



Lake Lanier is Full of It....Full of Phosphorous That Is!

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) recently announced that Georgia is moving forward with a "total maximum daily load" TMDL plan after years of discussion. Many lakes and coastal areas around the nation waited 'too long' to develop a water quality TMDL standard for phosphorous.

So what is a TMDL exactly? The total maximum daily load of a pollutant entering a river or lake varies depending on the actual pollutant. For example, as humans our bodies cannot handle very much of a pollutant called lead or our brains and body organs will cease to operate effectively, eventually leading to sickness and death. However, it can handle a lot more of other pollutants, like tobacco, before my body shuts down.

Similarly, a lake and even the ocean can only handle so much of a pollutant, phosphorous in this case, before fish, animals, and people suffer. When the TMDL for phosphorous is exceeded, low oxygen in the lake will create big problems for fish and humans (even huge economic impacts that fish don't have to worry about). This is why regulation in the Clean Water Act has pollutant load restrictions for our watersheds.

To be more specific, phosphorus is a problem because it promotes algae growth, which in extreme cases poisons the water and kills large numbers of fish. Two major sources of phosphorus are:

1. Point sources - those permitted by the state that dump their treated water into streams, rivers, and lakes, such as sewage treatment facilities..
2. Nonpoint sources are harder to pin down but add a huge load. Those sources include chicken coops, fertilizers on farms, and lawns runoff into creeks, rivers, and the lake are





the leading cause why algae blooms and resultant low-oxygen environments for fish to survive are so prevalent.

Thankfully, Georgia is moving ahead with a TMDL that will set a hard cap on the amount of phosphorus flowing into Lake Lanier. If you own a business that relies on Lake Lanier visitors, if you're a fishing guide, recreational boater or fisherman who enjoys striper and bass fishing on Lanier, you should applaud this proactive effort to keep our precious Lanier clear of the low-oxygen threats of nutrient

runoff into the lake.

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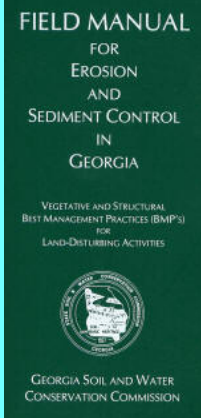
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Man Sentenced to 42 Months in Prison for Dumping Wastewater in Tuscarawas River

On September 5, 2017, Adam D. Boylen, 46, was sentenced to more than three years in prison for dumping wastewater into tributaries of the Tuscarawas River. Boylen previously pleaded guilty to four counts of violating the Clean Water Act by making u npermitted discharges. The U.S. District Judge sentenced him to 42 months in prison and ordered him to pay \$85,338 in restitution.



"This defendant intentionally dumped waste into a tributary of the Tuscarawas River, killing fish and other aquatic life," said U.S. Attorney Justin E. Herdman. "We will always protect our waterways and environment."



"The defendant's deliberate and illegal dumping of wastewater killed thousands of fish and wildlife and harmed the quality of local waterways," said Scot Adair, Acting Special Agent in Charge of EPA's criminal enforcement program. Boylen was a driver employed by an Ohio-based trucking company. Boylen's job was to load wastewater generated from corporate facilities into a tanker truck and to drive the wastewater to a designated facility located in Pennsylvania for proper disposal. The wastewater contained surfactants capable of killing vegetation and fish according to court documents. Instead of delivering the wastewater to Pennsylvania, Boylen drove the tanker truck to remote locations in Tuscarawas County and central-eastern Ohio and emptied the wastewater containing surfactants into waters of the United States, according to court documents.

Boylen is charged with dumping the wastewater into two different tributaries of the Tuscarawas River, a wetland adjacent to the Tuscarawas River, and the Beach City Reservoir, on numerous occasions between April 18 and May 4, 2016. Boylen drove the tanker truck to remote locations in Tuscarawas County and central-eastern Ohio and emptied the wastewater containing surfactants into waters of the United States.

Regulatory Enforcement on a Local Level Is Critical to America's Water Quality



Our History with the Clean Water Act has proven over and over again that accountability for compliance with water quality permits is the line in the sand. Today, it appears the Georgia EPD is tremendously under funded as proven by the small number of inspectors they've employed in one of the fastest growing states in the country. America is r eliant on knowledgeable **local enforcement efforts** that ensure our streams, rivers and lakes are protected.

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20% will comply with water quality laws no matter what, and

75% will comply only with effective local enforcement!

"Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement of Environmental Policies"

Cheryl Wasserman

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Local Government NPDES Enforcement & Plan Review Authority

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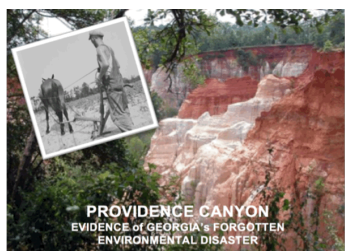
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in Clean Abundant Water!!!**

Respecting our neighbors downstream is what America is all about and it's the NPDES permit that helps us do that!



***It's OUR CHILDREN that will
be living through decisions we
make today.***

Sincerely,
NPDES TRAINING
INSTITUTE

A blue ink signature of T. Luke Owen.

T. Luke Owen, PG
President

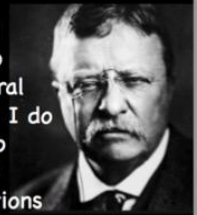
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"Conservation means
development as much as it
does protection.
I recognize the right and
duty of this generation to
develop and use the natural
resources of our land but I do
not recognize the right to
waste them, or to rob, by
wasteful use, the generations
that come after us."



Theodore Roosevelt
Osawatimie, Kansas
August 31, 1910