

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission 4310 Lexington Road P. O. Box 8024 Athens, Georgia 30603

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Public meeting in Rochelle, Ga., on Feb. 10 to discuss pollution project slated for Cedar and Folsom Creeks

ATHENS, Ga. – A public meeting has been scheduled in Rochelle, Ga., to gather information on potential water pollution sources within the Cedar Creek and Folsom Creek Watershed.

The meeting will be held at the Wilcox County Agricenter, 630 County Farm Road, Rochelle, Ga. 31079 on Monday, Feb. 10, at 2:30 p.m.

The public meeting is part of a Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC) Cedar Creek and Folsom Creek Watershed Management Plan Project that is developing a plan to reduce sediment in Cedar Creek by 68 percent and reduce sediment in Folsom Creek by 60 percent.

The project is located in the Ocmulgee River Basin within the boundaries of Wilcox County. Nonpoint source pollution has been identified as a primary contributor to sediment issues in both streams. Nonpoint source pollution is often related to runoff draining into a stream. It can be contrasted with point source pollution, where discharges occur to a body of water at a single location.

Following the public meeting, monitoring and watershed assessment will begin. Recommendations will be based on monitoring results and visual assessments. Limited cost-share funding to install practices in the watershed will be available to correct pollution issues once a watershed management plan is completed and approved by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

Funding for this project is provided through a Clean Water Act, Section 319(h) grant completed in cooperation with GAEPD.

For more information about this public meeting or the project, contact Carrie Fowler at the GSWCC by emailing <u>cfowler@gaswcc.org</u> or calling 706-552-4470.

The GSWCC supports locally-led soil and water conservation districts through education, technical, financial and planning assistance and through program oversight.

More information on protecting, conserving and improving Georgia's soil and water resources is available on the GSWCC website at http://gaswcc.georgia.gov or by calling (706) 552-4470.

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