

# A Discussion in Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning

AIRPORTS

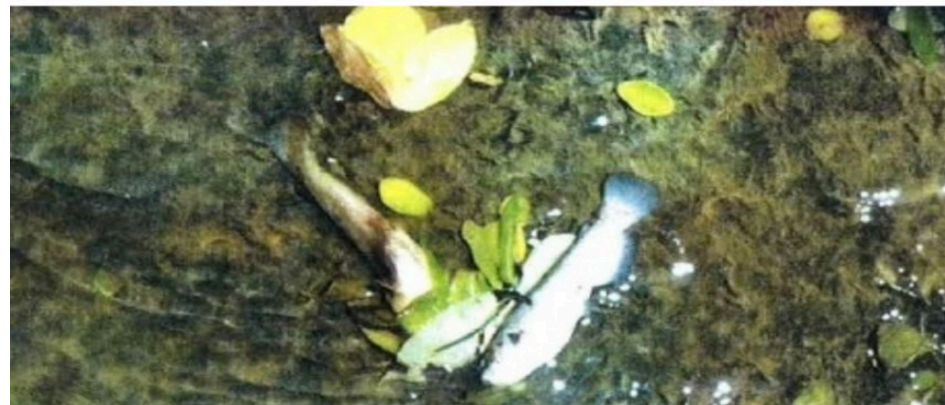
## Hartsfield-Jackson Fined for Sewage Spills

In the past decade, Hartsfield-Jackson International has reported more than a dozen sewage spills, most of them into a creek flowing south from the airport through Clayton County.

By Kelly Yamanouchi

Source The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (TNS)

- Self-reported; ranged from 200 gallons to 2 Million gallons
  - Incidents involved are: 1x 2010; 1x 2012; 6x 2014; 2x 2015; 1x 2016; 1x 2018; 1x 2020
  - Not a typical case for EPD to reach back 10 years
- Different causes equipment failure, pipe failures, power failures, vandalism, contractor, debris, and excess rain
- One discharge was 40,000 gallons of blue water aircraft lavatory waste
- Sullivan Creek- fisheries staff found dead fish



- Failure of two of four bolts that held a fuel pit drain valve
- GaEPD- airport had “insufficient procedures” for preventative maintenance of the fuel pits
- Initial call was roughly 600-gallons of jet fuel spilled; later estimates climbed to 1,300 gallons
  - “Fuel covered a football field-wide area” before reaching storm drains leading to Flint River
- More than 200 fish found dead
- City of Griffin pulls drinking water from the Flint River, raised Concerns for not being notified until after three days

## The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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### Hartsfield-Jackson fined \$40,000 for jet fuel spill into Flint River





## National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater General Permit



Created by the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) to control water pollution by regulating the discharge of pollutants to surface waters.



Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) has been “authorized” by the US EPA to issue NPDES General Permits within the State.

Once a state is “authorized,” the US EPA oversees the state’s administration of the program.

## **EPA Penalty Policies (in effect for on or after December 23, 2020):**

### **Clean Water Act-**

- 402/404 permit conditions of effluent limits) Violations up to \$56,460/ day (up from \$55,800)
- Oil and hazardous substance discharges: Violations up to \$48,762/ day/ violation (up from \$48,192)

### **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act-**

- Hazardous waste storage, management, and disposal requirements: Violations up to \$76,764/ day/ Violation (up from \$75,867)

### **Toxic Substances Control Act-**

- Chemical management, reporting & recordkeeping: Violations up to \$41,056/ day/ violation (up from \$40,576)

### **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act-**

- Violations up to \$59,017/ day/ violation (up from \$58,328)

## Criminal Violations of the Clean Water Act:

### - The EPA Can prosecute You-

Civil Penalty for violations of the CWA...

- Fines of up to \$25,000 per day, per occurrence
- “Negligent Violators” (misdemeanor based on criminal intent) fined \$2,500 per day up to \$25,000 per day and/or imprisonment up to 1 year; Felony conviction under CWA carries up to 3 years and \$50,000 per day
- “Knowing Endangerment” – \$250,000 in fines and up to 15 years in prison, or 30 years and a \$1Million fine if defendant has prior convictions
- “Imminent danger Provision” – fines >1M also up to 15 years prison sentence.

## EPA Civil Enforcement Program

- Collaboration between DOJ and EPA enforcement staff
- An effort to protect human health and the environment

## FY 2022 Annual Results

- Commitments to reduce, treat, or eliminate over 95 Million pounds of pollution
- Proper treatment, minimization, or disposal of over 100 million pounds of hazardous and Non-hazardous waste
- Commitments of over \$4 billion to return facilities to compliance
- Assessment of over \$154 million in penalties
- Conclusion of 72 Judicial actions and continued oversight of nearly 500 judicial decrees





Questions



# 2023 Conference: A Discussion in SWPPP

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