

Gwinnett County Government NEWS RELEASE

Charles E. Bannister, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

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TOILET REBATES SAVE 54 MILLION GALLONS

(Lawrenceville, Ga., March 9, 2010) – Gwinnett residents are now saving 54 million gallons of water every year thanks to a rebate program that started two years ago. The rebates pay homeowners either \$50 or \$100 for replacing old, inefficient toilets. About 5,000 have been replaced so far.

Water Resources Deputy Director Peter Frank said the more efficient toilets save the average customer about 15 percent on the water bill and help reduce demand for water from Lake Lanier. He said the County has spent about \$400,000 on the program since it began and the savings are well worth the investment. The department is budgeting \$300,000 each year to pay rebates on a first-come, first-served basis.

Board Chairman Charles Bannister praised county residents for conserving water and urged everyone with a pre-1992 home to take advantage of this effective program. Details and an application are online at www.northgeorgiawater.com or by calling (404) 463-8645 or e-mail at toiletrebate@northgeorgiawater.org.

Water Resources is also promoting “Fix a Leak Week,” March 15 – 21, as an annual reminder to check household plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. “A single home with dripping faucets and toilets that don’t shut off can waste as much as 10,000 gallons a year,” Frank said. Gwinnett’s annual water use of 26 billion gallons was 18 percent lower last year than in 2007.

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