

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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Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission wins 2014 Dam Safety Award

ATHENS, Ga. - The Association of State Dam Safety Officials has selected the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission to receive the 2014 ASDSO Southeast Regional Award of Merit.

The Association gives this award to individuals or organizations working in the dam safety field that have made outstanding contributions to dam safety on a regional level. This nomination was selected with the concurrence of the ASDSO Southeast state representatives. The award will be presented on Tuesday, September 23, at the ASDSO Annual Conference Awards banquet in San Diego, California.

"We are very proud to receive this honor and especially proud of the efforts of GSWCC's Bob Fulmer in leading the Watershed Flood Control Dams Program in Georgia," said Brent Dykes, executive director of the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Georgia has 357 watershed dams that are managed by local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Watershed dams provide flood control, water quality, recreation, and water supply benefits to Georgia citizens. Many of the dams that were originally built to protect agricultural land from flooding now protect homes, roads, and office buildings where dam failure could result in the loss of human life.

The GSWCC Watershed Dams Program was initiated to provide financial and technical assistance to ensure that the state's dams maintain their structural integrity, operate effectively to continue providing community services, and comply with the Georgia Safe Dams Act. GSWCC partners with Soil and Water Conservation Districts to use limited state funding and state bond appropriations to address dam maintenance and upgrade needs.

The Association of State Dam Safety Official's mission is to advance and improve the safety of dams by supporting the dam safety community and state dam safety programs, raising awareness of dam safety issues, facilitating cooperation, providing a forum for the exchange of information, representing dam safety interests before governments, providing outreach programs, and creating a unified community of dam safety advocates.

A listing of Watershed Flood Control Dams by county in Georgia is available on the GSWCC website at http://www.gaswcc.org/wsd-search.php. For more information on Flood Control Dams, see http://gaswcc.georgia.gov/watershed-dams.

The Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC) supports Georgia's 40 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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