOME, BRIANNE CARPIO

Brianne Carpio joined ESG April 1 as Corporate HR Assistant. Brianne is a lifelong Alaskan. She recently moved here from Anchorage with her husband who is serving at Warner Robins AFB. Brianne has a B.S. in Human Resource Management. She is excited to pursue a career in HRM at ESG and is looking forward to meeting the many faces of the ESG team. Welcome Brianne!

Warner Robins Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades



ESG Engineering is assisting Team Warner Robins in upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant.

The contractor has almost completed the clarifiers—currently backfilling around and bringing power to mechanical equipment on the interior. Significant progress has

been made on the RAS/WAS/effluent pump station structure.

The headworks (bar screens and grit collector) structure is 75% complete. Next they will begin installation of equipment and power. The Administration Building is also nearly complete, with the exception of exterior window frames. The contractor is currently working on interior power, ceiling tile, and drywall. ESG Engineering’s primary involvement has been working with the contractor and Team Warner Robins to adjust the schedule and limit shutdowns to lessen the effect of construction on plant operations. ESG is currently working with the contractor to move the chlorine ejectors and eliminate a long run of chlorine vacuum piping in an area where excavaton needs to occur.

Kristen Courson, P.E. has been very involved in this project, facilitating many operational changes that aid the operation of the current plant and providing valuable input into the new plant’s ultimate operation. ESG Engineering is also working on engineering projects in **Tifton, Waycross, Winder, Rockdale County and Vidalia.**



ESG Engineering is assisting Team Warner Robins in the upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant
Top row, left to right: Administration Building and new Clarifiers.
Bottom row: Headworks and RAS/WAS Effluent Pump Station





UTILIVISION SIGNS FIRST CONTRACT

JONES COUNTY WATER SYSTEM PARTNERS WITH UTILIVISION, INC.

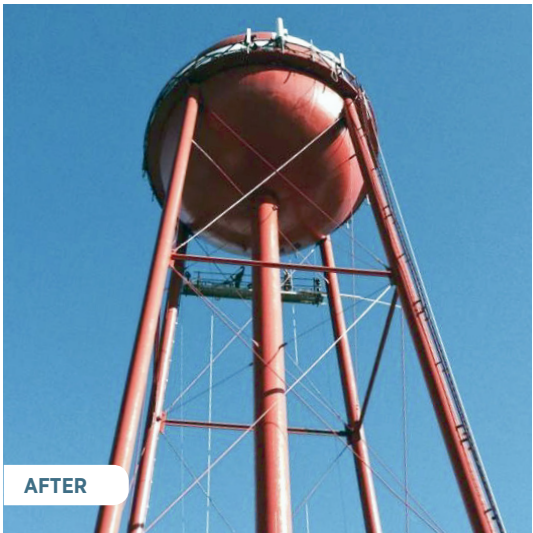
On January 15, 2014, Jones County Water System signed a contract with Utilivision, Inc. adding the Highway 49 Concrete Tank as our first maintenance contract for UTV.

Photographed above at the contract signing—left to right: Josh Waid, UTV Field Service Supervisor, Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent for Jones County Water System, and Nathan West, UTV Project Manager.

UTILIVISION COMPLETES PAINT RENOVATION ON WINDER AIRPORT WATER TANK



The paint renovation for the Winder Airport Tank was recently completed by Utilivision, Inc. (*Before and After photos at right*). This was the first paint job for the City of Winder. The 150,000 gallon elevated water tank was built by Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company in 1963. The water tank was painted with an FAA checkerboard pattern due to its location at the Barrow County Airport.



The City of Commerce is located in Jackson County, Georgia, near the foothills of the North Georgia Mountains—approximately 70 miles from Atlanta.



ESG is honored to operate and manage the City's water treatment facility.

In addition to serving the City of Commerce, the plant also serves the City of Maysville, portions of Banks County (Banks Crossing Area) and parts of Jackson County.

**4.5 MGD Surface Water Plant
1.5 MGD Water Plant
Grove River Reservoir**

“I look forward to working with the City of Commerce and the City’s management team to improve the water service for the citizens of Commerce.”

— ESG SENIOR OPERATIONS SPECIALIST DON NORTH



ESG Associate Nicholas Moulton
painting the Lime Room



ESG Associate Ricky Veal painting Lime Feeder in preparation for Plant of the Year inspection



ESG Associate Teresa Holbrooks applies the finishing touches to the Filter Room

On January 1, 2014, the City of Commerce Water Treatment Plant and staff became part of the ESG family.

The City of Commerce Water Plant was built in 1967 with an expansion/upgrade to the facility in 2000. The conventional type plant has the treatment capacity of 4.5 million gallons per day utilizing over/under flocculation channels, 2 sedimentation basins equipped with tube settlers and a TRAC VAC sludge removal system, 4 conventional dual media filters with sweeps and 2 clearwells with a total storage of capacity of 486,200 gallons.

The City’s water plant utilizes surface water as its raw water source from the 325 acre Grove Creek Reservoir

located north of downtown Commerce in Banks County. The intake has the ability to draw raw water from three different elevations utilizing 3 raw water pumps.

TEAM COMMERCE is excited to be joining the winning teams that make up ESG Operations. Having the additional resources and expertise to draw from will ensure a high level of service is provided to the citizens of Commerce and the 8,100 water customers ESG/Commerce serves.

Team Commerce is preparing to compete in GAWP’s “Plant of the Year” competition and team members have “rolled up their sleeves” and are hard at work. Pictured above are Team Commerce associates preparing the plant for inspection.





PROJECT COOKOUT AND EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

ESG/AUGUSTA associates recently enjoyed a cookout provided by ESG Corporate, and at that time we also took the opportunity to recognize a few employees for their outstanding efforts and commitment to ESG. It was a great day!



Photos at left—top to bottom:

1—Recognition of Maintenance employees: **Brian Kelly** (Maintenance Manager), **Joel Thomas** (Maintenance Supervisor), **Brad Wiggins** (Mechanic), **Robert Darren** (Mechanic).

2—Recognition of Operations employees: **Chris Thompson** (Operations Manager), **Ben Lillis** (Operator), **Ray Mitchell** (Operator), **Joe Molock** (Operator).

3—Recognition of SSES employees: **Percy Nolan** (Assistant Project Manager), **Wendell McCall** (SSES Supervisor), **Justin Andrews** (SSES), **Raymond Allen** (SSES).

4—Augusta associates enjoying the Corporate Cookout and recognition of co-workers.

PROMOTIONS

Wendell McCall has been promoted to Supervisor for the SSES out of scope project. Wendell is a veteran employee and has over 13 years of experience to bring to his new role at ESG.

NEW ASSOCIATES

SSES Team Members • **Ben Price**
Raymond Allen • **Chaz Luke**
Zachery Chick • **Raymond Allen**



New Associate **Raymond Allen**



New Associates **Zachery Chick** and **Chaz Luke**



New Associate **Ben Price**

CERTIFICATIONS

Ben Lillis • Class 2 Wastewater License

Brice Doolittle • Class 2 Wastewater License

FAMILY NEWS

Brice Doolittle (IPP and Lab Manager) has a wedding date for May of this year.

Ryan Smith (Operator) and Emily are expecting their first child this summer.

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS AT AUGUSTA

- Completed Headworks scope
- Completed installation of Spirit Creek Mixing system
- Completed repair of the main influent interceptor pipe



Volunteers at Faith Food Factory • **James Isdell** (Operator), **Aaliyah Ross** (Educator), **Charla Hagan** (Lab Tech), **Mary Thompson** (Office Manager)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

PLANT TOURS. Thus far in 2014, we have had almost 200 individuals tour the J. B. Messerly Pollution Control Plant. A majority of these individuals have been students from Richmond County and Georgia Regents University through our association with the Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy at Phinizy Swamp Nature Park. We have also had some of our industries tour the plant.

SNOWMAGGEDON 2014—A HISTORIC EVENT!

Augusta experienced a mini Snowmagedon January 29, but a bigger Snowmagedon took place February 12. The Augusta Messerly Plant survived both storms with the

assistance of backup generators and never lost power. Unfortunately, many Augusta residents lost power; some were without power for up to 5 days.

In addition, the weight of the ice/snow caused trees to snap, uproot, and drop limbs on houses. The prestigious Augusta National Golf Club, home of The Masters golf tournament and

known for its breath-taking landscaping, lost the legendary and iconic 65-foot high Eisenhower tree due to the winter storm. As a member of Augusta National, President Dwight D. Eisenhower played the course and often hit the tree with his tee shot. President Eisenhower lobbied to have the tree removed but was denied by club chairman and cofounder Clifford Roberts. A president did not have the influence to have the tree taken down but apparently Mother Nature was more influential!



WINTER STORM CLEAN UP VOLUNTEERS

Percy Nolan (APM), **Chris Thompson** (Operations Manager), **Ben Lillis** (Operator), and **Ty Todd** (Operator) volunteered over 28 hours helping families in the Augusta area clean up after the February 12 winter storm. The ESG employees volunteered through Samaritan's Purse, a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization that helps people around the world who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Our employees helped elderly and handicapped residents of the Augusta community who were unable to perform the cleanup.



American Red Cross

BLOOD DRIVES SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9 • JULY 11 AND SEPTEMBER 12. GIVE BLOOD AND SAVE A LIFE.



CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES ON THE NEW 2.4 MGD ACTIVATED SLUDGE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

As we near the 50% completion mark construction crews have completed pouring 90% of all concrete structures at the site. Installation of a 500,000 gallon aerobic digester bearing the namesake of the new wastewater treatment plant, James A. King, has been completed. The new 0.5 MG aerobic digester is pictured below.

Construction of the new administration and lab building has also begun. With record rainfalls and two ice storms occurring during the project, it will be a race to finish the plant by the October 2014 deadline.

CITY OF BARNESVILLE REPORTS BEST WATER QUALITY IN A NUMBER OF YEARS

Since the completion of its upgrade, the water treatment plant has produced its best water quality in a number of years. The city reports that its water quality complaint calls are down by 90%. That is a remarkable accomplishment! The City of Barnesville previously had numerous complaints each month due to water quality issues related to manganese and iron.



Dexter Thornton receiving CPR and First Aid training



Refurbished backhoe provided to the WWTP and WTP from the City of Barnesville



Darrel West and Christy Allison • Fire Safety Training



Winter Storms Hit Barnesville

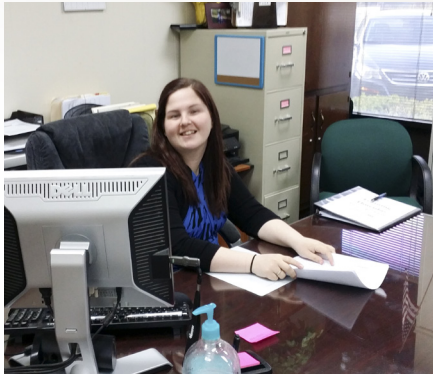


VIEW PHOTOGRAPHS OF TIFTON'S
CITY HALL RENOVATIONS

www.tifton.net/about-tifton/myon-hotel



TIFTON, GEORGIA



Welcome back, **Tabi!**



Ben Barrentine and **Chris Bromlow** examine a meter



Charles Lewis and **Ron Hall** take a minute to organize their truck

It's been a very busy few months in Tifton since the last issue of *The Clarifier*. We have had 80 degree temperatures, sleet, snow, and a tornado—all within two weeks! **Tabi Griggs** gave birth to a beautiful little girl named Peyton. ESG Engineering finished the design and conflict resolution for the upcoming GDOT Carpenter Road project. Our City Hall renovation project is well underway and is on pace to be completed by September of this year. Plans and photos of the renovation can be viewed on the City of Tifton's website. Special thanks from ESG/Tifton go to **Ray Richard, P.E.** and **Kristen Courson, P.E.** for all of their help developing plans and specifications for a number of Tifton projects including: Carpenter Road, LMIG, 10th Street drainage, and Bass plant rehabilitation.



Tifton Meter Department
left to right—**Daryl Smith** • **Charles Johnson** • **Alonzo Wilson**



Randy Booth and **Randal Mathis** prepare the vac truck for service



Brady Wilson and **Mickey Roberts** with the well service truck



Mike Carter in the Tifton Laboratory



LOCKHEED MARTIN AERONAUTICS SELECTS ESG OPERATIONS, INC. AS LABORATORY PARTNER

LOCKHEED MARTIN



ESG is excited to announce our selection by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics (LM) to operate and manage the LM analytical laboratory at its Marietta, Georgia facility. Lockheed Martin Aeronautics is the premiere global security and aerospace company.

The Marietta analytical lab is a critical component of the LM facility which manufactures the C-130 Hercules transport and the F-22 Raptor air dominance fighter. The Marietta site is also responsible for the avionics and engine modernization programs for the C-5 Galaxy strategic transport, P-3 Orion program operations, including the new wing production line, and the center wing assembly for all three variants of the F-35 Lightning II.

ESG will assume operations of the Lockheed Martin wastewater laboratory and will be responsible for analyses of all permit and process data. This includes, but is not limited to, organics, inorganics, and metals analyses. “Our goal will be to use the precise and accurate data generated in the laboratory and interface seamlessly with the wastewater operations staff to provide the information they need to manage their wastewater treatment facility. The Lockheed Martin laboratory is well equipped, including a TOC analyzer and ICP unit for metals analyses,” commented Sharon Kelly, ESG Regional Manager.

Lockheed Martin is a global leader in the design, manufacture and support of military aircraft. Its goal is to provide a full spectrum of aeronautical resources to allow the U.S. and its allies to conduct air operations anywhere, any time.

Lockheed Martin also provides world-class training, focused logistics support, and advanced targeting and navigation technologies to enable the right people with the right skills to be in the right place at the right time with the right information and the right munitions to accomplish their missions.

“ESG is very honored to have been selected by Lockheed Martin for this strategic partnership. We look forward to working with the wastewater operations staff at the Marietta facility. ESG is excited for the opportunity to bring our award-winning laboratory operations to this respected global security and aerospace company.”

JOHN EDDLEMON, P.E.
ESG Senior Vice President





RETIREMENT NEWS

Congratulations to **JP Roberts** (*photo at right*) on his recent retirement. JP started his career with ESG Operations in July of 2006. He was the lead operator at the Apalachicola Project. JP transferred from the Apalachicola Project to the Wakulla Project to become the lead operator. JP has a wealth of knowledge in the wastewater field operating plants from the northeastern regions of the country all the way down to the Virgin Islands. JP and his wife are planning to enjoy retirement by taking more cruises!

Retirement congratulations also go to **Albert Hartsfield** (*photo, bottom left*). Albert started his career with Wakulla County Public Works at the landfill in 1990. By the time he retired, he had worked his way up the ladder to become the lead grader operator. You could always depend on Albert to be at work and ready to work! Albert's "stories" will be missed by all. In retirement, Albert plans to expand his commercial fishing (mullet) enterprise.

THANK YOU FOR A JOB WELL-DONE!



The last time Wakulla County has seen weather of the type we experienced this winter was 1989!

WAKULLA COUNTY IMPACTED BY WINTER STORM 2014

Wakulla County Public Works spent 80 man hours in preparation for the winter storm of 2014. The crews were directed to find standing water in the roadway and shoulders and clip the roadside edges to allow the water to drain and help prevent the formation of ice. Even with all of our efforts, Wakulla County still had two bridges freeze over. Our on-call crews quickly mobilized into the night and spread sand on Lost Creek Bridge on US 319, and on the Sopchoppy River Bridge on Smith Creek Highway. The last time Wakulla County experienced this type of weather was 1989. Brrrrr!!

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff Bearden received his Florida Wastewater Class C License. Congratulations, Jeff, on this accomplishment!

ESG OPERATIONS, INC. CONGRATULATES
MR. JOHNNY TIMMONS ON 40 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE CITY OF TUPELO



On February 24, 2014, the **ESG/TUPELO TEAM** was proud to be on hand to support Tupelo Mayor Jason Shelton in recognizing Mr. Johnny Timmons for 40 years of service and dedication to the City of Tupelo. For the past 19 years, Mr. Timmons has served as the Director of Tupelo Water and Light. Mayor Shelton introduced Mr. Timmons as “the man responsible for quite literally, keeping the lights on and the water flowing in Tupelo.”

Mr. Timmons began his career with the City as a groundsman and then worked his way up. When the manager at the time retired, former Tupelo Mayor Jack Marshall gave Johnny the opportunity to become assignment manager. While working his way up, he imagined one day

holding the position of director. “I always kind of dreamed about it a little bit, you know. After I’d been here a while, I kind of thought, ‘Hey, I’d like to do that,’ and so it became my goal to get to this position...and now I’m here 40 years,” said Timmons.

Chris Holloway, ESG/Tupelo Project Manager, reports that Johnny seems to spend a good part of every weekend driving around the City and developing a list of projects and tasks (both large and small) to make Tupelo an even better place to live and work. ESG appreciates the opportunity to celebrate this milestone with Mr. Timmons, and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with Mr. Timmons and Mr. Greg Reed, Tupelo’s Director of Water and Sewer, to tackle Tupelo’s utility challenges.



“This is a great day in the life of our company. ESG is honored to serve the City of Opelika and excited for this renewed opportunity to continue to bring our award-winning operations, maintenance and management approach to Opelika. We are grateful to ESG’s Team Opelika for their commitment to helping this City be an outstanding place to live and work.”

— ESG COFOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL CLAY SYKES, P.E.

CITY OF OPELIKA

ESG is excited to announce a renewed partnership with the City of Opelika, Alabama through the year 2024. This historic partnership began in 2005 and was the first of its kind in the Southeast. The ESG/Opelika partnership has served as a true model for public-private partnerships. The Auburn-Opelika area is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the nation and was recently ranked No. 10 on Forbes’ 2013 list of “America’s Best Small Cities for Jobs.” CNN Money also ranked this area No. 22 on its 2013 report of “Best Places to Live.”

Team Opelika is comprised of over 70 employees providing full Public Works, Wastewater Treatment, Liftstation O&M and Fleet Maintenance services. “It has been my honor to serve the City of Opelika since the founding of our partnership in 2005. Team Opelika takes great pride in the services we provide this great city. Many of our employees have been a part of the ESG/Opelika Team from the very beginning—and we look forward to continuing to serve the City in the years ahead,” said Mike Hilyer, ESG Vice President and Opelika Public Works Director.

NEW ASSOCIATES

Team Opelika

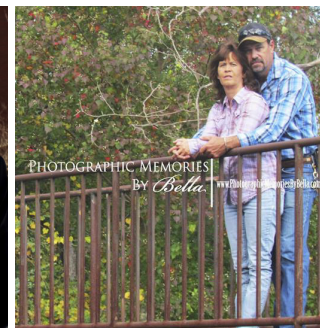
- Michael Baker** • Motor Vehicle Operator
- Early Beagles** • Utility Technician
- Dallas Dorsey** • Utility Technician
- Carl Nobles** • Traffic Signal and Sign Superintendent
- Edward Smith** • WWTP Operator in Training

RENEWS HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP THROUGH THE YEAR 2024

“THE CITY OF OPELIKA LOOKS FORWARD TO OUR CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH ESG OPERATIONS, INC. FROM THE FIRST YEAR OF OUR PARTNERSHIP IN 2005, ESG HAS CONTINUED TO EXCEED MY EXPECTATIONS. I AM IMPRESSED WITH THEIR PROFESSIONALISM AND THE WAY THEY CONTINUE TO IMPROVE OUR ORGANIZATION. OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS, ESG HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO SAVING TAXPAYER MONEY ALONG WITH HELPING US TO RECOVER UNBILLED REVENUE.”

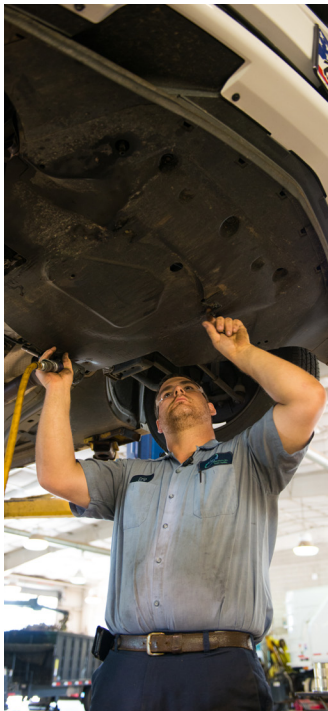
—MAYOR GARY FULLER, City of Opelika

Congratulations



Eric Pritchard was married to Babette Corlew on January 14, 2014 (*photo, left*).

Tad VanWettering was married to Jennifer Godwin on November 22, 2014 (*photo, right*).



THANK YOU PROJECT DIRECTOR MIKE HILYER
AND TEAM OPELIKA ASSOCIATES
FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THIS GREAT CITY





RECENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Collections System Gold Award
- Distribution System of the Year
- Innovative Public Education Award



ESG/Perry is recognized for their outstanding facilities

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

This City of Perry is changing out 64 fire hydrants in an effort to improve the ISO rating. We are now half way completed with this task.

Southern Champion has broken ground on the wastewater treatment plant upgrades. Currently, they are preparing to construct a new clarifier.

The Natural Gas Department has installed 400 feet of 2-inch gas main to service a new elementary school. Also the Gas Department will be completing a large job in-house that will require relocation of around 300 feet of 2-inch gas main. “In-sourcing” these tasks (performing in-house) produces tremendous savings for the City.

ESG/Perry received a request for proposal in regards to the Solid Waste Department. Team Perry is very excited about the opportunity to add these additional services to our contract—and eager to get started!

The roof replacement on the City of Perry’s Water Treatment Plant #2 is complete. The City also approved around \$60,000 to paint the interior of Water Plant #2. Team Perry is acquiring quotes from several contractors to submit to the Mayor and City Council.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

ESG/Perry assisted the City of Perry’s Police Department with a luncheon held in honor of an officer who has worked in Perry for 40 years. Team Perry helped out with cooking for about 200 people.



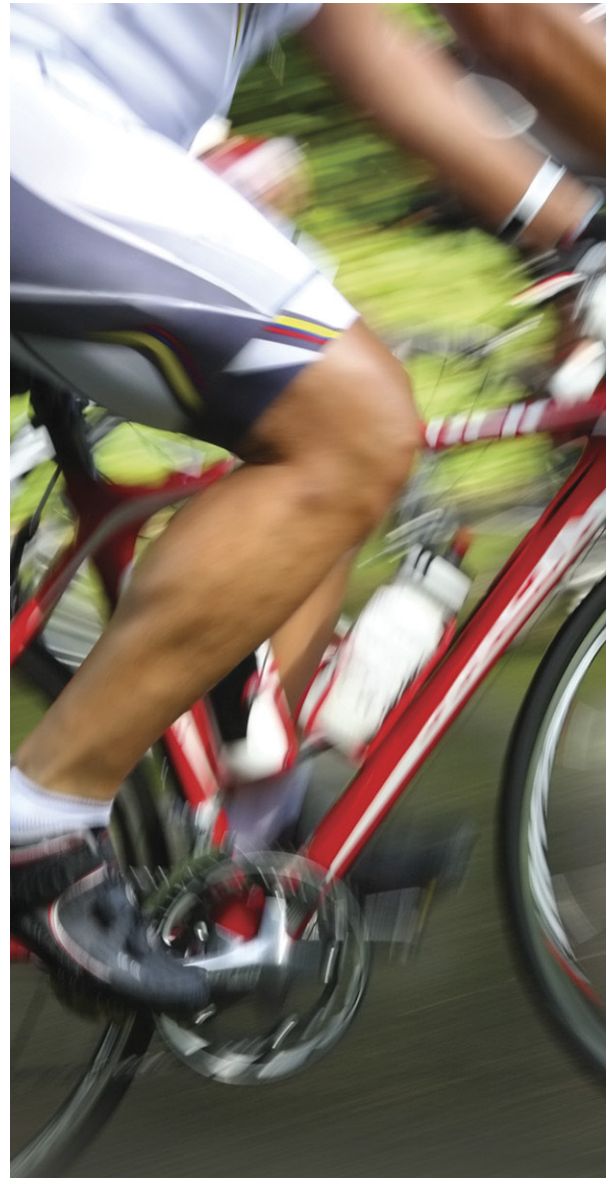


Strike!

Over 20 associates from Team Perry and ESG/Warner Robins participated in a recent wellness activity at Gold Cup Bowling. It was a great time of fun and fitness! Thank you, Team Perry, for planning an event that promotes both **wellness** and **teamwork**.

Upcoming **Goals** for Perry

- Monitor construction on WWTP upgrades
- Continue to focus on wellness
- Continue to expand scope of work in Perry



Perseverance

is the **HARD WORK** you do after the **HARD WORK** you've already done.





WELLNESS

The project's wellness program is in full swing, and our employees are showing a great attitude towards this initiative. The

project's "Fitness Champion," **Dave Pitocchelli**, is doing a great job of relaying information regarding nutrition and exercise. The water plant employees have access to a walking track, mountain bike trail, and ball fields. The wastewater employees have access to a walking track located next to Windermere WRF. In addition to the available means for exercise, we are encouraging all employees to *walk* around the facilities versus riding in a vehicle.

PERSONNEL

Personnel changes within the project include—**Devon Mouzon** is moving to full-time operator and will be included in the on-call rotation. **Keith Johns** is moving to

Wastewater and becoming the belt press operator. Also, **Scott Baum**, water plant operator, has moved to Windermere WRF and **Tony Rich** (from the Commerce Project) is now working at the Water plant.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Jesse Pilcher and Cody Pilcher, interns through a work study

program at West Forsyth High School, have completed their first level of wastewater treatment books and are now working on the second level. We are all rooting for both of them to gain their Wastewater Class III license before the end of summer. Recently Ann Williams, Jesse's work study teacher, wrote an encouraging email to **Todd Baldwin**, Project Manager (*read email at right*).

PROJECT GOALS

Starting and completing expansion at James Creek and The Manor

Two significant recent accomplishments by the employees at the Forsyth Project include building a manual bar screen for Dick's Creek and working through some extreme weather conditions (*photo below is the plant covered in a blanket of snow*). ESG personnel spent many hours at the facilities during the two winter storms to ensure the facilities were covered and to work on any issues as a result of the weather. **Thank you, Forsyth County Team—and keep up the good work!**



The manual bar screen, shown in the photo below, was built by **Wayne Barrett** (ESG wastewater operator).



I read Jesse's reflection about his work during and after the ice storms. What a challenge, but he was excited to get the hands-on experience and training!

Each time I talk with you, I thank you for working with Jesse, but these are inadequate words for what you are giving this young man. Richard and you have launched him on his future and are giving him the skills to be an incredible asset for ESG.







“VIDALIA, GEORGIA will always be special to our company. In 2003, ESG landed its first municipal O&M contract with the City of Vidalia. Last summer (2013) we celebrated 10 years of a successful partnership. We are honored for the confidence and trust placed in our company with this contract renewal, and look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Vidalia in the days ahead.”

— ESG COFOUNDERS AND PRINCIPALS • DAN GROSELLE AND CLAY SYKES

CITY OF VIDALIA RENEWS CONTRACT AND ADDS FLEET MAINTENANCE TO SCOPE OF SERVICES

TEAM VIDALIA is looking forward to continuing to serve the great city of Vidalia, Georgia. Our renewed contract includes the addition of Fleet Maintenance to the services we provide the City. Fleet Maintenance includes maintenance of all city-owned equipment and vehicles. We are pleased to welcome **James Mallard**, Fleet Supervisor and **Mark Hutto**, Fleet Mechanic, to Team Vidalia.



We are pleased to announce that **Mia Sager** has been promoted to Office Manager. Mia has been with Team Vidalia since June 25, 2007, as Administrative Assistant. Mia is a very valuable asset to Team Vidalia and ESG.

TEAM VIDALIA FAMILY NEWS

- **RJ Williams** • C&D Department
- **Christy Hill** received Wastewater Lab Analyst license
- **Alan Lundy** promoted to LAS Operator in Training
- **Dustin Clements** promoted to Swift Creek Operator in Training

Daryl Correll's granddaughter, Izabella Marie Correll, was born December 1, 2013. *(photo, left)*

Justin Barrows' son, Koleson Allen Barrow, was born January 2, 2014. *(photo right)*



Vidalia went online with the new PSD software on January 17. The new software is running well and all work orders and requests are being generated and tracked in PSD. We would like to thank **Sean Meyer** and **Becky Alexander** for all of their hard work. The C&D department saved the city \$5,000 by installing 1,600 feet of water main at the Vidalia Airport. The water line will be used to irrigate 2 acres of onions for a demonstration at the Onion Festival.



CURRENT PROJECTS



Team Vidalia is currently overseeing two major construction projects. The **Adams Street Project** *(photo, left)* is a storm water and distribution system project expected to be completed in early October. The **Highway 292 Project** *(photo, right)* is a GDOT road widening project that includes the relocation of a 12" water main and a 6" force main.



SUCCESS

**IS THE SUM OF SMALL EFFORTS,
REPEATED DAY IN AND DAY OUT.**





Upgrade at the Sandy Run WPCP Currently Underway

The Warner Robins/ESG Team has coordinated with Haskell to smoothly perform three critical shutdowns to put in the new Headworks (which includes a new 72" JLG 6mm Barscreen), the newly refurbished Parkson screens with 6mm plates, and two grit removal systems. Scheduled to be put online this spring are the new CCC with temporary post air and Cl2 feed as well as the two new 140 feet diameter, 2 million gallon clarifiers with tobro headers. **David Moore** and **Kristen Courson** from the ESG corporate office are working to build a strong relationship with Haskell to ensure a successful plant upgrade and in an attempt to mitigate any operational adversities during construction.



Aeration Towers 2 and 3 Removal

Contractors are currently performing upgrades at Water Plants 1 and 2



SANDY RUN WPCP

Ongoing upgrade at the Sandy Run WPCP. Clarifiers and Headworks are currently being completed

FAMILY NEWS AT WARNER ROBINS

Benjiman Morrow obtained his Class II Water Operator and Water Lab Analyst Licenses.

New Associates at ESG/Warner Robins

Heath Jarriel • WW Operator in Training

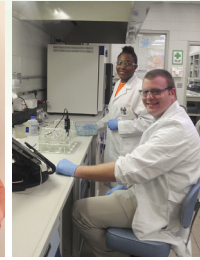
Douglas Newberry • Truck Driver/Land Application Program

James Floyd • Laboratory Analyst in Training

Jonathan Crenshaw • WW Operator in Training



Heath Jarriel



James Floyd



Jonathan Crenshaw

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Heath Jarriel. Heath is a new OIT and began working the night shift alone in late December 2013, after a brief training period with existing operators. Heath quickly adjusted to the work environment and all the nuances of operating the Sandy Run WPCP. During January, Heath worked through record cold temperatures, heavy rainfall as well as sleet and snow. During all these events, he performed the tasks required to keep the plant in compliance, monitored the operation, ran the belt press and most importantly, used his judgment to avoid situations and locations where he might have endangered himself. All of this and he also maintained a good attitude about the tasks he was required to do and turned the plant over to his relief in the best possible condition. (That is nebulous when the temperature is 11°!). Heath represents the very type of individual that ESG wants to attract and the kind that will help us to be successful over the long run.



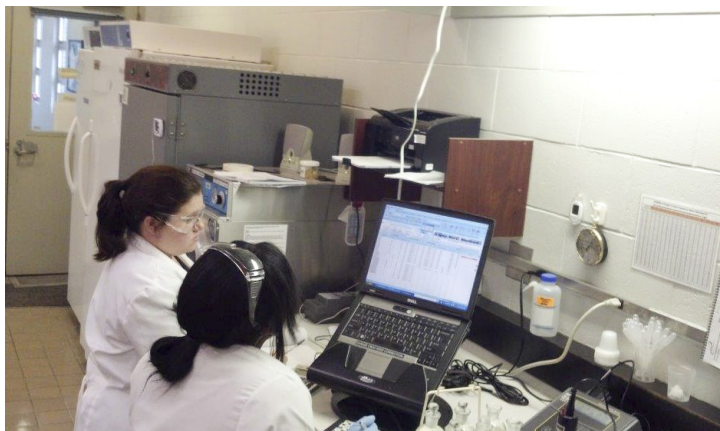
Heart Health Awareness. The Warner Robins' associates celebrated "Heart Health Awareness Month" by wearing RED. Heart disease kills more women than all other forms of cancer combined.

Back Row (L-R)—Ben Morrow and Bobby Weeks

Front Row (L-R)—Heather Hare, Nannette Holder, Dee Dee Spann and Barneika Williams

Wellness Board. Our WR Wellness Champion, **Janice Stanford,** keeps our "Wellness" program in the forefront.

Janice provides useful updates and information monthly to the staff, by preparing special bulletin boards.



Warner Robins Lab Participates in Laboratory Training Program

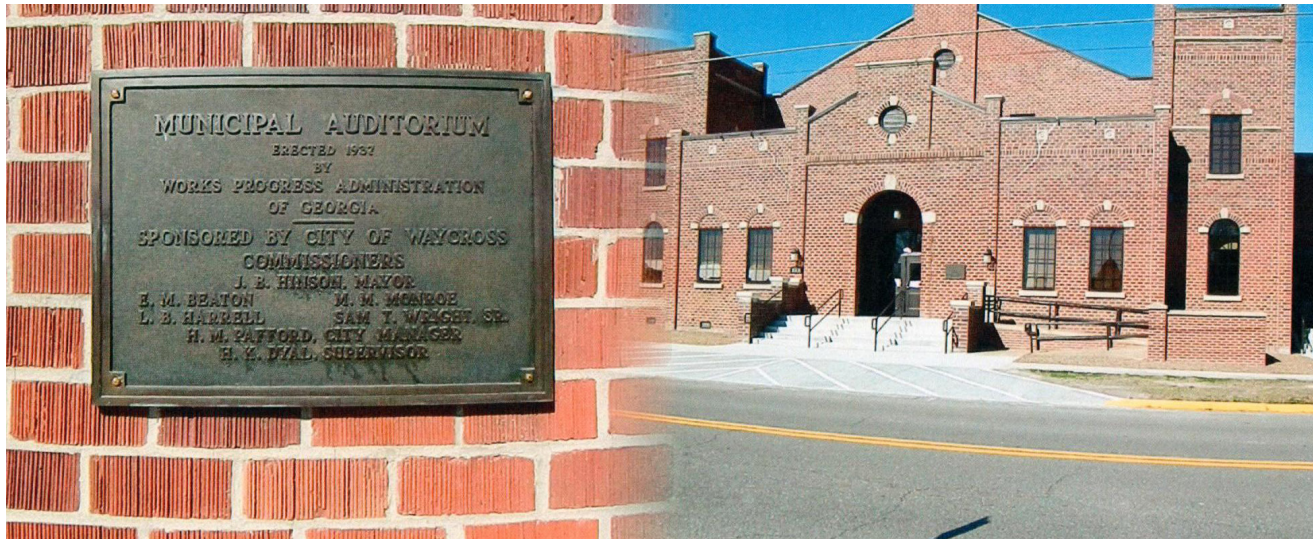
The Warner Robins Laboratory participated in a laboratory training program with Miller-Motte Technical College. Three college students received 8 weeks of water and wastewater training by participating in the externship. This provided students with hands-on training to help prepare them for a career in the laboratory field, as well as provided free laboratory assistance during the two month period.

Waycross

Opportunity in every direction.

**WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP**

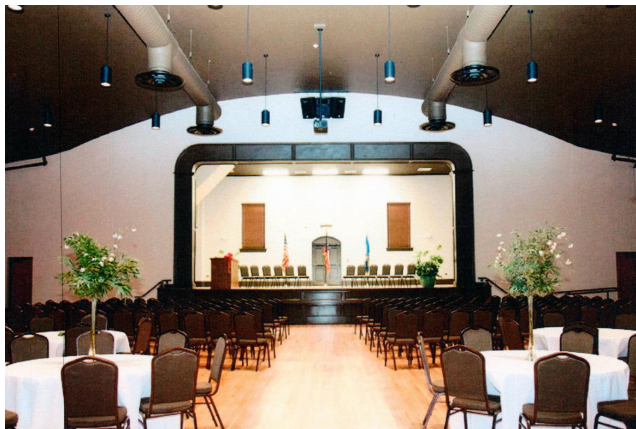
Team Waycross Assists the City with Renovations to City Auditorium



ESG Operations, Inc. recently assisted the City of Waycross in the renovation of the City Auditorium.

This building was originally built in 1937 and is located at the corner of Pendleton and Oak Streets (next the Waycross Police Department). The auditorium has become a multi-purpose facility and is a perfect venue for a wide range of events (business and social events, wedding receptions, reunions, conventions and other special gatherings).

ESG played an influential role in assisting with renovations to the City Auditorium. The C&D crews installed new water and sewer service lines along with a 6 inch fire line service. Team Waycross assisted the general contractor by painting the air conditioning diffusers. ESG also worked closely with the Engineering Department to fabricate brackets and hangers for the flags and banners, and also helped with installation of more than 100 feet of 2-inch storm drain pipe.





Team Waycross Builds New Water Pump System from Surplus Inventory

Last year ESG/Waycross was asked to look at any vehicles or items that may need to go to surplus. After reviewing the inventory, the old portable generator was identified for surplus. ESG evaluated this equipment for repair and determined the generator portion was old and out of date; however, the engine was in very good working condition and had less than a few hundred hours of use. So, the concept of using the engine for something to benefit the City was researched. Our research led Team Waycross to the desperate need for a large emergency water pump. Recent needs of a large pump to move huge volumes of water during water main breaks and sewer cave in events had resulted in thousands of dollars in rental fees and a delivery time of at least four hours. It became obvious to the ESG Team that a large pump was not only needed but was a very economically sensible decision. ESG/Waycross presented the idea to the City Engineer who immediately saw the value and benefit of this equipment and authorized the purchase of a 6 inch Gorman Rupp centrifugal pump that would pump at a rate of 3,500 gallons per minute. This would give us the capability to easily pump any volume generally needed during emergency situations. Our new water pump has become a life saver in regulatory terms and will aid the City in other departments as well. **ESG built the entire pump system.** Our staff had SMI to build a special coupling that is rated to mate the engine to the pump. **ALL of the work was performed in-house by our staff.** The final cost was \$4,800 which when compared to the purchase of a new pump saved the City \$25,000! ESG/Waycross and the City Engineer's office is very proud of this accomplishment. We are confident the pump will benefit the City for many years not only in speed to evacuate water but in financial savings too.

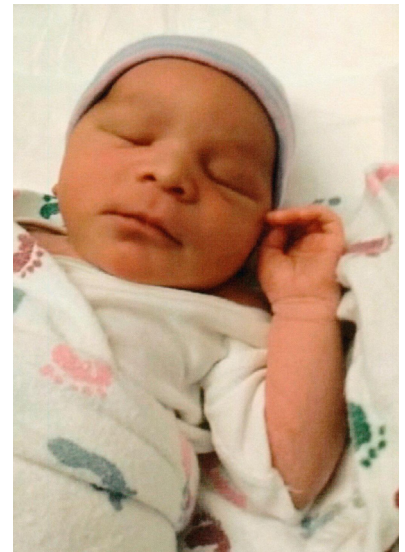
FAMILY NEWS

FROM TEAM WAYCROSS

Project Manager **Larry Yockachonis** obtained a Mississippi State Water Certification License. He is now certified to operate in the state of Mississippi.



We are happy to welcome new employee, **Michael Collins**, to Team Waycross. Michael works in our C&D Department.



Caleb Collins

Congratulations to **Albert and Candice Collins** on the birth of their new son, Caleb Levi. He was born March 3 and weighed in at almost 9 lbs.



ESG'S STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

“The Rockdale Project is a challenging one but has a great local operational team already in place. I am very excited to be a part of the ESG team!”

—ED BISKIS, P.E. • Rockdale Project Manager



ROCKDALE WATER RESOURCES

ESG Welcomes Ed Biskis as New Project Manager at ESG/Rockdale

Ed Biskis, P.E., joined ESG on March 3 as the new Project Manager for the Rockdale operation. Ed brings 28 years of experience in the water and wastewater arenas including planning/conceptual approaches, process design, construction administration, operational startup/troubleshooting and operational support (asset management). We are happy to welcome Ed to the ESG Family and to Rockdale County.



 Above • New Rockdale Project Manager, **Ed Biskis, P.E.**
Left • **Jonathan Doughty** working inside the tank

Recently Completed Projects at Rockdale



We drained and cleaned the Quigg Branch sludge holding tank.

This is an annual take down to remove built up rags and grit from the tank. This tank is split in the middle to create two tanks which allows us to keep one side in service

while cleaning the other side. This project requires a confined space entry and other safety equipment to safely clean the tank.

We drained and cleaned the sludge holding tank at the UASB to prepare for a contractor to reline the tank. This tank is part of the UASB pretreatment process. Over the years the existing lining has eroded, and there are numerous rust holes in the tank. The holes will be repaired, and then the tank will be lined with a spray-on liner that was specified by the Rockdale Water Resources engineering staff.

CONGRATULATIONS—Chris Jones, a new associate, has received his Grade 3 Wastewater license. He was hired as an Operator Trainee and has been promoted to Operator. Chris has demonstrated that he is a very dedicated and conscientious operator and is a great asset to ESG/Rockdale. We applaud him for his accomplishment!





FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA'S WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Fast Facts

Headquarters

Macon, Georgia

Number of Employees

407

Offices

17 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."

What we do is not unusual.
The way we do it is.



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

