



**For immediate release**

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**Fix It Workshop: Repairing Leaks and Identifying Septic Tank Problems**

The City of Gainesville and the Hall County Environmental Health Services in partnership with the Clean Water Campaign will be hosting a “*Fix it Workshop*” to address ways to save money from leaky appliances and fixtures at home and to address ways to prevent costly repairs on septic tanks. The workshop will be held on May 19 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Gainesville Environmental Services Building/Flat Creek Water Reclamation Facility.

Brian Wiley (environmental monitoring coordinator for the City of Gainesville) and Tim Callahan of Hall County Environmental Health (environmental health specialist) will be presenting the workshop. Wiley will cover many ways that residents can repair water leaks at home. He will show how to detect leaks and how to stop them before they worsen. Callahan will present the ways to maintain a septic tank from a residential perspective.

The workshop is for homeowners and community members that would like to take the lead on reducing costly water leaks in their homes. Community members and homeowners association leaders are invited to attend to pass along tips on how to detect and fix leaks at home. Wiley said the purpose of the workshop is, “to protect our future water resources and to protect our quality of life and environment.” Conserving water at home is as easy as listening for leaks and repair them and it is easier to notice leaks indoors, try searching for leaks outdoors around faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks.

Callahan will share information on how to care and maintain your septic tank. There are many misconceptions on what is beneficial and what is not beneficial to do. Some basic measures of care include to flush only human wastes and toilet paper into septic tanks and to avoid using a toilet as a trash can.

The City of Gainesville Environmental Services Building/Flat Creek Water Reclamation Facility is located at 2641 Old Flowery Branch RD, Gainesville GA 30504. Registration for the workshop is required. Register by calling 770-532-7462.

*The **Clean Water Campaign** is a cooperative, multi-agency public education initiative spearheaded by local governments in metro Atlanta, supported by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and managed by the Atlanta Regional Commission. Its mission is to build awareness of water quality problems and solutions in the 16-county District. For more information about the Clean Water Campaign, contact Kelley O'Brien at 404.463.3259.*

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