



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

### PERMIT TO WITHDRAW, DIVERT OR IMPOUND SURFACE WATER

PERMIT HOLDER'S NAME **Fayette County Board of Commissioners**  
PERMIT HOLDER'S ADDRESS **140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30215**  
COUNTY: **Fayette**

In accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, (O.C.G.A. § 12-5-20 et seq.) as amended, and the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6, promulgated pursuant thereto, this permit is issued to withdraw surface water from Lake McIntosh in the Flint River Basin for the purpose of municipal water supply.

**The Fayette County Board of Commissioners (Permittee)** must comply with the following limitations:

- (1) Maximum 24 hour: Withdrawal **17.0** MGD; Impoundment \_\_\_\_ MGD; Diversion \_\_\_\_ MGD
- (2) Not to exceed a monthly average of **12.5** MGD
- (3) Not to exceed an annual average of **10.4** MGD

This Permit is conditioned upon the permit holder complying with the attached **Standard Conditions** (1 through 5) and the additional **Special Conditions** (13 through 23) which are hereby made a part of this Permit.

In accordance with the application dated **7/20/2020** and in conformity with the statements and supporting data entered therein or attached thereto, all of which are filed with the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources and are hereby made part of this Permit.

This Permit is effective from the date first above written and is subject to revocation pursuant to the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, as amended, O.C.G.A. § 12-5-31 (k).

Absent prior revocation in accordance with the above language, this Permit will expire **November 16, 2030**.



Richard E. Dunn, Director  
Environmental Protection Division

This permit is conditioned upon the permittee complying with the provisions of the Water Quality Control Act, as amended, or any of the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereto;

**STANDARD CONDITIONS**

1) GENERAL PERMIT CHARACTERISTICS

- a) The use of surface water is limited to the quantities and purposes as specified herein;
- b) Water associated with this Permit must not be withdrawn by, released for, or otherwise utilized by any other entity or for any other purpose without first modifying this Permit.
- c) This permit must not be transferred except with the approval of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD);
- d) This permit supersedes any and all previous permits of the same permit number.

2) PERMIT RENEWAL

All permittees desiring to renew a permit shall submit an application for renewal to the Director within six (6) months prior to its expiration.

3) PERMIT MODIFICATION

- a) The permittee may seek modification of any of the terms of an unexpired permit upon written request to the Director.
- b) EPD has the authority to modify any surface water withdrawal permit at any time.

4) MONITORING AND REPORTING

- a) The permittee must submit annually to the EPD, within 30 days of completion of the calendar year, a report listing for each month of the previous year:
  - 1. The gallons per day withdrawn, based on an average of the daily withdrawals for the month;
  - 2. The maximum 24 hour withdrawal;
- b) In addition to Condition 4a, the permittee must submit to EPD within 10 days of completion of the calendar month, a monthly Surface Water Withdrawal Report for the previous month showing daily raw water withdrawals associated with this Permit.

5) WATER PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

- a) The permittee must abide by all applicable water conservation requirements, which may include but are not limited to submission of a Water Conservation Plan for EPD approval and submission of a five-year Water Conservation Progress Report in accordance with 391-3-6-.07. The Progress Report must include all actions and improvements made to conserve water and reduce water loss and shall be submitted for EPD review by 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025.
- b) The permittee must abide by all applicable drought response requirements, which include but are not limited to the Georgia Drought Management Rule (391-3-30) and the permittee's Drought Contingency Plan.
- c) The permittee must maintain ongoing compliance with applicable "Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan" requirements.

**SYSTEM INFORMATION**

- 6) The Fayette County Board of Commissioners has four permitted reservoir sources for municipal water supply: Lake McIntosh (this permit), Lake Peachtree (Permit No. 056-1102-03), Lake Kedron (Permit No. 056-1102-06), and Lake Horton (Permit No. 056-1102-12). The combined storage capacity of these reservoirs is 7.6 billion gallons. The permittee also withdraws water from the Flint River under Permit No. 056-1102-13 for municipal water supply. Attachment - 1 gives an overview of Fayette County's water supply sources and their interactions.
- 7) Lake Peachtree is owned by the City of Peachtree City. Fayette County is contracted to operate the reservoir as part of its larger water system.
- 8) Water withdrawn under the County's five surface water permits supplies water to its two water treatment plants, the Crosstown Water Treatment Plant (13.5 MGD production capacity) and the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant (9.3 MGD production capacity). Both plants are covered under Drinking Water Permit No. GA1130001.
- 9) The County has a wholesale interconnection agreement with the City of Atlanta to purchase up to 4 MGD of treated water in an emergency. Fayette County also holds wholesale interconnection agreements to provide treated water to the City of Fayetteville (no less than 1000 gallons per day) and both buy water from and sell water to Clayton County on an as needed basis.
- 10) The gage station is located at Lake McIntosh. Water released from Lake McIntosh is measured at USGS Gage 02344630, downstream of Lake McIntosh on Line Creek.
- 11) Water withdrawn under this permit supplies the Crosstown Water Treatment Plant.
- 12) The safe yield of the Lake McIntosh was calculated to be 11.2 MGD as shown in the *Safe Yield Analysis and In-Stream Flow Modeling Lake McIntosh Site, Line Creek Fayette County, Georgia* report, dated November 2004. This report used data between 1939 and 2003, and the 1959 as the drought of record for its calculations.

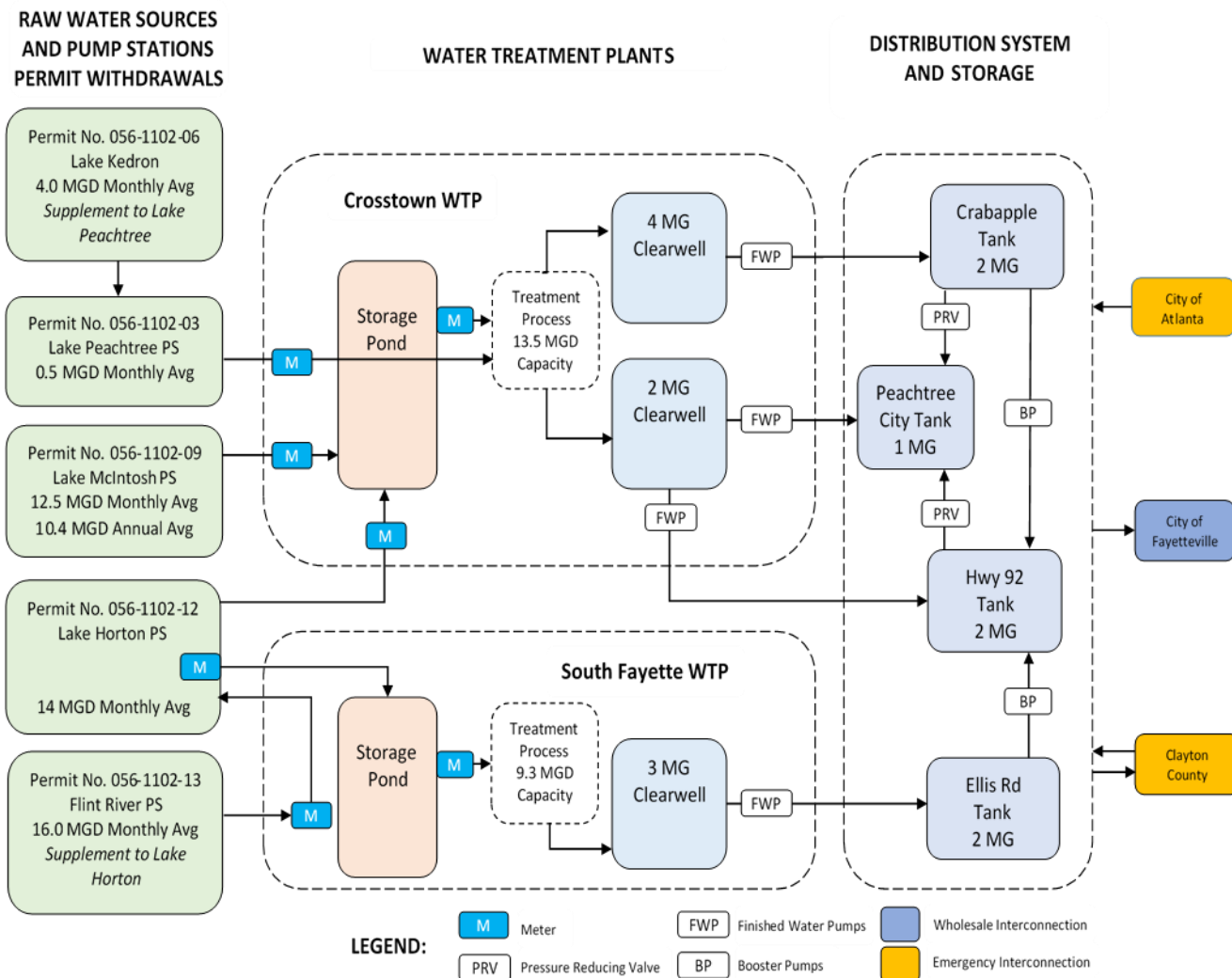
**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

- 13) The permittee's Lake McIntosh Reservoir is located 2500 feet below the confluence of Shoal Creek and Line Creek in Fayette County. Line Creek is the boundary between Fayette County and Coweta County on the west side of Fayette County. The pump station intake and release structure is located at the dam and the dam is accessible by a driveway at the end of TDK Blvd inside Lake McIntosh Park (3501 TDK Blvd, Peachtree City, GA). All water withdrawn must be metered at the dedicated meter located at the Crosstown Water Treatment Plant.
- 14) The permittee must continuously release below the Lake McIntosh dam a low flow of 3.0 million gallons per day (mgd) (4.64 cfs) or natural streamflow, whichever is less, as measured at USGS Gage 02344630. The gage station is located approximately 130 feet downstream of the spillway and access is by walking downstream from the spillway.
- 15) The permittee has established and must maintain the following instream and reservoir monitoring:
  - a) A water level gage in the reservoir to allow daily determinations of storage volume. USGS Gage 02344628 currently performs this function. Elevation records that serve as the basis for operational decisions must be kept on file at the water treatment plant and submitted annually to EPD by March 1 of each calendar year;
  - b) A pipe and valve on the reservoir outlet that allows for varying the rate of flow released and allows water to be released from various depths in order to more closely match downstream chemical and thermal characteristics and to release water that meets water quality standards;
  - c) Continuous streamflow monitoring stations located upstream of Lake McIntosh on Shoal Creek and on Line Creek within one-quarter mile of the State Route 54 crossing of each stream. USGS Gage 02344620 (at Shoal Creek) and USGS Gage 02344605 (at Line Creek) currently meet this requirement. Streamflow records that serve as the basis for operational decisions must be kept on file at the water treatment plant and submitted annually to EPD by March 1 of each calendar year;
  - d) Continuous water quality/streamflow monitoring station located downstream of Lake McIntosh on Line Creek within one-half mile of the dam site. This station must monitor streamflow, as well as the dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature, pH, conductivity, and turbidity of the release waters. USGS Gage 02344630 currently performs these functions. All records that serve as the basis for operational decisions must be kept on file at the water treatment plant and submitted annually to EPD by March 1 of each calendar year;
  - e) A reservoir water quality monitoring station that monitors a vertical profile of raw water quality in the reservoir at multiple depths. An IXOM Water Selector was installed in April 2019 and currently performs this function. Records of weekly averages of all parameters must be kept on file at the water treatment plant and be submitted annually to EPD by March 1 of each calendar year;
  - f) Biological monitoring at Site 2, located 2.1 river miles downstream of the Lake McIntosh dam on Line Creek, which complies with the Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Rapid Bioassessment, Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD)

macroinvertebrate protocol, and Georgia Wildlife Resources Division (GAWRD) protocols. Monitoring must include periphyton, macroinvertebrates, fish, and habitat and occur annually during the proper index period stated in each protocol. These sampling records must be kept on file at the water treatment plant and be submitted annually to EPD by March 1 of each calendar year. The report must include an analysis of the data at a minimum of five-year increments from initiation of data collection;

- g) Quarterly water quality monitoring as detailed in the *Fayette County Water System Stream Monitoring Program (May 1997)*.
- 16) The permittee must initiate action designed to address violations of water quality standards indicated by any of the monitoring results associated with this permit that are caused by or related to the operation of Lake McIntosh.
- 17) If ongoing water quality studies or biological monitoring show that different minimum instream flows are necessary to meet water quality standards and designated uses in Line Creek (Georgia Department of Natural Resources, USEPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurring), then the permittee shall adjust the minimum instream flows as needed to avoid violations of water quality standards.
- 18) The total quantity of water supplied to the Crosstown Water Treatment Plant from Lake McIntosh (this permit), Lake Peachtree (Permit No. 056-1102-03), Lake Kedron (Permit No. 056-1102-06), and Lake Horton (Permit No. 056-1102-12) must not exceed 13.5 MGD.
- 19) The permittee must not transfer any water withdrawn via this permit to any entity operating outside the Flint River basin without EPD approval of such a transfer.
- 20) The permittee must submit an updated safe yield analysis and accompanying report to EPD within 9 months of the issuance date of this permit. The analysis must incorporate the most recent period of applicable data available, incorporating both 2007-2008 and the 2011-2012 droughts.
- 21) The permittee must operate in accordance with all criteria for Water Supply Watersheds as outlined in 391-3-16-.01, including the applicable Water Supply Watershed Protection Plan.
- 22) In accordance with 391-3-33-.05, any future renewal or modification is conditioned upon the demonstration of progress towards increased water efficiency. The permittee must submit an annual Water Audit by March 1 of each year and maintain ongoing compliance with the following:
  - a) Establishment of a Water Loss Control Program and associated goals to set measures of water supply efficiency.
  - b) Demonstration of progress toward increased water efficiency using the measures established.
- 23) To ensure progress toward increasing water supply efficiency, the permittee must provide a progress report every year starting one (1) year from the permit issuance date, based on the permittee's Water Loss Control Plan, on efforts made to reduce Water Loss within the permittee system. The progress reports must provide a description of implemented measures and how the implemented measures have reduced the system's Non-Revenue Water. This annual report must continue to be submitted every year to ensure continued progress.

**Attachment - 1**



**Fayette County Board of Commissioners Permits Summary:**

Permit No. 056-1102-03 Lake Peachtree (Maximum 24-hour withdrawal 0.55 mgd; Monthly Average 0.5 mgd)

Permit No. 056-1102-06 Lake Kedron (Max. 24-hr withdrawal 4.5 mgd; Monthly Average 4.0 mgd)

Permit No. 056-1102-09 Lake McIntosh (Max. 24-hour 17.0 mgd; Mo. Avg. 12.5 mgd; Ann. Avg. 10.4 mgd)

Permit No. 056-1102-12 Lake Horton (Max. 24-hr withdrawal 14.0 mgd; Monthly Average 14.0 mgd)

Permit No. 056-1102-13 Flint River (Maximum 24-hr withdrawal 16.0 mgd; Monthly Average 16.0 mgd)



**Richard E. Dunn, Director**

**Watershed Protection Branch**

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Suite 1152, East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
404-463-1511

Jan 19, 2021

Ms. Vanessa Tigert, P.G., Director,  
Fayette County Water System  
P. O. Box 190,  
245 McDonough Road  
Fayetteville, GA 30214

RE: Surface Water Withdrawal Permit Application (Minor Modification)  
Permit # 056-1102-09  
Source: Lake McIntosh in Flint River Basin  
Permit Limits: 17.0 mgd max 24-hr day/ 12.5 mgd monthly average/ 10.4 mgd annual average

Dear Ms. Tigert:

In accordance with the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, as amended, the above referenced permit to withdraw surface water from the Lake McIntosh in Flint River Basin has been issued by the Division and is hereby enclosed. This permit has been modified to correct a minor typographical error in Special Condition #14. The conditions of compliance are provided in this permit. Standard Condition number (4)(b) requires the permit holder to submit to the Division within the first 10 days of the calendar month, a monthly Surface Water Withdrawal Report for the previous month, showing daily raw water withdrawals associated with this permit. A copy of this reporting form is included.

Exceeding the maximum 24-hour, monthly average, or annual average withdrawal limitations is a Permit violation and must be reported to the Water Protection Branch by telephone (404) 463-1511 within 48 hours and confirmed in writing within 10 days. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of the Permit may make the permit holder liable for civil penalties as provided by the Act.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 656-6937 or [Johanna.Smith@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Johanna.Smith@dnr.ga.gov)

Sincerely,

Johanna Smith, P.E.  
Surface Water Unit Manager  
Water Supply Program