



The Clarifier



ONE TEAM

SERVING 715,000 CITIZENS DAILY AT
 25 DRINKING WATER PLANTS
 35 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND
 4 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS
 MAINTAINED AND OPERATED IN 4 STATES
 BY 350+ DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS
 TRAINED FOR OVER 30,000 HOURS
 CONDUCTING OVER 125,000 TESTS
 REMOVING 56.7 MILLION POUNDS OF POLLUTION
 FROM 23 BILLION GALLONS OF
 DRINKING WATER AND
 38 BILLION GALLONS OF WASTEWATER



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

www.esginc.net

ESG OPERATIONS, INC. PROUDLY CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMPANY'S FOUNDING

In 2002, after nearly 20 years working for the world's largest utility operations firm, ESG cofounders, Clay Sykes and Dan Groselle, left their jobs and founded ESG. As they often share, in the beginning they were simply "two guys, two trucks and two computers." Since its founding in 2003, ESG Operations has been immeasurably blessed and is now one of the fastest growing utility operations and public works management firms in the nation. This year, ESG Operations, Inc. celebrates its 10th Anniversary. ESG landed its very first municipal O&M contract with the City of Vidalia, Georgia in June 2003. "Vidalia, Georgia will always be special to our company, and we are grateful for the successful partnership we've shared with the City for these 10 years. We congratulate Vidalia team members **Robbie Akins, Mark Durden, Frank Landrum, Andy Peterson, John Doughty** and **Connie Skinner** for completing 10 years of service. We look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Vidalia in the years ahead," said cofounders and principals, Clay Sykes and Dan Groselle.

ESG Operations is grateful to the over 350 dedicated associates who serve our customers across the Southeast and who have enabled us to achieve this incredible growth over the past 10 years.



Read more and see photos of ESG's **10th Anniversary Celebration** in Vidalia inside on Pages 8-9

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OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2006
VOL. 101 NO. 236 50 CENTS

Moving on up: High school football preview. Inside

New jobs: Automotive supplier expanding Auburn location. 2A

Parting: State Christian Coalition splits from national group. 8A



www.opnews.com A MEDIA GENERAL NEWSPAPER

NOTABLE

ESG saves Opelika \$700K



OPELIKA SINKS
Opelika's City Council spent three hours Wednesday thumbing through 177 pages of the city's 2007 proposed budget. Near the end of the budget work session, city administrator John Seymour presented an ESG contract review slide show to the council members.

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS from the City of Opelika's budget. **FRIDAY.** Seymour and city controller Mitch Price retraced the city's decision to purchase the public works department's contract. ESG director Mike Hilger was on hand to answer any questions.

"This is a conservative approximate of savings to the city through the ESG contract," Seymour said. Opelika subtracted ESG's total first-year contract, \$3,500,000, from the estimated expenditures for 2006, \$4,000,000, for a total savings of \$500,000. An expected maintenance revenue of \$200,000 added to \$324,700 will result in the estimated \$724,700 savings.

Price produced the estimated expenditure for 2006, \$4,000,000 based solely on track. "Seymour said, Opelika subtracted ESG's total first-year contract, \$3,500,000, from the estimated expenditures for 2006, \$4,000,000, for a total savings of \$500,000. An expected maintenance revenue of \$200,000 added to \$324,700 will result in the estimated \$724,700 savings.

SI OPELIKA, PG. 1

A commitment to a goal or a way of life.

Dedication

ESG Guiding Principle I
We believe the only way to succeed is to be 100% dedicated to our employees and our clients.



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

2003-2013



The single most important factor in individual and organization success.

Commitment

ESG Guiding Principle I
Our reputation is built one client at a time, by demonstrating an unwavering commitment to "Actually do what we say we are going to do."





ESG

What you do when no one else is watching.

Integrity

| ESG Guiding Principle 1 |

There is no situation worth compromising our personal or corporate integrity.



OVER 350 ASSOCIATES SERVING 715,000 CITIZENS DAILY ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST

ONE TEAM

DELIVERING AWARD-WINNING SERVICES AND **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**



ESG

The unlimited ability to improve the quality of what you have to offer.

Excellence

| ESG Guiding Principle 1 |

We will continually strive to always do better tomorrow than we did today.





MAKING THE CHANGE TO A HEALTHIER **YOU!**

In today's world of quick fixes, fad diets, and an overload of health information, losing weight and getting healthy can feel like a daunting task. Fortunately, there are relatively simple guidelines to assist you in your effort to lose weight healthfully and keep it off for the rest of your life. Here are some simple guidelines that will have you well on your way to your desired weight loss.

Creating the Right Mindset

According to the American Dietetic Association, the key to weight management over a lifetime is to have a positive attitude and the right kind of motivation. Most people do not get motivated to follow a diet. Therefore, think of it as your healthy eating style rather than a diet. That will immediately take a lot of pressure off yourself and your nutrition goals. Also, focus on achieving a healthy weight for your body type and frame. Don't just try to reach the lowest weight you can or focus on a number from a chart.

Be Realistic

The National Institutes of Health state that healthy and sustainable weight loss is one to two pounds per week. One pound is equal to 3,500 calories. Therefore, if you wanted to lose one pound per week, you would subtract 500 calories per day from your meal plan.

Your Healthy Eating Style

Choose a variety of foods to help implement your new healthy eating style. Inclusion of many types of foods will keep you from being bored and will supply essential

balance, vitamins, and minerals for health and wellness. Make sure to take in 6 to 11 servings of whole grains, 5 to 9 servings of fruits and vegetables, 2 to 3 servings of low-fat dairy products, 5 to 7 ounces of lean protein sources or protein substitutes, and a couple of servings of healthy nuts and oils. Make sure you are aware of correct portion sizes, as that is where a lot of people falter with weight loss. Use other foods sparingly, but don't try to cut out all unhealthy foods. This will only lead to cravings over time.

Fitting in Exercise

The American Dietetic Association recommends 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most if not all days to achieve weight management. Choose exercises that interest you, so you will likely be consistent over time. Also try new exercises or classes you may be interested in. Brisk walking, jogging, swimming, or biking are examples of physical activity that you should fit in on most days. These types of activities are not only beneficial for weight loss but also for fighting cardiovascular disease and other diseases. Include resistance exercises in your routine. These exercises will help you to build muscle and preserve muscle as you age. Try for 3 days of resistance exercise and include exercises that target all the muscle groups. Do 2 to 3 sets of each exercise and 10 to 15 repetitions. As you build muscle from resistance training, you will burn more calories; therefore, leading to more weight loss over time.

“What better place to invest than in yourself.” —Dan Groselle, ESG Cofounder

Treatment Plant Operator Magazine Features Plantscapes at ESG/Augusta



ESG was honored to be recognized in the February 2013 issue of *Treatment Plant Operator* magazine for the beautiful plantscapes and 360 acres of constructed wetlands at ESG/Augusta.

Built between 1990-2003, the wetlands are part of the Phinizy Swamp Nature Park, an 1,100 acre preserve that serves as headquarters, laboratory and visitor center for the Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy (a non-profit organization committed to the sustainability of the 314-mile Savannah River). ESG is proud to partner with the Academy in providing plant tours of the J. B. Messerly Water Pollution Control Plant and workshops to educate students and the general public about the beauty of nature and the value of responsible environmental stewardship.



“We take a lot of pride in our facility and in what we do. We wanted the plant and the streetscape to reflect that pride.”

**PERCY NOLAN • Project Manager
ESG/Augusta, Georgia**

 Read the full article at www.tpomag.com



RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Team Barnesville associates **Brandon Lewis, Christy Allison, Chuck Chute, Mike Hilyer Jr. and Dexter Thornton** (not pictured)



Taste Test Award Presentation, left to right: **Christy Allison, Brandon Lewis, Chuck Chute, Jason Shirey** (Assistant City Manager • City of Barnesville) and **Don North** (ESG Senior Operations Specialist)

ESG began providing Water and Wastewater operations, management, and maintenance services to the City of Barnesville on October 1, 2012. **ESG associates from Opelika, Warner Robins, Waycross, Perry, Rockdale, Augusta, and the Macon Corporate Office all joined together and conducted a successful project start-up in Barnesville.**

Challenging start-up tasks included attaining compliance with the NPDES Permit effluent copper limits at the WWTP. **David Moore** and **Scott Murphy** determined an efficient/cost effective means of treating copper at the WWTP. With assistance from **Sharon Kelly**, Mike McCauley (Polytec), and **Barnesville team members**, a unique treatment process utilizing pH adjustment and a metals precipitant was implemented. As a result, the WWTP has achieved perfect NPDES permit compliance for 8 consecutive months while reducing the overall yearly project chemical costs by nearly 50%.

Strides were also made in regards to water quality at the WTP. **Don North** and **WTP operators** made adjustments in the system which have resulted in significant water quality improvements. WTP staff have also worked closely with design engineers and contractors to complete the WTP upgrade. This upgrade included 4 filter rehabs,

new valving, new chemical feed systems, 1 new high service pump, and new SCADA system.

BARNESVILLE'S NEW \$12.4 MILLION WWTP TO BE COMPLETED IN 2014

The ESG/Barnesville Team will assist engineering and contracting personnel during the construction of a new 2.4 MGD activated sludge WWTP. Construction of the \$12.4 million facility is expected to be completed during mid-2014. Other project goals include maintaining permit compliance and improving facility appearance at both the WTP and WWTP.

BARNESVILLE EARNS BEST TASTING WATER IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

The GAWP awarded Barnesville's WTP with the **2012 Best of the Best Taste Test Award** for the best tasting tap water in the state of Georgia—along with perfect compliance for 11 consecutive years. Congratulations, Team Barnesville!

Congratulations to Barnesville Project Manager Brandon Lewis and his wife Monica on the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Rose "Lizzy," on April 6, 2013. Lizzy is named after her grandmothers—Liz and Rose.



RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Mickey Roberts directs a crane removing an aerator section for repair



Mickey Roberts, Joey Stevenson, Jeff Buchanan and **Jerry West** repair one of the aerator sections



Jerry West removes a television from the New River in Tifton



Corporate Safety Director Darrel West helps to insure the Southwest Lift Station repair is safe, efficient and effective

A SUCCESSFUL START-UP AT ESG/TIFTON

It's been a busy start-up for ESG in Tifton. Eighteen new associates joined the ESG Team in November and have hit the ground running—addressing a number of issues like rehabilitating the digesters, cleaning the influent channel, structural repairs to lift stations, and cleaning the grit system for the wastewater treatment plant. **Many thanks to the over 31 additional ESG Team members from Macon, Warner Robins, Perry, Waycross, Wakulla, Vidalia, Atlanta, Opelika, Rockdale, and Augusta, that helped out in Tifton to make the transition a success.**

Some of our Project Highlights in recent months:

Digester Rehabilitation—Within the first 30 days of the new contract, ESG personnel completely rehabilitated the aerobic digesters, including: replacing broken or missing aerator disks, replacing a number of carrier bearing, and clearing the top of the digesters of accumulated vegetation and debris.

River Cleaning—ESG associates cleaned a 1/2 mile section of the New River in Tifton, removing two trailer loads of debris including over 30 tires, a television, paint drums, and a tremendous amount of plastic, cans, and bottles.

Grit System—ESG personnel removed over 35 cubic yards of accumulated sand and debris from the grit system at the wastewater treatment plant.

Southwest Lift Station Repair—ESG performed a number of structural repairs, including replacement of the pump guides, repair of the mounting brackets, and repair of the pump control system.



Jerry West and **Matt Davis** work to remove sand from the WWTP grit system



Tommy Coker and **Don Pate** (foreground) coordinate the effort to remove over 30 cubic yards of material from the grit system

CONGRATULATIONS

ESG/Tifton would like to congratulate **Mr. and Mrs. Mikey Roberts** on the birth of their new granddaughter Logan Ruth Whitley. Logan was born in Arlington, VA. on March 26, 2013. Her proud parents are Clint and Mandy Whitley.



RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

TEAM VIDALIA ASSISTS GEORGIA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION WITH LAS SLUDGE REMOVAL PROJECT

In late 2012, Team Vidalia assisted the Georgia Rural Water Association with removing sludge from a 5.2 million gallon settling pond at the LAS Plant. The settling pond has been in operation for 20 years and over time has accumulated a significant amount of sludge. Georgia Rural Water was contracted to remove the sludge with their dredge and to complete polymer dosing operations. De-watering is being accomplished by using geotubes in an area prepared and set up by ESG Staff. ESG/Vidalia would like to thank Corporate Engineer **Kristen Courson** for all of her assistance with this project.

ADDITIONAL PROJECT NEWS. The City of Vidalia Water System was awarded the 2012 Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Water Distribution System of the Year (less than 10,000 customers). Project Manager **Jeff West** led the team with assistance from **Robbie Akins** (Assistant Project Manager) and **Mia Sager** (Administrative Assistant).

With negotiations assistance from ESG, the City of Vidalia was able to purchase a new 2012 JCB 3XC backhoe at a significant cost savings.



Robbie Akins, Mia Sager and Jeff West with GAWP 2012 System of the Year Award



New 2012 JCB 3XC Backhoe



LAS Sludge Removal Project

CONGRATULATIONS TO ESG/VIDALIA ASSOCIATES COMPLETING 5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Each was presented with a 5 Year service pin and ESG jacket.

- **Johnny Bacon** • Street Department
- **Daryl Correll** • Meter Reading Supervisor
- **Jimmy Mills** • Street Department
- **Mia Sager** • Administrative Assistant
- **Brian Thompson** • C&D Supervisor



Celebrating 5 Years of Service with Vidalia Project Manager **Jeff West**, left to right—**Johnny Bacon, Jimmy Mills and Brian Thompson**



ESG associate **Daryl Correll** receives his 5 year service pin and jacket from ESG Cofounder and Principal, **Clay Sykes**

On June 12, 2013, ESG was honored to host a 10 Year Celebration at our inaugural partnership in Vidalia, Georgia. The celebration included a lunch for ESG/Vidalia associates and city leaders along with the presentation of crystal awards to Vidalia associates celebrating 10 years of service with the company.



PROUDLY SERVING THE CITY OF VIDALIA
SINCE 2003

ESG'S **INAUGURAL** PARTNERSHIP

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!



Thank you, **City of Vidalia** and **Team Vidalia**, for 10 years of *servng together*—and we look forward to the future!





FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to **Connie Skinner**, HR Coordinator, proud “Gammie” to Ryder Ritch Wilson, born August 2, 2012.

Congratulations to **Jeff West**, Project Manager, proud grandfather of two grandsons—Kullen Henry West, born August 27, 2012; and Aidan Lee Aimerson, born December 4, 2012.

New ESG/Vidalia Associates—**Justin Barrow** (C&D), **Dustin Clements** (Street Department), **Christy Hill** and **Cody Mallard** (Wastewater).

THANK YOU FOR 10 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Cofounders Clay Sykes and Dan Groselle presented these ESG/Vidalia associates with crystal awards during the anniversary celebration on June 12, commemorating their 10 years of service with the company. We congratulate each of them for this significant milestone and thank them for their dedicated service to the company and for their individual contributions to our successful partnership with the City of Vidalia.

- **Robbie Akins** • Assistant Project Manager
- **Mark Durden** • Maintenance
- **Frank Landrum** • Operations
- **Andy Peterson** • Maintenance
- **Connie Skinner** • Human Resources

Congratulations to **Robbie Akins**, recipient of the GAWP 2012 District 9, **Top Wastewater Operator of the Year Award**. Robbie serves as ESG Assistant Project Manager for the City of Vidalia.





Barry West • ESG/Tupelo Mechanic and Lab Assistant



Christopher Holloway • ESG/Tupelo IMP



Tim Foster • ESG/Tupelo Operator



ESG/TUPELO TEAM ASSISTS THE CITY WITH SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

ESG/Tupelo Staff are currently assisting the City of Tupelo with several projects including the removal of one of the City's lagoons which is located within the city limits. The lagoon has remained dormant for the last several years and is ready to be emptied and filled. The City now plans to use the lagoon site as a rubbish site. Also, the lift station is due to be replaced with a new submersible site.

The City also contracted to replace/update two lift stations—one a Gorman-Rupp self priming station and the other a wet/dry can station. Both were replaced with new submersible pump stations. New pressure lines were also laid for the two lift stations. We anticipate these changes will allow for much lower maintenance costs overall.

ESG/Tupelo looks forward to our continuing partnership with the City in all of Tupelo's resource recovery operations.



ESG/Tupelo Plant



ESG/ROCKDALE COUNTY RECEIVES GOLD AWARDS FOR ALL FIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

All five treatment plants in Rockdale County received Gold Awards for 2012 from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP). These awards are given for treatment plants that have no permit violations for the year.

PROJECT AUDIT COMPLETED BY ESG RESOURCE TEAM

On June 4-6, a team of ESG resources performed a Rockdale Project Audit in an effort to identify any gaps in service delivery. The team was composed of **Darrel West**, Corporate Safety Director, **Nannette Holder**, Corporate Lab Director, **David Moore**, Senior Operations Specialist and **Neil Watts**, ESG/Wakulla County Fleet Supervisor.

ROCKDALE WATER RESOURCES AWARDS ESG DESIGN/BUILD SCOPE OF SERVICE

Rockdale Water Resources awarded ESG a design/build scope of service to address more stringent effluent limits at the Southside WWTPs—Scott Creek, Honey Creek, and Snapping Shoals.

ESG/ROCKDALE FAMILY NEWS

- **Gary Schellhorn** was hired as Assistant Project Manager
- **LaTicia Thompkins** was hired as Office Manager to assist with the day-to-day activities at Rockdale
- **Edward Simmons** was hired as an IPP Technician at the Quigg Branch WWTP
- **Robert Randall** was hired as an Operator-in-Training (OIT) at the Quigg Branch WWTP
- **Joseph Deputy** completed 5 years of service with ESG
- **Derrick Battle** received his Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester certification
- **Gary Schellhorn, APM** received upgraded certification for Underground Storage Tank (UST) Operator



Rockdale County Receives 2012 Gold Awards from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP)

Left to right: Oz Nesbitt (Post I Commissioner), **Gary Schellhorn** (Assistant Project Manager), **Joseph Spann** (RWR Plant Manager), **Paul Tickerhoof** (ESG Regional Manager), JaNice Van Ness (Post II Commissioner), Richard A. Oden (Chairman and CEO of Rockdale County) along with other Rockdale employees

UPCOMING PROJECT GOALS

- ▶ The modification of Scott Creek, Honey Creek, and Snapping Shoals Wastewater Treatment facilities for disinfection in order to comply with the more stringent discharge permits. These modifications are being designed and constructed utilizing ESG's engineering staff and a local area partner.
- ▶ Upgrading the polymer feed system at the Quigg Branch Wastewater Treatment facility. This improvement should result in a more efficient use of the chemical.
- ▶ Plan to pilot test Aluminum vs. Poly Aluminum Chloride at Almand Branch to assess performance and cost incentives.



RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

TEAM OPELIKA PARTNERS WITH THE CITY IN GATEWAY PROJECT

With the combined efforts of the City of Opelika, Keep Opelika Beautiful, and ESG's Team Opelika, what was once a muddy vacant lot has been transformed into a green lush area with a beautiful border fence. The project was completed at a vacant lot located at the corner of West Point Parkway and Sawyer Drive. This area is one of the gateways into the City, just off I-85 South. A split rail fence was installed, grass seed was planted and vines and weeds trimmed along with the planting of 30 crepe myrtles by Keep Opelika Beautiful volunteers. Team Opelika dug the holes for the trees and will continue to water the plants throughout the summer.



ALABAMA WATER AND POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES WESTSIDE TREATMENT PLANT

Opelika's **Westside Treatment Plant** has been awarded a Certificate of Recognition for Mechanical Plants 2.6-4.0 MGD from the Alabama Water and Pollution Control Association. The award will be presented at the AWPCA Conference on July 30 in Montgomery, Alabama.



Team Opelika Builds New Section of **Evergreen Cemetery** in City of Opelika

ESG/OPELIKA BUILDS NEW SECTION OF EVERGREEN CEMETERY

Team Opelika is building a new section of Evergreen Cemetery. The land has been graded and a ditch was piped to give the area a cleaner look. The roads have been laid out and paved. Grass seed has been spread and has come in nicely. Team Opelika also built a new entrance to the cemetery and fenced the entire area. This spring the flag pole was installed. The centerpiece—a beautiful hand carved marble angel and cross—has also been installed. The next step will be to install the layout grid and Columbariums. We look forward to sharing the finished project in a future issue of *The Clarifier*.

WELCOME, NEW TEAM OPELIKA ASSOCIATES

ESG/Opelika welcomes the following **new employees** to the ESG family:

- ▶ **Logan Lewis** | Utility Technician
- ▶ **S.T. Richardson** | WWTP Operator in Training
- ▶ **Frank Thompson** | Motor Vehicle Operator
- ▶ **Gary Tyson** | Utility Technician



Forsyth County's New Membrane Plant

NEW MEMBRANE PLANT NOW IN PRODUCTION

During the month of July 2012, Forsyth County received approval from the Environmental Protection Division to begin treating water with the new Membrane Plant. The ultrafiltration technology produces a high quality drinking water with a greater protection from biological contaminants. This new facility will serve the water customers of Forsyth County for many years to come.

On May 24, 2013, Forsyth County held an Open House and Dedication at the new plant. Attendees were invited to tour the facility along with enjoying a BBQ lunch prepared by ESG associates **Daniel E. Groselle, III, John Eddlemon, Cleve Fleming, Darrel West** and **Brock Mason**.

NEW CHLORINE ANALYZER PROVIDES OPERATIONAL COST SAVINGS

Facing the need to replace aging chlorine analyzers at the Water Plant, ESG/Forsyth investigated available chlorine analyzers on the market and determined that an analyzer which employs electrode technology for measuring free chlorine by small electrical current (as opposed to measuring free chlorine by colorimetric DPD method utilizing buffer and chlorine indicator reagents) would be selected for a one month trial period.



New Chlorine Analyzer is simple to calibrate and extremely accurate and will produce operational cost savings



During the trial period, the chlorine analyzer performed above expectations. The unit was simple to calibrate and extremely accurate. An initial cost savings of \$2,000 was realized due to the electrode-type analyzer's ability to measure multiple samples by utilizing two probes, thus eliminating the need for two separate analyzers to measure both pre- and post-free chlorine. Long-term cost savings will be realized in the Lab Supplies Budget of over \$500 dollars per year by eliminating the need for reagents required for the analyzers that were replaced.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THESE SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

We congratulate ESG/Forsyth County associates **Scott Baum** and **Chris O'Connor** for advancing their licenses. **Scott** obtained his Class I Water license to go along with his Class I Wastewater license. He has been part of the ESG TEAM since December 2011. **Chris** was successful in acquiring both his Class II Water and Class I Wastewater licenses. Chris joined TEAM FORSYTH in April 2012. Great job, guys!



Creating value for our clients each and every day

TEAM WAKULLA “IN-SOURCES” REBUILDING OF MASTER LIFT STATION IN PANACEA, FL

Lift station number 8 is a master lift station located in Panacea, Florida. It sits approximately 300 yards from Dickson Bay, which adjoins the Gulf of Mexico. This lift station was constructed approximately 23 years ago. The 8-foot diameter wet well structure was constructed from concrete storm sewer pipe with a poured concrete base. Over the years, this lift station has been inundated by salt water storm surge from tropical storms which wreaked havoc on the control panel and ductile piping. The concrete wet well structure itself had disintegrated from the high levels of hydrogen sulfides. Numerous “band-aids”, via full circle clamps, had been performed on the wet well piping which kept the lift station limping along. In February of 2013, one of the check valves split from excessive corrosion, flooding the station. At this time it was determined a major rebuild was necessary.

Due to the proximity of open bodies of water, existing utilities, paved roads and a water table less than 3 feet below existing surface elevation, removal and replacement of the existing wet well was not an option. ESG/Wakulla’s Public Works Department learned about lift station rebuilds with drop in fiberglass liners from one of our local sales representatives. Since the existing wet well structure provided the excavation necessary for the liner, this option was tailor-made for this project.

On April 11, 2013 our new fiberglass structure arrived on site pre-piped with stainless piping. The following Monday, ESG staff began the process of installing the new wet well. Concrete was placed in the bottom of the existing wet well. While the concrete was still fluid, a crane was utilized to lift the structure and place into the existing well. Grout was placed around the sides of the fiberglass structure to further secure it in place. The wet well manufacturer provided two employees to cut the fiberglass structure and make the connections to the 8” and 10” PVC inlet piping. Within 48 hours of setting the structure and assembling the yard piping, ESG was able to bypass from the new structure. The entire structure became fully operational by Friday, April 19—only 5 days after the initial setting of the wet well.



ESG was able to save Wakulla County \$20,000 by “in-sourcing” this installation. The rebuild process was so cost effective that there are plans to perform this same type of rebuild for at least three additional lift stations.

Many thanks go to our C&D staff—**Kelly Griffis, Shaun Dandridge** and **Irene Largent**. In addition, **Bubba Dempsey** and **Robin Arnett** from the Road and Bridge Department were vital in the completion of this project.



Photo above—New fiberglass wet well structure is lifted and placed over wet well opening

RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Top—NEW fiberglass wet well structure with stainless piping arrives on site
Bottom—Structure set in wet well and “shimmed” to remain plumb and level

Top—Structure installed and bypass pump connected
Bottom—New Lift Station Number 8 • Panacea, Florida

FAMILY NEWS AT ESG/WAKULLA

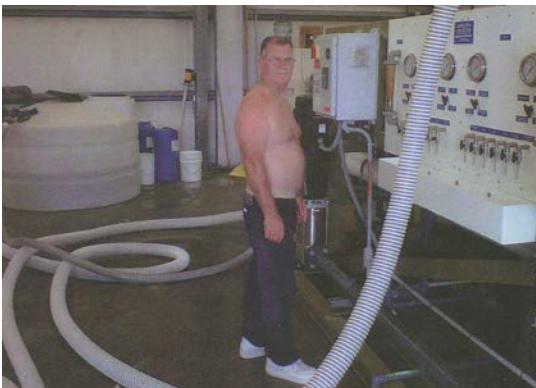
In other news, ESG Wakulla and St. Joe’s Summer Camp would like to welcome the **newest members** to our team:

- **Matthew Howell** • Road & Bridge Department
- **Jodi McIver** • Administrative
- **Chris Wilson** • SummerCamp
- **Jeremy Zinser** • SummerCamp

CONGRATULATIONS to **Kelly Griffis** (C&D) and his wife, Kimberly, on the birth of their third child, Kaleb O’Kella Griffis, on May 14, 2013. Kaleb weighed 8 lb. 3 oz. and measured 20-1/4 inches.

PROJECT GOALS FOR THIS YEAR

- Team Wakulla is working towards having **two new licensed water operators** and a **fourth licensed wastewater operator** by year’s end.
- ESG/Wakulla staff continues to work to resolve the “mystery” of the **I & I issue** on Surf Road.
- One of the most important goals we strive for throughout the year at ESG/Wakulla is to continue our long-time record of **no “lost-time” safety accidents**.



WILLIAM “BILL” BOYD STEPHENS, SR.

Remembering a True Friend and VALUED ASSOCIATE

Billy Stephens had a great impact on all who knew him—and especially the citizens of Wakulla County. At the time of his death, Jackie Lawhon, City Clerk for Sopchoppy, Florida, wrote a fitting tribute to Billy, expressing so well the impact he had on this community. Ms. Lawhon has served as City Clerk of Sopchoppy since 1979—and she and Billy were colleagues for over 25 years. Below are excerpts from her tribute:

William Boyd Stephens Sr. was hired by the City of Sopchoppy on June 28, 1973 to perform City Maintenance and run the small City Water System that only had about 60 customers. Sopchoppy was immediately impacted and forever changed by Bill’s outgoing, dynamic personality and he quickly earned the title of “Mr. Sopchoppy”.

I met Bill when he first came to Sopchoppy, but I was a young stay at home Mom and really didn’t get to know Bill until I was hired in 1979 as the Sopchoppy City Clerk. Working beside Bill for the next 27 years he became not just a co-worker but a good and dependable friend. Together we re-modeled City Hall, fought fires, read meters, responded to sick neighbors, celebrated new lives and good times and cried together and supported each other in death and bad times. Bill was always the first to offer help to neighbors in time of trouble. People gravitated to Bill, he loved people and people loved Bill.

Bill had a vision for the Sopchoppy Water System, and as changes for expansions came to the City he was always excited to meet the challenge and encourage the City to purchase and install new wells and expand the System. At the point Bill began working for the City in 1973 the city had less than 100 water customers and one well; by the time he retired in 2006 the water system had expanded to Mike Stewart Drive in Crawfordville with a customer base of 3,000, seven wells. He built a system that the residents of Sopchoppy should be proud of and one that has provided the resources for the City of Sopchoppy to accomplish many things. We the people of Sopchoppy and Wakulla County owe Bill a debt of gratitude. He will be missed.

It is with great sadness that the ESG Family has had to say goodbye to a longtime friend and valued associate, **Billy Stephens** (ESG/Wakulla), who passed away on September 10, 2012.

Billy was a friend to all who knew him—which was just about everyone in Wakulla County! He was always willing to lend a helping hand and give a word of advice. He taught us all the true meaning of friendship.

Just prior to his death, the Florida Rural Water Association honored Billy by naming him **Water Operator of the Year**. ESG/Wakulla staff held a luncheon in Billy’s honor to congratulate him on this significant achievement.

We are grateful to Jackie Lawhon, MMC, and **Nannette Watts** (ESG/Wakulla) for their kind assistance with this tribute to Billy Stephens.



CITY OF PERRY MOVES TOWARD WASTEWATER EXPANSION

The City of Perry wastewater discharge permit has change—the City has accepted new EPD B2 limits monitoring UOD and more stringent limits on TSS. This has required the City to begin moving forward with wastewater expansion. Over the next two years, we have plans to add an influent screen, clarifier, and filters to ensure we continually meet the B2 limits.

CITY OF PERRY EXPANDS ESG SCOPE OF SERVICES

The City of Perry recently increased ESG's scope of services in Perry to include the Watershed Protection Program.

The City has also expanded our scope to include Natural Gas personnel and storage. The Natural Gas Department replaced 600 hundred feet of corroded gas main on Forest Hill Drive.

Team Perry News and New Certifications

- Congratulations to **Chad McMurrian** who has been promoted to Project Manager at ESG/Perry—and to **Ryan Bode** who has been promoted to Assistant Project Manager.
- **Ryan Bode** obtained his Class 1 Wastewater and Water licenses.
- **Jared Noble** obtained his Class 1 Water license.
- **Travis Falcione** obtained Class 1 Wastewater license, and received Wastewater Operator of the Year District 5.
- **Grady Shirey** obtained his Class 1 Water and received Water Operator of the Year District 5.
- **Kelly Riddle** obtained his Class 2 Wastewater and Class 3 Water license.
- **Michael Stuart** obtained his Distribution license.
- **Bryan Christy** obtained his Collection and Distribution license.

PROJECT GOALS

- ★ Working to reduce I & I throughout the City. Team Perry is beginning the process of point repair and slip lining later this year.
- ★ Line Maintenance personnel are working to reduce I & I at the Georgia National Fairgrounds.
- ★ The Natural Gas Department's goal is to maintain compliance and satisfy the PSC.
- ★ Line Maintenance is replacing 64 hydrants throughout the City in order to increase ISO rating.



The City of Perry recently purchased a 15 yard Vactor. Team Perry is photographed with the new truck.



ESG held a cookout in Perry on April 25, 2013, for all ESG/Perry associates, City of Perry employees, the Mayor and City Council

TPO MAGAZINE RECOGNIZES AUGUSTA PROJECT

ESG/Augusta Project was featured in the February 2013 issue of *Treatment Plant Operator* (TPO) Magazine in the PlantScapes section. The article featured photographs of the ornamental landscaping between the plant and the roadway and the constructed wetlands. Funds from the city and the Department of Transportation were used to enhance the landscape in front of the plant and on adjacent areas. The plant is located next to the Augusta airport and is the first thing many visitors to area see upon arrival to the area.

➤ Please also see article on Page 4 of this issue for more information on TPO's feature article on ESG/Augusta



Chris Thompson, Operations Manager, made a major contribution to the Golden Harvest Food Bank



Food Bank Donations



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Augusta Project also held a blood drive through the Sheppard Community Blood Center and a food drive for the Golden Harvest Food Bank. Both organizations support local community. Both activities were organized by our Community Involvement group consisting of **Charla Hagan** (Laboratory Technician), **Caleb Mortimer** (Operator), Ruth Mead and Aaliyah Ross (SNSA Educators).

RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUSTA HEADWORKS



OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

Pete Boyzuick was recognized as Operator of the Year by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals.

WELCOME NEW OPERATIONS MANAGER

The Augusta Project welcomes **Chris Thompson** as Operations Manager. Chris is a former Marine and has an extensive background in wastewater operations. He is a native Georgian and returns to his home state after being employed in Maryland.

ESG/AUGUSTA RECEIVES GOLD AWARD 2012

The Augusta Project received a **Gold Award** by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals in recognition of complete and consistent NPDES permit compliance during the 2012 calendar year.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations goes out to **Ben Lillis** (Operator) and his new bride Lauren. They were married on May 11.

NEW ASSOCIATES

ESG/Augusta welcomes these new associates to the ESG Family:

- **Raymond Allen** — SSES Team
- **Calvin Richardson** — Mechanic
- **Jimmy Teal** — Mechanic in Training

HEADWORKS UPGRADE

ESG/Augusta was awarded an out of scope contract to upgrade the headworks—replacing the old bar screens with new JWC perforated plate screens. The upgrade also includes replacing existing conveyors at the headworks, new influent sluice gates and installing channel covers.

SPIRIT CREEK MIXING SYSTEM

ESG/Augusta was awarded an out of scope contract to add a mixing system to the Spirit Creek Lift Station. Due to the large amounts of debris and sediment that accumulate at this location, this should serve to prevent pump station failures associated with this type of problem.

SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT

The City of Augusta is under a compliance order to evaluate all of their sanitary sewers by 2016. The City approached ESG requesting our expertise and assistance in collecting this data, utilizing several available technologies. Redzone robotic cameras are being deployed to collect video imagery. This added scope adds approximately 6 full time positions to the project, with an additional 3 positions projected to be added later this year. Additionally, we have partnered with CERM Inc. to assist in the collection of data utilizing pole camera technology.

TEAM WAYCROSS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING FACILITY OPERATIONS

ESG/Waycross was recently recognized by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) for outstanding facility operations. The Waycross Water Treatment Plant received a Platinum Award for five years of perfect water treatment compliance. The Waycross Wastewater Treatment Plant received the Gold Award for perfect compliance in wastewater treatment for four consecutive years. We congratulate Team Waycross on these industry honors.

ESG/WAYCROSS REPLACES EIGHT VEHICLES AS PART OF FUEL CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

As part of ESG's ongoing Fuel Conservation Initiative, ESG/Waycross recently researched and established a target of 20 miles per gallon average for the combined fleet. Team Waycross replaced eight vehicles used throughout the facilities with more fuel efficient vehicles, including the Scion IQ, which averages 40 miles per gallon.



FAMILY NEWS AT ESG/WAYCROSS

- **Terry Sweat** received his Class II Wastewater Operator License
- **Jessie McGriff** received his Class III Wastewater Operator License
- **Larry Yockachonis** received his Class I Wastewater Operator License
- **Jeff Buchanan** received his Class I Wastewater Operator License
- Waycross welcomes new employee **Presley Hill** to the project as a Meter Reader

RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS FROM ESG/WARNER ROBINS

- Installed diffusers in Clarifier 2 contact chamber. Relocated reuse water suction line. Relocated SBS chemical feed point to optimize chemical efficiency.
- Permitting additional land application sites.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant received the Gold Award for 2012 from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP). A special thanks to **Roger Palmer** and **Charles O'Neal**.
- Construction is currently underway for the new plant and administration building.



Sandy Run Creek WPCP

OTHER PROJECT NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Congratulations to **Joe Gibson**, Water Supervisor, whose son, Joseph Brian Gibson, Jr., recently married Lauren Michelle Yuengling.
- **Tamara Wright**, Lab Analyst, completed both her Wastewater Lab Analyst and Water Lab Analyst certifications
- **Ricky Farrow** was recently promoted to Maintenance Supervisor



New diffusers installed in Clarifier 2 Contact Chamber

NEW ESG/WARNER ROBINS ASSOCIATES

- **Sharon Kelly** • Regional Manager
- **Jim Mixon** • Assistant Project Manager
- **Heather Hare** • Office Manager
- **Charlie Dukes** • Maintenance Technician in Training
- **Harrison Carter** • Water Operator in Training
- **David Reep** • Maintenance Technician in Training
- **Joey Wells** • Solids Handling



WARNER ROBINS • LAND APPLICATION PROGRAM



RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



City of Winder **Water Treatment Plant**



City of Winder **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

ESG COMPLETES FIRST YEAR OF WINDER PARTNERSHIP

ESG officially took over management responsibilities for the City of Winder's Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater System on August 1, 2012. The Winder Project consists of two wastewater treatment plants with a combined treatment capacity of 5.5 MGD, a water treatment plant permitted for 6.4 MGD, 13 lift stations, and a wastewater collection system serving 4,800 customers.

In the first month of operation, ESG negotiated sludge hauling rates that will save the City an estimated \$70,000 versus the previous year. Additional savings should result from belt press optimization and ensuring containers are at near full capacity before hauling.

Maintaining a professional appearance is a key component of a professionally managed facility. The Highway 53 Water Treatment Plant and the Marburg Wastewater Treatment Plant are both located on heavily traveled state routes and are highly visible. Prior to the ESG/Winder partnership, lawn maintenance had been neglected for an extended period of time, so immediate improvements were visible within the first few weeks of operation. **(See "Before & After" photos on Page 23).**

During our initial evaluation of the project, it was deemed that the existing City-owned jetter machine did not adequately perform to ESG's expectations. As a result, ESG purchased an O'Brien Hydro-jetter for cleaning sewer lines. **In the first three months of our partnership, the Collections Department cleaned over 8,300 feet of sewer main and over 1,000 feet of service lines!**

The ESG Conditions Assessment Team also evaluated all equipment in the water and wastewater plants. The Conditions Assessment Report was then submitted to the City for review, and we received very positive comments from the City Council and Staff.

ESG/Winder also manages the City's Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP). We have the initial task of integrating at least two industries under the City's Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP). ESG will be conducting a headworks analysis and evaluating commercial customers. Commercial customers deemed to be negatively impacting the City's wastewater system will be included in the IPP.

The ESG/Winder Office also offers engineering services, and has secured a contract for the design of 14,000 feet of 24-inch gravity sewer that will replace an existing 12-inch clay gravity sewer. Barrow County and the City of Winder have partnered for the design and construction of this project.

RECENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



➔
ESG's NEW O'BRIEN
HYDRO-JETTER FOR
CLEANING SEWER LINES



BEFORE

AFTER

➔
HIGHWAY 53
IN WINDER—A HEAVILY
TRAVELED ROADWAY
WAS UNKEPT AND
OVERGROWN



➔
SEDIMENT POND
HAD BEEN NEGLECTED
FOR AN EXTENDED
PERIOD OF TIME

TEAM WINDER
PRODUCED IMMEDIATE
AND VISIBLE RESULTS
IN FACILITY APPEARANCE
WITHIN THE FIRST
WEEKS OF OPERATION



ESG is proudly 100% American owned and operated

Fast Facts

Headquarters

Macon, Georgia

Number of Employees

Over 350

Offices

15 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

Congratulations to all of our award-winning facilities! The dedication, commitment to excellence, perseverance, and technical skills and expertise of ESG associates have earned us the highest awards in our industry

A BANNER YEAR FOR ESG'S AWARD-WINNING FACILITIES

Best Tasting Tap Water	Water Plant	Barnesville
System of the Year	Water Distribution	Vidalia
Plant of the Year	Wastewater Plant • Dicks Creek	Forsyth County
Platinum Award	Wastewater Plant • Windermere	Forsyth County
Platinum Award	Wastewater Plant • The Manor	Forsyth County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Dicks Creek	Forsyth County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Parkstone	Forsyth County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • James Creek	Forsyth County
Gold Award	Water Treatment Plant	Forsyth County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • J. B. Messerly	Augusta
Plant of the Year	Wastewater Plant • Westside	Opelika
Plant of the Year	Wastewater Plant • Eastside	Opelika
Plant of the Year	Water Plant	Perry
Platinum Award	Water Plant	Perry
Gold Award	Water Plant	Perry
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant	Perry
Platinum Award	Water Plant	Barnesville
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Quigg Branch	Rockdale County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Almand Branch	Rockdale County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Scott Creek	Rockdale County
Gold Award	Wastewater Plant • Honey Creek	Rockdale County
Laboratory of the Year	Wastewater	Perry
Safety Plant of the Year	Water Plant	Perry
Safety Plant of the Year	Wastewater Plant	Perry
Laboratory of the Year	Wastewater Plant	Warner Robins
Laboratory Quality Assurance Award	Wastewater Treatment Plant	Perry
Laboratory Quality Assurance Award	Wastewater Treatment Plant	Warner Robins
Golden Wrench Award • Richad Adams	Top Maintenance Technologist in the State of Georgia	Forsyth County
Top Operator • Pete Boyzuick	Wastewater Plant	Augusta
Top Operator • Grady Shirey	Water Plant	Perry
Top Operator • Travis Falcione	Wastewater Plant	Perry

Contact Us

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