

# GEORGIA ADOPT-A-STREAM

## Watershed Survey and Map Assessment

*to be conducted at least once a year*

Send completed form and delineated watershed map to Georgia Adopt-A-Stream.

Mail:  
2 MLK Jr. Drive S.E.  
Suite 1462 E  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Email:  
AAS@dnr.ga.gov

AAS group name: _____	Investigator(s): _____
Type of waterbody: stream / wetland / lake _____	_____
Water body name: _____	County _____
Approximate size of drainage/study area: _____ mi <sup>2</sup>	
Approximate % impervious surface cover: _____ %	
Length of waterbody walked: _____	mi or ft (circle)
Date: _____ Time: _____	Picture/photo documentation? Yes/No (circle)

## I. MAP YOUR WATERSHED

Instructions and tools to assist with delineating and mapping your watershed are on the [Online Mapping Resources](#) page on the Adopt-A-Stream website.

## II. LAND USES/ACTIVITIES

1. Identify land uses and activities in the watershed which have the highest potential to impact water bodies:

**Please indicate if you:**     surveyed only adjacent to the waterbody  
 surveyed the whole watershed  
 Provide notes as necessary

Land Disturbing Activities & Other Sources of Sediment	Adjacent to Water	In Watershed	Notes on location & frequency of activity
Extensive areas disturbed by land development or construction of utilities, roads & bridges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Large or extensive gullies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Unpaved roads near or crossing streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Croplands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Pastures with cattle access to water bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commercial forestry activities including harvesting and site-preparation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Extensive areas of streambank failure or channel enlargement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Other Agricultural Activities</b>			
Confined animal (cattle or swine) feeding operations and concentrations of animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Animal waste stabilization ponds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Poultry houses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Highways and Parking Areas</b>			
Shopping centers & commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Interstate and controlled access highways and interchanges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Major highways and arterial streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Other extensive vehicle parking areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

	Adjacent to Water	In Watershed	Notes on location & frequency of activity
<b>Mining</b>			
Quarries with sediment basins in live flowing streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Transportation and Motor Vehicle Services</b>			
Truck cleaning services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Public and private automobile repair facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Car washes and large auto dealers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rail or container transfer yards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Airports with fuel handling/aircraft repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Business &amp; Industry, General</b>			
Activities with exterior storage or exchange of materials.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Activities with poor housekeeping practices indicated by stains leading to streams or storm drains or on-site disposal of waste materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Heavy industries such as textiles & carpet, pulp & paper, metal, and vehicle production or fabrication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Dry cleaners/outside chemical storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Food &amp; Kindred Products</b>			
Fertilizer production plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Feed preparation plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Meat and poultry slaughtering or processing plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Construction Materials</b>			
Wood treatment plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concrete and asphalt batch plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

<b>Waste Recycling, Movement &amp; Disposal</b>	<b>Adjacent to Water</b>	<b>In Watershed</b>	<b>Notes on location &amp; frequency of activity</b>
Junk and auto salvage yards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Solid waste transfer stations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Landfills and dumps (old & active)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Recycling centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Drum cleaning sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Illicit Waste Discharges*</b>			
Sanitary sewer leaks or failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Overflowing sanitary sewer manholes due to clogging or hydraulic overloading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bypasses at treatment plants or relief valves in hydraulically overloaded sanitary sewer lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Domestic or industrial discharges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Extensive areas with aged/malfunctioning septic tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Dry-weather flows from pipes (with detectable indications of pollution)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Streamside areas of illegal dumping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

\*If found, these activities should be immediately reported to the local government or the EPD regional office. These phone numbers are listed on the "Who to Call" resource on the Adopt-A-Stream website, [adoptastream.georgia.gov](http://adoptastream.georgia.gov). The 'Who To Call' list can be found on the 'Monitoring Resources' page under the 'Materials & Resources' tab.

### III. GENERAL WATERBODY AND WATERSHED CHARACTERISTICS

1. Note the presence of hydrologic modifications on your waterbody: *structures that alter water flow*

None	_____	Beaver dams	_____
Dams	_____	Dredge spoils	_____
Bridges	_____	Pipes	_____
Waterfalls	_____	Other	_____

2. Note the approximate length of the stream that is effected by the following:  
*if assessing a wetland, lake or pond, some of the following may also affect your waterbody*

Stream culvert	_____ feet or _____ mile or _____ % of stream length
Stream straightening	_____ feet or _____ mile or _____ %
Concrete streambank/bottom	_____ feet or _____ mile or _____ %
Dredging/channeling	_____ feet or _____ mile or _____ %
Riprap/gabion	_____ feet or _____ mile or _____ %
Cattle crossing	_____ #
Stream crossing ( <i>for vehicles</i> )	_____ #

3. Note extent of vegetative buffer along the banks: *at a minimum of 5 sites, at regular intervals (every 500 ft. in a 1/2 mile. section) note the following*

#	Width in feet	Location (Left bank, Right bank or N, S, E, W side of wetland or lake)	Characteristics and comments
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

**4. Check the categories that best describe the general appearance of the water body:**

Litter:

- No litter visible
- Small litter occasionally (i.e., cans, paper)
- Small litter common
- Large litter occasionally (i.e., tires, pallets, shopping carts)
- Large litter common

Special Problems:

- Spills of chemicals, oil, etc.
- Fish kills\*
- Wildlife, waterfowl kills

Erosion:

- No bank erosion or areas of erosion very rare; no artificial stabilization
- Occasional areas of bank erosion
- Areas of bank erosion common
- Artificial bank stabilization (e.g., riprap) present

\* Fish kills should be immediately reported to DNR Wildlife Resources Division at (706) 557-3333. For more information, go to [georgiawildlife.com](http://georgiawildlife.com).

**5. Comments on general water body and watershed characteristics:** (e.g. date and size of fish kill, increased rate of erosion evident, litter most evident after storms)

**6. Summarize notable changes that have taken place since last year** (if this is not your first year conducting the Watershed Survey).

## IV. PIPE AND DRAINAGE DITCH INVENTORY

In this section, provide information on each pipe and drainage ditch found on the banks or in the waterbody. These pipes/ditches can be abandoned or active.

Pipe #	Location	Type	Size	Flow	Waterbody condition	Comments